



Meet the Experts: International Race Officers, Hugh Leicester and Howard Elliott

Join us for an evening with two of the most experienced and respected sailing officials in Australia. It will be an informal session with Hugh and Howard over drinks and snacks where they will share their wealth of knowledge and experience about race management at an international level.

For anyone interested in learning what race management is all about, or keen to volunteer as part of the growing team at SFS with Race Officer, Steve Kidson, it's an opportunity that can't be missed.

Date: Wednesday, 11 March 2026

Time: 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: Sydney Flying Squadron Heritage Room

Please confirm your attendance with **Wendy** by replying to this email operations@sydneyflyingsquadron.com.au.

More info on our experts:

Hugh Leicester

Hugh started sailing at age 8 at Dobroyd Aquatic Club from a non-sailing family. There he sailed Sabots and Vee Esses, then moved to 16-Footers. In 1982, he started sailing Lasers and has continued

to this day.

He first volunteered in the mid-1980's with the NSW Laser Association. From that point he continued to serve on different levels of the Association, until in 1990, he was elected to the ILCA World Council.

It was here he started Race Management running the start pin for Jeff Martin, who was regarded as one of the World's best. He has been officiating at Laser World Championships since 2001, including 15 races in as Race Officer in charge.

Hugh was accredited as an International Race Officer in 2014 and has served at the highest levels of the sport including selection by World Sailing to officiate at the 2021 Tokyo and 2024 Paris Olympic games.

Closer to home, he has been Race Officer for 7 of the last 8 16' Skiff Nationals, as well as the last 2 seasons of the 18' Skiff League.

Howard Elliott

Howard has been sailing competitively for over 40 years. In that time he has won two Australian Championships, competed in 5 World Championships and won every major Australian east coast blue water race. Howard started sailing in sabots, progressed through various dinghy classes including VJs, Northbridge Senior, 16' and 18' Skiffs, sailboards and now sails ocean racing yachts.

Howard has been an International Judge for more than 20 years and officiated at numerous national, world, Olympic and regional championships. In addition, Howard has been active in Race Management of various national and World Championships including the Sydney Hobart Yacht race and Sydney 2000 Olympics.

Howard has been a member of the Australian Officials, Racing Rules and Appeals Committees for 20 years including 3 years as Chairman. Howard was President of YNSW for 4 years. Howard is Oceania Sailing Federation (OSAF) Technical Committee Chairman and a member of Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Sydney Flying Squadron and Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club.

When not sailing, Howard is a legal and information technology consultant in Sydney.

