

# Grimes the big winner on Day Three of the Sharp Australian Youth Match Racing Championship

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Although Harry Price and Will Dargaville came ashore this afternoon comfortably ahead in their semi-final matches, both leading 2-0 over James Hodgson and Tom Grimes respectfully, it was the young and relatively inexperienced team of Tom Grimes who returned to the dock the biggest winners on Day 3 of the Sharp Australian Youth Match Racing Championship. Not only did Grimes take race wins against Price, Dargaville & Hodgson in Round Robin Three, who are sitting in first, second and third, Grimes's qualification into the next round also sees him receive the invitation to the east coast of Australia's biggest match racing event, the World Sailing Grade 2, Musto International Youth Match Racing Championship next month as Price, Dargaville and Hodgson have already received an invitation.

In complete contrast to the previous two days of racing at the Sharp Australian Youth Match Racing Championship, Day 3 saw a chilly and inconsistent southerly breeze greet the fleet for the remaining flights of the round robin qualifying stage. Over two and a half days the Race Committee, led by Denis Thompson, managed to complete 27 flights or 108 individual races, a new record for CYCA regattas showing the professionalism and experience of the race management team.

With Grimes coming-from-behind in both his matches against top seed Price and Dargaville and Hodgson, Western Australian, Ethan Prieto-Low & New South Welshwoman Clare Costanzo were

sent packing from the semi-finals. James Hodgson now lies as the lone non-New South Wales team left fighting for this year's national title.

Harry Price's near perfect record through the round robin stage saw his team qualify as top seed heading into the semi-finals with Dargaville, Hodgson and Grimes also making the cut. Price selected Queenslander James Hodgson and quickly went 2-0 up in the best-of-five series as the breeze freshened in the afternoon to a solid 21 knots. Dargaville's experience with the asymmetrical spinnakers proved too much for Grimes in their semi-finals; with the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club skipper also taking an early 2-0 lead in their semi-final match.



"We had a very good day today; we actually took out the win in Round Robin Three. We were very happy with that and are finally piecing it together. Heading into the semi-finals against Will, we thought we sailed alright, there's still a few area's to improve on but we have identified a few problems and are ready to give him hell tomorrow." Commented Grimes.

"Through this week's Sharp Australian Youth Match Racing Championship regatta, we have managed to qualify for the Grade 2 Musto International Youth Match Racing Championship next month which we are extremely happy about. It was our aim this week to win that invitation, so to do that a day ahead of schedule is fantastic." Grimes continued.

Tomorrow is the final day of the Sharp Australian Youth Match Racing Championship with a strong southerly still predicted for racing. The Race Committee will complete the semi-finals before starting the finals around midday in the vicinity of Rushcutters Bay. Racing can be followed live on the CYCA Youth Sailing Academy Facebook page or via the CYCA website.