

Countdown: 15 months to the January 2020 International 5.5m Gold Cup and Worlds hosted by the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Newport, Pittwater, Australia. Newsletter 1

G'Day fellow 5.5m sailors,

The Australian 5.5m Association and the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club are delighted that Pittwater has been selected as the venue for the 5.5m Gold Cup and Worlds in January 2020.

We are pleased to announce that following the requests at the Cowes AGM, we are able to bring the dates forward and the event is now scheduled from the 3rd to 15th of January 2020, to be held on the iconic Palm Beach Circle. Competitors and families will now be able to enjoy Christmas and New Year in Sydney, and then participate in the Gold Cup and Worlds without a break.

Sydney is the place to be; the New Year's Eve fireworks are spectacular and not to be missed. Visit a zoo meeting our Kangaroos, Koalas and other native animals. Enjoy a cold beer at the club after training/racing and we will even throw a prawn or two on the barbeque for you!

The Australian Association, RPAYC Flag Officers and members are really looking forward to hosting you and your families and making this an event to remember.

To ensure we remain truly the 'International' 5.5m Class, we recognise it is important that our World Championship is accessible to attract as many in the class as possible; there will never be a better opportunity for good value and convenient shipping of your 5.5 metres, to compete at an iconic international location.

We have secured a very competitive shipping price from Europe or USA of \$US 7,500 (note as we are still over 15 months away from the event this price might vary by a small amount). The price for one way shipping will be half the above price at \$US 3,750. Which may mean there will be some Australians looking to purchase some European or US boats.

The event dates mean that you should not miss any of the Northern Hemisphere 2019 and 2020 seasons. All the details of the convenient RoRo trailer shipping, documentation required, flights and accommodation are available in the following links:

****Please add in the links to **all other** previous articles on the Australian bid for the Worlds and also the link to the RPAYC <https://www.rpayc.com.au/>****

We will send you regular updates in the months leading to the event.
In the meantime:

- 1- Please make the commitment to participate now and block in the dates in your diaries!
- 2- Please start to look at accommodation options. January in Australia is like August in Europe and America. You are advised to book early!
- 3- Please start to look at flight options. Flights have never been cheaper. But once again with it being a busy holiday period it is ideal to book early to get the early offers.

More information and timelines for shipping will follow shortly.

Above all please commit now and lock in the dates!