

## Kiwis hit top gear in lead-up to Hardy Cup

5 February 2008

The RSYS team led by Stuart Pollard has had four wins and four losses to be equal eighth after the first round robin of the Warren Jones Youth Regatta being sailed on Perth's Swan River.



Team Pollard leading at top mark

Leading the match racing regatta are three of the top contenders for the Hardy Cup ISAF Grade 3 youth match racing regatta, to be conducted by the RSYS on Sydney Harbour next week – New Zealanders Adam Minoprio and Laurie Jury and Sydney sailor Even Walker.

Minoprio, the defending Hardy Cup champion, blasted his way undefeated through the first day's competition in the Warren Jones Regatta.

The young skipper and his crew from the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron won the regatta two years ago, but were unable to attend last year to defend.

Jury, who was runner-up in last year's Hardy Cup, olds second place after the first day of the regatta, with a 6-1 scoreline. Walker from the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, is in third place with a 5-3 result.

Pollard and his crew of Mark Dorling, Ben Barzach, Ian Quartly and Tom Reece sailed well in an overheated easterly breeze straight from the WA outback and are in a close group of six teams which follow the three leaders.

The regatta is hosted by Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club, and organised by the Western Australian Yachting Foundation, and the series comprises a double round robin, followed by a best of three race final.

Text by John Roberson/Peter Campbell