

The Sydney Morning Herald

Sport

Blind skipper has all eyes on deck

145 words

4 December 2013

The Sydney Morning Herald

SMHH

First

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English

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Sailing. A blind skipper in the Sydney to Hobart does not consider his condition a problem because he has plenty of eyes to help him. **Kirk Watson**, who has the degenerative disease retinitis pigmentosa, will be the leader and a mainsail trimmer aboard **Sailors** with disABILITIES in the December race. Soon to embark on his ninth Sydney to Hobart, Watson, 40, stressed his impaired vision was not a hazard to him or his crew. "There's always a few other people on the boat, so if there's something I need to see they let me know," Watson said.

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Numbers of boats in the 69th edition of the Sydney to Hobart yacht race. Five supermaxis will be in the field, as well as 22 overseas boats. The race begins in 22 days.

Document SMHH000020131203e9c40002b