

22nd Annual Hydro Tasmania Three Peaks Race

Media Release

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The race to Coles Bay is now on in the 22nd Hydro Tasmania Three Peaks Race.

The fleet's four leading boats have started the second sailing leg of the race after their runners conquered the 65km Mt Strzelecki run.

Race favourite *Westbury-Mersey Pharmacy*, skippered by four-time previous winner Terry Travers, got away first at 12.11pm. The team's runners, Launceston triathletes Tim Piper and Jim Finlay, posted a quick time of six hours, 48 minutes to overtake *Deguello's* Mal Grimmett and Allan Hood.

Deguello lost its lead, but departed Lady Barron for Coles Bay just 12 minutes after *Westbury-Mersey Pharmacy*. Grimmett and Hood spent seven hours, 24 minutes on the course.

The first monohull to arrive at Flinders Island, *Haphazard*, was also the first to depart, its runners Charles Gunn and John Claridge doing a power of work to close the gap to the leading catamarans. The pair posted the fastest run to date of six hours, 42 minutes.

The remainder of the fleet has reached Lady Barron – despite two being delayed by running aground. They were re-floated by the rising tide.

Team Whistler, the first of the racing division monohulls, left the island at 1.35pm.