

Press Release

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**Start bidding and get foiling on board with the America’s Cup teams**

A week today, all six America’s Cup teams will be holding a Pro-Am event on the Solent in aid of the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation (ASSF).

Visit [www.assf-proam.com/](http://www.assf-proam.com/) to start bidding for one of 11 Guest Racer places in this unique sailing event. There’s only a few days left to secure your place on board with the auction closing at 1200 hours BST on Monday 18th July. Another final 1 slot, taking the total to 12 slots, on board ASSF Trustee Sir Ben Ainslie's Land Rover BAR boat will be available to bid on at [www.assf-charityauction.com](http://www.assf-charityauction.com) until 23:00 hours BST on the 20th July.

This ultimate sailing experience will allow 12 lucky individuals to join the best sailors in the world, on board one of the foiling AC45s as a Guest Racer. Those eligible will be able to bid for this once in a lifetime opportunity to ‘fly’ around the Solent at incredible speeds of up to 30 knots, passing within feet of the other teams in this special, one-off event.

All proceeds from the event will go to the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation to help it improve the lives of young people through sailing, both in the UK and around the world.

To date the ASSF have supported numerous charitable sailing activities internationally, including the Portsmouth Sailing Project, now in its second year. This inspiring project, run in partnership with the 1851 Trust, enables 1,000 children from Portsmouth, who would not normally have access to sailing, to experience the benefits of sailing throughout the summer.

**Note to editors:**

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**The Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation**

The Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation was founded in memory of, and inspired by, Olympic Gold medallist, sailor Andrew ‘Bart’ Simpson. The Founding trustees are Sir Ben Ainslie, Iain Percy OBE and Andrew’s wife Leah.

The Foundation honours the life and legacy of a sailor who was passionate about encouraging and helping others fulfil their aims. Its simple objective it to “inspire the next generation” by using sailing to improve the lives of young people across the world.

The Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation offers the challenges of a sailing environment to promote health and wellbeing, and to develop personal skills that will improve a young person’s ability to succeed in life.

A yearly grant giving process from the charity offers a wide range of support, both financial and/or practical to not for profit sailing initiatives and organisations across the world. With each project assessed against the Foundation’s objectives of ensuring that every young person is given a chance to sail, and in a way which will develop them as individuals, in line with Andrew Simpson’s own values and achievements.