



Six Pack

SAILING

RETIRED Adelaide skipper Mark Ricciuto was part of the first crew to sail into Port Lincoln yesterday when Skandia won line honours in the Adelaide Bluewater Classic.

But more than half the starters were forced out of the race as constant 35-knot winds lashed the 68-boat field.

There were 35 retirements including Here and Now, which ran aground on Marion Reef and needed to be towed by sea rescue craft. Catamaran Raw Nerve returned to Adelaide after losing its mast about midnight.

One crew member was also returned to Adelaide with suspected broken ribs.

Event spokesman Matt Gryst said most retirements were by smaller boats suffering minor gear failure or adhering to safety recommendations.

"We're happy with that, people taking the sensible options," Gryst said. "It's certainly better that crews have chosen to seek



THUMBS UP: Ricciuto and crew yesterday. **Picture:** Ivon Perrin refuge and follow safety procedures."

Super-maxi Skandia defied the wind, arriving at Port Lincoln about 7.09am yesterday ahead of Pale Ale Rager.

But it was unlikely the former Sydney to Hobart line honours winner would also claim victory on handicapped results.

Scott Walsh