

NEWSLETTER



December 2009

Hi everyone and Merry Christmas.....



We are pleased to announce that **Rayglass Boats** have officially confirmed their support again as naming rights sponsor for the 2010 Rayglass New Zealand Offshore Powerboat Championship season. Welcome back to Tony and the Rayglass team.

AUCKLAND RACE

It looks like the Auckland Harbour race is back on for 2010, and Cary is working on sponsors for this event. If you have any ideas or possible sponsors (large or small) please contact Cary Gleeson. At this stage it will probably be the final round of the Championship replacing Maraetai on May 8, 2010.

TV COVERAGE

Ian Rawkins and the Telesport crew are again filming the 2010 Rayglass NZ offshore Powerboat Championships, and this year all of the rounds will be filmed. Telesport are in negotiations with all of the major TV channels (TV1, TV3, Prime, and SKY) for the 2010 Championship coverage, and we'll keep you up to date on where and when it will air.

Also keep an eye out on SKY Sport on Dec. 31 as the Taupo and Whitianga rounds of this years Championship will air on the Fujitsu NZ Motorsport show. On Jan. 13 Whangarei and Gulf Harbour will air on the show as well, and also features a season preview interview with NZOPA President Cary Gleeson.

You can also show potential sponsors this year's coverage on the internet on www.spedbox.tv. You don't have to register, and it is free to view. All the rounds from the 2009 season are available on the video on demand channel on the website.

WEBSITE

Don't forget the Offshore website for up to date information and results.

www.nzoffshore.co.nz

DUNK TESTS

Thanks to Calvin and the Marine Paramedics team, the Auckland Dunk Tests went very well recently, with a couple of surprising attendees. Even the commentator had a go (Yep, Jamie), as Telesport filmed the Dunk Tests for part of the TV coverage this season.

NEW NZPBF APPOINTMENT

On behalf of all at the NZOPA, we offer our congratulations to Denise Moughan on her appointment as President of the New Zealand Power Boat Federation, the first woman to hold the post. Denise's appointment was confirmed at the Federation's 2009 Annual General Meeting (G.A). Outgoing President Graeme Wingate will, however, remain as the UIM delegate and represent the Federation at the 2009 UIM GA. Denise has been a member of the New Zealand Power Boat Federation for five years, representing the Circuit Racing Commission. During her time, she has also been Event Co-Coordinator for all UIM Grand Prix Hydroplane World Championship events held at Lake Karapiro. In addition, Denise is also the NZPBF's National Safety Officer, a qualified UIM Commissioner and has assisted the Offshore Commission with event management duties.

2009 SERIES DVD's

These are available through Cary Gleeson at cary@gleesonbuilders.co.nz. Make sure you get one for your sponsor also. \$30.00 all up for the complete set of two DVD's in one case.

SONIC MOULDS FOR SALE

The moulds & rights to build the Sonic 1900ss ski boat are being offered for sale.

They consist of 9 moulds & all patterns related to the boat..... All are built to a high standard & have been stored in top condition.

The moulds include a full build manual & build sequence that was developed with the current set of moulds for the NZ Formula Honda class to ensure consistency in the boats.

The moulds are jointly owned by Honda Marine & Bartlett Marine. Any interested parties should contact Chris Bartlett at Bartlett Marine. Ph 09 421 9042 or email chris@bartlettmarine.co.nz. The moulds will be listed as an auction on Trademe soon.

2010 SEASON

At this stage, there will be three Superboats racing in 2010. Fairview, A1 Homes, and Doosan. Sadly NZ Champion Tony Coleman has apparently said that Curekids will not be racing in 2010. On the upside it is hoped that both Curekids and Wayne Valder's Profloors will venture out for at least a few races. There is also still a possibility that Craig Archer may bring the Team 3 Victory Superboat over from OZ that he raced in the '09 Australian Championships.

There should be a great lineup of Superboat Lights however. Rayglass, and possibly Addictive, Bob Smith's newly re-engined Skater, Tony Carson's ex Placemakers boat, and Barracuda Kayaks. There has been some interest on Doosan, so crossed fingers it sells and stays in NZ for the 2010 Championship.

There's not much to report from the smaller classes as yet, (Please let me know what you're doing guys!) other than a big resurgence of numbers in the Classic class with some very cool boats scheduled to race in 2010.

HELP !

We need your help! If you have any info about what your team is doing (or not doing if that's the case), please let us know for newsletters and press releases. We're trying to drive the media hard this year with TV, Radio, internet, and traditional news outlets (newspaper, boating magazines, and general motorsport magazines) and if we don't know whose racing it makes it hard to give that information on to the respective media outlets. We've got some traction with non boating Motorsport websites and magazines recently and want to maintain that into 2010. So far there hasn't been much forthcoming after repeated requests from Karen and myself.

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MOTORMOUTH'S GOSSIP

As I have now passed my dunk test I am available to drive a Superboat or similar. Any Superboat will do... Yeah right! Tui Billboard... You guys are not wired up right, so I'll leave that stuff to you!

I've seen the new colours for Doosan's new acquisition ('Sleepysan' or 'Doohead' as some of us have nicknamed her!) and the boys have been out and about already, running in motors and scaring small children off Browns Bay for their annual waterfront event recently.



I've also seen A1 Homes new colour scheme and it looks very cool and very different. You will not recognise the old Fairview Skater. Scott and Murray have already been out on the water for a quick play in the past few weeks. However, there were some issues on the day. A certain naval officer's boat was used as the chase boat for the mid morning Auckland Harbour run, and when the already mentioned Naval officer stepped out of the raceboat and took controls of his own toy, it stopped... and wouldn't start again. The raceboat was despatched to get assistance because apparently calling a Naval Frigate for assistance isn't a good look, and as someone also isn't a coastguard member, apparently that also wasn't an option. Thankfully it started, as the next option was for the raceboat to tow us back...



The former Placemakers Superboat Skater has been reborn into a stunning Superboat light for 2010. Tony Carson has done an amazing job and it looks very cool with a centre cockpit.



See ya on the water in 2010!
Jamie McCarthy