

IWWF SANCTIONED INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL SKI RACING COMPETITION RETURNS TO ASIA/OCEANIA.

2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships

The New Zealand Waterski & Wakeboard Federation recently circulated Bulletin 1 of the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships** to be hosted by the New Zealand Waterski & Wakeboard Federation from 30 January 2017 to 5 February 2017 (varying start dates for each discipline.)

The Ski Racing schedule is from 31st to 5th February.

The 2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships will be the first waterski tournament in the world to encompass all five divisions of waterskiing. These include: Tournament Waterskiing, Barefoot Waterskiing, Wakeboarding, Waterski Racing, and Show Waterskiing (as a display event).

The events will be conducted at two venues.

Lake Kereta, a beautiful, natural sand dune lake located in the Auckland Region, 50 minutes from Auckland CBD, 20 minutes from Parakai, and 1 hour from Auckland International Airport. This site will host the Tournament and Barefoot Waterskiing events at these championships.

Lake Karapiro which boasts three waterski clubs and is considered the capital of New Zealand waterskiing. It is located in the Waikato Region, 2 hours from Auckland CBD, 5 minutes from Cambridge, and 1 hour and 45 minutes from Auckland International Airport. This site will host the Wakeboarding, Waterski Racing, & Show Waterskiing events at these championships. The competition will take place in front of the Don Rowlands Centre, which provides an ideal venue for spectators.

Schedule

30-31 January 2017	Official Familiarisation at <i>Lake Kereta</i>
31 January 2017	Opening Ceremony at the <i>Official Hotel</i>
2 February 2017	Official Familiarisation at <i>Lake Karapiro</i>
1-5 February 2017	Tournament & Barefoot Competition at <i>Lake Kereta</i>
3-5 February 2017	Wakeboard & Ski Racing Competition at <i>Lake Karapiro</i>

The Ski Racing schedule is from 31st January to 5th February.

The 2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships will see the return of official IWWF sanctioned regional competition. Competitors will be representing their country in an official IWWF event.

The New Zealand Waterski and Wakeboard Federation worked tirelessly to conduct the events at a time that was suitable for all facets of the sport of waterskiing. This meant comparing calendars of all facets of the sport in Asia and Oceania as well as taking into consideration venue availability.

The timing of the event is disappointing for many SRA members as the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships** are sandwiched between major events in Australia over the January / February period which include - The Australian

Championships including one Australian team selection round, a weekend of two Australian team selection rounds and the iconic Southern 80.

However, it is golden opportunity for SRA members to represent their country at an official international event.

The Board of Ski Racing Australia recently discussed the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships** at its May Board meeting. It was resolved that the event would be advertised on the SRA website and that questions and Expressions of Interest regarding the event could be forwarded by interested parties to Jan Thurgar Secretary General IWWF Oceania

Expressions of Interest are now called for from SRA members who are interested in:

1. competing at the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships**
2. supplying boats for the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships**
3. officiating at the **2017 Asian & Oceania Waterski Championships**
(all Level 2 judges are eligible to nominate to be judging assistants as per the IWWF Rule Book) at the Ski Racing events.

Hoping to hear from you,

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