

## **SRV Mercury Marine Point Score #1 Lake Charm September 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

After much anticipation over the winter months, the Victorian Ski Racing scene was ready to commence for the 2009 – 2010 Season with the running of Point Score # 1 at the beautiful Lake Charm near Kerang in Northern Victoria. It only seemed like yesterday (well, July actually) that everyone was at the Powerhouse Function Centre in Melbourne enjoying Presentation Night from the 2008 – 2009 season.

Leading up to the event there was some concern on water levels, as Lake Charm relies on water feeds from the Murray River. The Committee of SRV ensured all necessary checks were made for water levels and safety. A big thank you to Terry from the Lake Charm Foreshore Caravan Park, Gannawarra Shire, Kerang Boat Club for the ramp work and our Race Controller Tony Wilson, to ensure that everything was in order and contingency plans were in place.

Saturday morning commenced with competitors arriving early to finalise entries and crew details so the entries tent was a hive of activity. Jo Martin and Di Touhey did a great job keeping everything in order, considering the very high workload with so many late entries and substitutions. (Let's hope this decreases for future events, c'mon crews make sure you have your entries and paperwork in order).

Briefing commenced with ex-chairperson Steve Shipp conducting the briefing (hope you were watching closely and taking notes Richo). A couple of important items to come out of briefing was the introduction of the 1,000 points system for our Point Score calculations. I would suggest that Team Captains do their homework on how this system works. The golden rule is don't expect to win your class for the season by just circulating around the course. You will need to beat your competition by the maximum time possible to gain the most benefit. The other important point raised was regarding race day roster and ensuring that team members nominated being able to help during the weekend.

There was over 300 entries received for the weekend so it was important to get racing underway early and keep the schedule running. Thanks everyone for your co-operation throughout the weekend. Water conditions were choppy and challenging especially on the bottom turn bouy, so it made for some great racing. It was great to see some new boats on the scene, most notably some new F2 boats. The popularity of this class seems to be growing every season and makes for some great racing. Some new boats include;

- 'Swine Flew' crew from Mildura
- Brooksy with a new F2 Revolution hull 'Omen F2'
- Cuffy and his beautifully prepared Force hull 'Out 4 Revenge'
- Daniel Branson and his new boat 'The Relocator'
- Neville Freeman with a very familiar twin turbo Nissan powered Orange Force boat. (an Orange outboard wasn't enough hey Nifty?)

It was unfortunate that the Inboard engine classes were down a bit on numbers and we hope that we will see a few drivers and observers dust off the race suits and jackets, ask their mechanics to hurry up with the pre season checks, and join us at the point score series soon.

First race for Saturday was the 2 up races for Unlimited Inboard, Unlimited Outboard and Juniors.

**Inboard 2up** - First place was World Champs Mark Cranny and Damien Matthews in Hellrazor towing Peter Procter and ski racing stalwart Jamie Oliver, Second Place was Brooksy's Omen Racing towing Matty Brooks and Karl Wilson and third was Noizworks with Cuffy driving the big Connelly, Aiden Cuff and Ringo Hogben skiing.

**Outboard 2up** – A huge field of 18 boats greeted the starter and it was Team SBR towing Justin 'slim' Cadden and Chris Mansfield getting the win. Second place was the very fast F2 boat of AirForce One with Tom Smith and Daniel Shipp skiing. Third place was another F2 boat Cashed Out towing Micky Gunther and Peter Miletic.

**Junior 2up** – First place was Stalker Evinrude towing Will Groves and Clinton Stratton, Second was 99 Psycho Clowns towing Mitch Mulcahy and Jacob Hinterholz and Third place was Korrupt with Jackson Hammond and Sean Stevens skiing.

The classes for the Point Score commenced after the completion of the 2up with the first race being Sub Juniors

**Under 10 Girls** – First place was Phoenix with Brooke Hammond, and second place was Thudernuts with 'driver of the year' Cam Cox steering and Emma Barnes skiing.

**Sub Junior Boys** – First place was the very fast Jackson Hammond behind The Omen, Second place was Sean Stevens behind new boat Swine Flew and Third was Thudernuts with Joshua Reid skiing.

**Sub Junior Girls** – A big field of 7 brave kids faced the starter and it was Tayla Stent behind the number one plated boat Shipprek taking the win, second place was Emma Binnie behind Ballistic and Third was Brooke Hammond behind Phoenix.

**Novice Social** – First place was Christopher Gray behind Tha Battler, second was Brad Winter behind River God (comfortable in that seat Bisho?) and third was Ash Horman behind No Rules.

**Social Women** – First place was the recently arrived home Cara Jochinke behind Thudernuts, Second place was Team SBR with Jacqui Cadden and Third was Chelsea Blight behind Smoke n Mirrors.

**60mph Social** – First Place was Viscious Rumours towing Matthew Cozens, Second was Ballistic towing Andrew Hinterholz and third was On Ice with Christopher Maher skiing.

**Stock 6 Litre** – First Place was Jagged Edge with Mark Boyer, and Second was Gro Up with Adrian Nix.

**Formula 2** – In a tight finish it was First Place to Thudernuts towing SRV Board Member Brett Dominguez, Second was Smoken Mirrors with Jamie Oliver (found some speed Ash?) and third was Stalker Evinrude towing Gerard Atkins.

**Under 30 Womens** – Noizworks took the win with Cara Jochinke skiing, Second was Team SBR towing another Aussie team member Maddy Boyer, and Third was the Branson crew's new machine The Relocator towing Chelsea Blight.

**Social Men** - A huge field with the Johnson family team Recovery's Reflection taking the win with Ashley Johnson skiing. Second was Shipprek with Luke Watts out back and third was Air Force 1 with Robbie Skennerton skiing.

**Under 25 Mens** – Matty Brooks took a great win behind The Omen, Second was Hellrazor with Chris Mansfield and Third was Kane Howard behind Stalker Evinrude.

**Under 25 Women** - First place was Chelsea Blight behind Hellrazor and Second place was Zoe Stratton behind Smoke n Mirrors.

**Under 19 Girls** – First place was Maddy Boyer behind Noizworks, Second place was Tayla Wright behind Toey As and third place was Recovery's Reflection with Cody Johnson skiing behind the family boat.

**Under 30 Mens** – First was Cranny's Hellrazor beast towing Aussie Team member Peter Procter, second was Karl Wilson behind The Omen and third place was Nifty's new toy ORSM towing Luke Watts.

**Veteran Men** – Mark Boyer ran a great race to take the win behind Noizworks, Second was Ashley Mansfield behind Omen F2 and third was Rod Senior behind the fast six litre Synthetic boat.

**Veteran Women** – The ever reliable Vikki Shipp took the win behind Shipprek.

## **Sunday**

**60mph Expert** – First place was On Ice towing Christopher Maher, Second was Ballistic with Andrew Hinterholz skiing and Third was Rogue towing Matthew Cozens. (hold on in that rough water Kerrie)

**First Year Novice** – First place was 99 Psycho Clowns with Peter McDonald skiing, second was Crusher with Mark Binnie in tow and Third was Omen F2 with Glenn Baldwin out back.

**Under 19 Boys** – This race is always a cracker and the Point Score #1 version was no exception. It was Tha Battler taking win with Rhys Duggan skiing. Hellrazor was second with Ben Pearse and third was ORSM towing Aiden Cuff.

**Open Men** – The first ‘champagne’ race of the day had a big field of 16 crews greet the starter. First place was Hellrazor towing Peter Proctor, second place was Carpy’s great twin rig Team SBR towing Justin Cadden and third was the team cash boat of Cashed Out towing Mick Gunther.

**Open Women** – The second ‘champagne’ race was a great win to Maddy Boyer skiing behind Team SBR, second was Hellrazor with Chelsea Blight and third was Shipprek with Elise Jochinke.

Unfortunately Noizworks had an issue at the start line with the boat taking water and sinking. We hope to see the crew back on the water again very soon.

**SMOC** – This was another close finish with Stalker Evinrude taking the win towing Justin Cadden, Second was No Rules towing Matt Brooks and third was Viscious Rumours with Wayne Duggan skiing.

**6 Litre** – Toey As towing Aaron ‘Macca’ McQualter took the win and Gro Up was second with Matthew Rowe skiing.

**Junior Boys** – Another very close finish with ORSM taking the win with Clinton Stratton skiing and Hellrazor in second towing Will Groves. Third place was the consistent Thudernuts crew towing Lloyd Woolman.

**Junior Girls** - Toey As came into first place with Tayla Wright skiing and Tha Battler was second with Cody Johnson skiing (a new career in ski racing Jai?). Third place was Shipprek with Tayla Stent.

**Novice Men** – After a race stint up the Sydney series, the Smoke n Mirrors boat was race ready and took the win with Laine Cox skiing. Second was No Rules with Ash Horman and third was the new boat Out for Revenge with Doug Perry skiing.

**Senior Men** – First place was Hellrazor with Justin Cadden keeping that rope tight, second was Omen F2 towing Mark Boyer and third was Tha Battler with Kaine Millard skiing.

**Senior Women** – First place was Phoenix with Megan Smith skiing on home turf, and second was Shipprek with Victoria Shipp.

**MOC** – The Groves’ Stalker Evinrude machine was ‘keep on keeping on’, winning MOC towing Kane Howard. Second was Maddy Boyer skiing brilliantly behind Shipprek and third was No Rules with Matt Brookes.

**8 Litre** – A small field of 2 starters with ORSM taking the win with Jamie Oliver out the back and second was Gro Up with Adrian Nix skiing.

**Sorry no times published as these still are to be finalized.**

Ski of the weekend was notably by Rhys Duggan in Under 19 Boys. He was ready to ski behind Brooksy’s boat ‘The Omen’ but unfortunately they had a gearbox problem just prior to the race. ‘Tha Battler’ was put in as a last minute substitution. Rhys hit his straps and went out and skied a brilliant race to win in a high quality field.

A special thanks to the following people for all their hard work and making the weekend a success; Jo Martin , Lou Mudgway, Graham French, Luke Watts (Chief Judge), Tony Wilson (Race Controller), Brad Groves , Dave Bishop and Di Touhey (Race Day Secretary).

Also a big thank you to our regular band of helpers – Vicki Duggan, Tracey Cranny, Suzie Cuff, Elise Batchelor, Janine Hammond, Lucinda Bishop, Naomi and Rohan Smith and others if I have missed any (sorry, but we do appreciate it immensely).

It was also great to see some new members helping out in the tent and on course boats, thank you to all and look forward to your support at future Point Scores.

The Chairperson and Committee of SRV would like to acknowledge the support and assistance of our Class sponsors for the 2009 -2010 Point Score Series.

Look forward to a great turnout at Point Score #2 on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the wonderful Lake Charm. Get your entries in early!!

