

GEELONG WATERSKI CLUB INCORPORATED

Newsletter

November
2003

Wilsons Road, Whittington, Victoria
PO Box 151, Geelong, 3220
www.gwsc.org.au
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If you have any comments on the newsletter or would like to contribute articles/information, please contact Karen Jackson on 0419360626 (after 4.30pm) or via email at kazjackson@aol.com

The newsletter can be found on the Geelong WaterSki Club website at www.gwsc.org.au

WELCOME – FROM THE EDITOR

Hello to all Members,

I would like to welcome all new members to the Geelong Water Ski Club and to thank existing members for all re-joining. I hope you enjoy your membership and wish you a successful season.

Thank you to Leanne Madden for her fantastic efforts as Newsletter Editor for last season. Leanne gave the newsletters a creative touch with some great ideas. This is my first newsletter, after taking on the responsibility of Newsletter Editor late last week. Over the coming season I hope to add some new and exciting features to the newsletter for all ages and interests.

Without members' comments and input, we cannot have a newsletter. I encourage you all to email or write to the Ski Club (*see above for details*) with suggestions for the newsletter content as well as any articles for submission.

Happy Skiing!!

Karen Jackson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The season is upon us. The weather is improving, and the water is warming up. Already there has been a lot of activity at the river. I wish everyone on behalf of the committee a happy and successful skiing season.

There has been a lot of talk about the proposed constitutional changes. Essentially this has been put together by a group of lawyers to protect the ski clubs' assets in case of litigation. The existing constitution will have minor cosmetic changes to bring it up to the twenty first century. It was, in fact, written 40 years ago and needed updating. The intention is to set up a new ski club, which will lease the property at Wilsons road from the old "Current Ski Club". The old ski clubs name will change to "The Geelong Competitive Water Ski Club" and the new ski club will be called "The Geelong Water Ski Club". There have been many difficulties with on water insurance and the club is still pursuing the possibility of insurance. Even if we do get insurance, the clubs assets still need to be protected. From the member's point of view, there will be no change in the day to day running of the club. One committee will run both clubs and any on water activity will be run in the name of The Geelong Water Ski Club Inc.

The Geelong Water Ski Club is not in a unique position here. Many clubs throughout the entire country are adopting a system where, if they have significant assets they are being placed at arms length from the day to day activities of the club. This change in our club has been bought about by the recent difficulties with insurance and the current exposure of the assets of our club. Also, this will allow the club greater flexibility to use the slalom course, to run ski schools and to place the jump in the water without fear of exposing the assets of the club at risk. The whole concept should be looked at, as a good positive step for the club but in no way is a substitute for insurance. I, personally, with a couple of other people, have been chasing insurance for our club for 18 months and will continue to do so through various avenues. This, if successful, will be in addition to a restructuring of the club.

John Stekelenburg

NEW CLUB KEYS

Please note that the ski club locks have been changed. For those members who still have old keys, new keys are available from Glenn Sheldon at Imageworks, 100 Fyans Street, South Geelong (Phone 0419 296 222) in exchange for their old key. If no old key available, a deposit of \$40 is payable.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Please note, further to the special notice you should have received either by email or post, the Special General Meeting that had been re-scheduled for Friday 28th November 2003 has been cancelled and will now take place on **Wednesday 10th December 2003, commencing at 7.00pm at the Geelong Water Ski Club, Wilsons Road, Whittington.** The committee apologises for this inconvenience.

This is an opportunity for all members to voice their views on this issue and be updated. Your opinion does count and would be appreciated.

THANK YOU

A special thank you to the following:

- **Brad Jones** – for his continual help and support with website updates and emailing information to members.
- **Andrew McKinnon** of **HEATING & COOLING** (0438 240 169) for installing the new air-conditioner and heater upstairs in the Clubhouse and for getting us a great deal on the unit as well as installing the gas lines and ducting.
- **OWEN CROWL**, Fyans Street for their support.
- **Simon Paatsch** from **CLIPSAL** for donating nearly \$300.00 worth of their products to the club.

BAREFOOT SCHOOL

A Learn to barefoot session is to be held at the Geelong Waterski Club on Sunday 16th November 2003 commencing at 8.00am.

GENERAL WORKING BEE / OPEN DAY

To start the season, a general working bee will be held on Sunday 30th November commencing at 9.00am. There are a number of jobs to be carried out on the day. Some of these include; painting, concreting potholes along the water edge, chainsaw to cut trees, removal of rubbish at jump block and many more to keep us busy.

Open Day will follow the working bee with a BBQ at midday and skiing in the afternoon.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS — SEASON 2003/04

Barefoot School – Sunday 16th November 2003

Compulsory Working Bee – Sunday 30th November 2003 at 9.00am

Open Day – Sunday 30th November 2003 at midday

Ski Schools Dates - to be 2nd Sunday in Month at 9.00am, except January:

- November 9, 2003
- February 8, 2004
- March 14, 2004

Special General Meeting – Wednesday 10th December 2003 at 7.00pm – To be held at the Geelong Waterski Club, Wilsons Road, Whittington

3-day December School - December 10th, 11th and 12th, 2003

Mini Club Tournament – Saturday 13th December, 2003 at 10.00am

Christmas Party – Saturday December 13th, 2003 at 5.00pm

Twilight Tournament - February 11th, 2004 (Details to come)

Wakeboard School – February 14th & 15th, 2004 (TBC)

DECEMBER SKI SCHOOL

A Three-Day Ski School is to be held at the club from Wednesday 10th – Friday 12th December 2003. This event is becoming an annual event for the club. It is a great opportunity for the kids to meet other young members and learn some new skills from experienced skiers. Although this is aimed at kids, you're never too old to learn, so any adults out there wishing to attend are more than welcome. Coaches for this school are; Karen Jackson and Andrew Morris.

The days will commence at 9.00am and finish at 4.00pm. Lunches, morning and afternoon snacks will be provided. Until numbers attending are clear it is difficult to ascertain what the exact charge will be.

For further information and/or to confirm your attendance, it would be appreciated if you could contact Frances Gatfield, Club Captain as soon as possible. Her contact number is 5275 1845. Forms will be forwarded to you once you have registered your child.

If there is anyone who can spare some time to drive during the three-day ski school event it would be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please contact Frances Gatfield on 5275 1845.

SOCIAL

Christmas Party is on Saturday 13 December 2003. For all details please refer to Christmas Party flyer attached.

WAKEBOARD SKI SCHOOL

A Wakeboard School is to be held at the club on the weekend of February 14 & 15, 2004. Brant Hirst from Australian Wakeboard School & Editor of Wake and Waterski Magazines will be coach for the weekend. This is an opportunity for club members to be given lessons, whether you are a beginner or advanced rider. We are looking for 12 people for each day at a cost of around \$50.00 for 2 sets on the day.

If you are interested, please email Mark Young at may@swift.net.au as soon as possible to book a spot. Numbers will dictate costs & time.

Also Brant is a ski instructor so if anyone who would like to tune in on their skiing is quite welcome to book a spot.

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

Our first Ski School for the season was held on Sunday 9th November. It was a great success; good to see so many skiers. Everyone had a good time and achieved so much. The weather was typical ski school, but no wind thank goodness. Thank you to George Lewis, Dave Vallance, Russell & Sally Morris, Sue & Richard Crisp for coaching and driving as well as Glenn Sheldon for the use of his boat. A special thank you to everyone who helped in the kitchen, without your help days like this wouldn't happen.

Don't forget coming dates for ski schools. December 10th 11th 12th for our 3 day ski school (cost to be notified) to book in please call Frances on 52562926 or mobile 0407040877.

Frances Gatfield

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following:

To Bob and Wendy Appleton on the birth of their twin grandsons, Thomas and Henry Cust.

To Paul Beretta who announced his engagement to Rebecca Tierney last month and the wedding is to be in November 2004.

To Ashley and Sonia Batty, on the arrival of their newborn twins, Amelia and Austin, born on May 22, 2003.

To Adrian & Andria Batty, on the arrival of their son, Luke, born on September 19, 2003.

HOT NEWS

Congratulations to Matthew Carroll on his selection in the Australian Under 17 Team to compete in the Aussie Kiwi Challenge in January in New Zealand. At Easter Matt was selected in the Junior Development Squad for the Junior Worlds in the USA in August 2004. Well done Matt on your first Australian Team selection, and good luck!

WAKEBOARD WORLDS

The World Wakeboard Championships were held in Sydney from October 9th to 12th at the Penrith Regatta Centre, which was the centre built for the Olympics. It was amazing to see how the stone banks absorbed the whole wash allowing the riders to perform with no backwash at all (something to look into there).



Left: Site of the Wakeboard Worlds – Penrith Regatta Centre
Right: Competitor at Wakeboard Worlds

143 riders from 19 countries competed. The riders from the warmer climates suffered from the cold water & cool weather. Every rider was amazing to watch with the winners being Jeff Weatherall 1st, Daniel Watkins 2nd & Tino Santori 3rd. The winning women were Amber Wing 1st, Laura Lohrman 2nd & Hayley Smith 3rd. Australia won the event followed by America.

Julie (pictured below) had a chat to Parks Bonifay who had just won the American circuit for the year but was disqualified in his heat for not completing pass the buoys properly. We had a fantastic long weekend & were left wondering how easy they all make it look.

Mark Young

For full results and the latest wakeboard news, visit www.wakeworld.com



Above: Julie Young with Parks Bonifay

BOAT SCRUTINEERING

For those members who did not attend the official boat scrutineering days, please write a letter with reason for non-attendance to The Secretary, Geelong Water Ski Club, PO Box 151 Geelong VIC 3220.

VICTORIAN WATER SKI FEDERATION - SKI CAMP

The VWSF early season ski camp at Mulwala was a great success.

The Geelong Club skiers were Matthew, Josh and Jacinta Carroll and Richard and Patrick Crisp. Doug and Colleen Carroll took the opportunity to attend the judges school so that they can help out at tournaments as well as help Matt, Josh and Jacinta through the myriad of rules.

Joel Wing was the head coach. We all benefited from his help. John Adams, Waldie Priekulis and Richard Crisp coached slalom, Jump and tricks.

The Carroll family are all jumpers now. Matthew carried on from his successful 2002/3 season, Josh had only a little jumping last season but really looked good with several more successful jumps. Jacinta has been waiting to learn to jump and now she is in the under 14's girls division there was nothing to stop her. This will be a really interesting season for all three of them in jump competition. Their slalom and tricks improved greatly too. They all have lots of new things to work on until the next ski camp.

Patrick Crisp worked hard on the kneeboard and ended up being able to do the surface 180 and 360-degree turns and was attempting the wake 180 degree turns. Patrick made huge progress on the single ski. He started the camp on 2 skis and ended up dropping a ski (with help) and then skiing off on his own across the wakes, round the corners and across the bumps. Richard showed that you can teach an old dog new tricks, they just take a little longer to learn!

To finish the camp Joel Wing strapped on his trick ski and gave a demonstration of the skills that took him to a bronze medal at the recent world championships. Awesome. It was a delight to watch a skier of such high skill level just out on the water enjoying himself doing things that the rest of us can only dream about.

The camp was run in a relaxed friendly atmosphere and everyone benefited from the early season intensive skiing.

WANTED

Wanted to Buy

Junior wetsuit for young child (about size 5)

With or without buoyancy

Phone Dave Vallance (0438 427 602)

CLUBHOUSE FACILITIES

A new portable BBQ has been purchased for all members' use whilst at the ski club.

It has been noted that the Clubhouse has not been kept tidy. Please ensure that kitchen and shower doors are shut, lights turned off, dishes washed and put away before leaving.

Please ensure that when driving in the ski club car park that you drive slowly and do not do "donuts", for safety reasons and it is damaging the car park surface.

INFORMATION UPDATE

We are endeavouring to update the club's database to enable us to ensure you can be informed of events, special meetings, river closures, ski schools, etc. It also helps the committee to make decisions based on your information.

Please take the time to accurately fill in the form attached and email Tony Powell at woodford.service@bigpond.com mail to: PO Box 151, Geelong, 3220.

If your details change at any time, please write or email GWSC for records to be updated and to ensure you receive future correspondence.

GEELONG WATERSKI CLUB MEMBER CONTACT DETAILS UPDATE

Members Name..... **Boat Licence No**.....

Spouse's Name..... **Boat Licence No**.....

Children's Name and D.O.B

.....

.....

Address (including postcode).....

.....

Home Phone Number..... **Mobile**.....

Email Address.....

New Gate Key Number.....

Complete this form and mail to: PO Box 151, Geelong, 3220 or email Tony Powell at woodford.service@bigpond.com