

CLASS THREE FIELD TO DOUBLE FOR OFFSHORE SERIES IN 2007

The Australian Offshore Powerboat Series is in for a spectacular season next year with new race teams set to take to the waters and join in the adrenaline rush that is offshore racing.

The Class Three-four litre field will double in 2007, with three new teams set to join *Hogs Breath*, *Kwozzy*, and the *Ezy Does It* crew in what will be the most competitive series for the four litre category in recent times.

Ezy Does It managed to break through for an upset win on the Gold Coast in the final round of the 2006 series, and Graham Fraser and Ian Harris are looking forward to the challenge of maintaining a competitive boat and pushing for more round wins next year.

"We had a great win in the final round and it was a pleasing way to end the season, but we will be much more prepared and know what to expect in 2007 so we would hope to challenge for the title", said Graham Fraser of *Ezy Does It*.

With three more teams being added to the field in 2007, *Hogs Breath* will have their work cut out for them if they are to make it five straight series victories.

Seasoned veterans, Paul Gibbs and Paul Fowlds have lead the way in recent years, often winning races by huge margins, but the pressure will be on in 2007.

Gibbs and Fowlds won their fourth consecutive title in 2006; however things are set to change in 2007 with the addition of new teams and more experienced rivals.

The four litre title will be hotly contested in 2007 with a years experience now firmly under the belt of the *Kwozzy* and *Ezy Does It* teams and three new competitors making up a field of six.

Hogs Breath Racing have made some changes to their boat in the off-season in an effort to get some extra speed and maintain their strangle hold on the four litre category.

"In a nut shell we have blue printed the bottom of the boat and taken out a lot of imperfections and hooks," said *Hog's Breath* throttleman Paul Fowlds.

"Hopefully this will make the boat run flatter and not porpoise at some speeds; with the competition growing we need anything we can to stay in front."

The Kiwi Aussies, *Kwozzy Racing* had an indifferent year in 2006 often well placed in many races but unable to finish due to mechanical problems, with a year of racing to learn their craft Adam Nicolls and Jim Harris are readied for success in 2007.

"We have made some minor modifications to the hull of our boat but it will be much the same in 2007", said Adam Nicolls of *Kwozzy*.

"I can't wait for next year with all the new teams coming on board; it's going to make for some very entertaining racing, we learnt a lot in our first year and we really expect to do well in 2007.

“All the current teams have been doing everything we can to help out the new crews and ensure they are ready for the first round next year, I think its great for the sport.”

Offshore Powerboats will be on display at Melbourne’s Motorsport Show, 9-11 February 2007 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.