

MARITIMO TAKE OUT GOLD COAST 100
IN POWERFUL OFFSHORE DISPLAY

A powerful display of offshore racing by father-son duo, Bill and Tom Barry-Cotter this afternoon saw the *Maritimo* team take out round six of the offshore powerboat series on the Gold Coast.

The *Maritimo* AUS1 boat headed the field from the outset and powered away from the rest of the field to finish off the season in emphatic style in front of a home crowd on the Gold Coast.

Tom and Bill raced together for the first time at round three of this year's series where they took out the 'Newcastle Challenge', and this afternoon indicated that the father-son combination will be a future force to be reckoned with, after taking out line honours at the Gold Coast 100.

"We had a really fast race today, it's just a shame that a few other Class One entries had to pull out", said Tom Barry-Cotter.

"It holds us in good stead for next year and I'm really looking forward to teaming up with Dad again for next year's series to have a crack at the title.

Class One had three retirees this afternoon, with 2006 series champions *Simrad* pulling out before the race got underway after loosing boost on their port engine.

The *AFT* team were the next to go, with an engine giving way on the first lap, and *Smorgon Steel* retired due to an electrical problem on their port engine.

Acme Racing's brothers Andrew and Steve Searle managed to get home for second place in what was a frustrating race for many of the Class One teams.

The Class Three- six litre field saw Red Bellies put on a show for the crowd, and the pilot Bruce Sanders couldn't be happier with the performance of the Red Bellies crew.

After strong challenges from *Red Australia* and *Navman* in the early stages of the Gold Coast 100, *Red Bellies* asserted their authority and steamed away from the Class Three- six litre field for yet another win.

"We really owe a big thankyou to our crew, the boat is in terrific condition and has been really quick this season, we still had some speed left up our sleeve today as well, it is really smoking at the moment", said Bruce Sanders.

Ezy Does It broke through for their first ever win in the Class Three-four litre category this afternoon, after a season that has been dominated by *Hogs Breath racing*.

The four-litre field were locked in an enthralling battle for the first half of today's race until *Kwozzy* had trouble with a drive belt in their port engine and *Hogs Breath* encountered some steering trouble, allowing *Ezy Does It* to lock down first place.

"It's great to have a win in Queensland in front of a home crowd, this year has been more of a trial and learning experience for us, so it is a fantastic reward to come away with a win", said Graham Fraser of *Ezy Does It*.

Advantage Marine made it a clean sweep for 2006, with their sixth win from six starts this year to easily wrap up the National A Class title.

The Production Class was won by new entry *Danger Zone* this afternoon after a good battle with *Grumpy Mongrel*.

Today's Gold Coast 100 marks the end of the 2006 series, after an action packed year of offshore racing.

The series would like to thank sponsors Acme Fibreglass Supplies and Nautilus Marine Insurance Agency for their support throughout 2006.

GOLD COAST 100 Provisional Results

TEAM	Driver/Throttleman	Time/Laps
MARITIMO	Tom/ Bill Barry/Cotter	61 mins 51 secs
ACME RACING	Andrew/Steve Searle	13 Laps
RED BELLIES	Colin Craven/ Bruce Sanders	10 Laps
NAVMAN	Mat Humphrey/ Craig Purton	10 Laps
EZY DOES IT	Ian Harris/ Graham Fraser	10 Laps

ACME FIBREGLASS SUPPLIES AUSTRALIAN OFFSHORE POWERBOAT SERIES- 2006 SERIES WINNERS

CLASS	TEAM	Driver/Throttleman
CLASS 1	SIMRAD	Luke Durman/ Ross Willaton
CLASS 3- six litre	RED BELLIES	Colin Craven/ Bruce Sanders
CLASS 3- four litre	HOGS BREATH	Paul Gibbs/ Paul Fowlds
NATIONAL A CLASS	ADVANTAGE MARINE	Don McClymont/Nick Purvis
PRODUCTION CLASS	GRUMPY MONGREL	Peter Jack/ Mark Taylor