

EXCITING NEW 'ONE MAKE' SERIES ADDED TO OFFSHORE CALENDAR

The Australian Offshore Powerboat Club, ACME Fibreglass supplies and The Haines Group are proud to announce the arrival of a new 'one make' class to the Australian Offshore Racing schedule for 2007.

In a joint venture between The Haines Group and ACME Fibreglass, the one make class will be a Haines Signature 1900s boat matched with a Suzuki 150HP four stroke outboard motor.

"It is very exciting to welcome a one-make class to the Australian Offshore Powerboat Series, it has been on the cards for a while now and its fantastic to finally get it off the ground," said AOPC secretary Antony De Fina.

"It's only \$49,000 to buy one of these boats to race in the one-make class, so they are very affordable and the bonus is that they aren't just for the sole purpose of offshore racing, they can also be used as a ski boat."

All boats will come on a Dunbier tandem trailer with the Signature 1900s rigged race-ready with a foot throttle, ski pole, rear lounge and custom upholstery made by Haines Signature specifically for these limited number of boats.

With a very sporty look and feel, the \$49000 package will include AOPC membership for both crew and all race licences and entry fee required for the entire 2007 season.

In a major plus for this new 'one make' category, The Haines Group and ACME Fibreglass supplies have negotiated a deal to provide prize money for the 'one make' class to be distributed based on end of season results.

"We want to help bring people into offshore racing and the prize money will help to do that, coupled with the affordability of these boats," said John Haines Junior of The Haines Group.

"I used to race on the offshore circuit as well as my father and we know how reliable the Suzuki engine and 1900s are, they are quality products.

"Adding the one-make class to the offshore series will really show who has the racing skill because the boats will be exactly the same, no teams will have an edge over another."

The 'one-make' class is the ideal way to launch into an offshore career and become involved with the high adrenaline and fast action that offshore powerboat racing has to offer.

This brand new one-make category provides the opportunity for anyone wanting to get involved with the sport to learn their craft on the offshore circuit at a very affordable price.

The 2007 Offshore Series is set to kick off in Victoria on 17 and 18 February, with two rounds scheduled for each of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland.

Anyone interested in racing in the Australian Offshore Powerboat Series 'one-make' category in 2007 can contact Antony De Fina (0411 648 487) or Paul Gibbs (0414 371 122) or visit www.aopc.com.au for more information about the Australian Offshore Powerboat Series.