

Media Release

Yamaha Rollo's Bridge to Bridge Water Ski Classic

18.10.2017



## 34th Running of NZ's Greatest Ski Race!



The 2017 *Yamaha Rollo's Marine Bridge to Bridge Water Ski Classic* marks the 34<sup>th</sup> running of this iconic event held annually on the Waikato River. This year's event takes place from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of November and is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever, with participants travelling from all over New Zealand and across the ditch in Aussie to take part with the aim of smashing previously set records!

The main race for the weekend, the *Rollo's Marine Long Race*, is an 82km flat out sprint - a huge challenge for both man and machine. This year the race will see up to a 10 Open Class boats including last year's record breaking race winning team 'Under Siege', 12-time race winner 'Warlord', 2015 race winner 'Messiah' as well as other past winners and competitors. There are even rumours of a top performing Australian boat possibly coming to join the party for the first time....

These open class boats are all capable of 100+ mile per hour (160 KPH+) speeds. A large contingency of Australian competitors will be flying in from across the ditch especially for the race as it becomes increasingly popular with the Aussies.

The weekend's events kick off on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, with the ever popular *DMW Trailers & Trojan Trailer Parts Show & Shine* which takes place in Hood Street, Central Hamilton. This is a chance for the public to get up close and personal with the boats and the teams before they do battle in the weekends racing ahead.



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On the Saturday the first ski race of the weekend takes place when the Novice, Masters, F5, 70MPH and Sub Juniors hit the water running from Hamilton to Taupiri and return. Followed by the *Yamaha Family & Social Class Event* which is a 20km ski on an ordinary slalom ski and handle from Ngaruawahia to Hamilton. This race is long enough to be challenging, but short enough for everyone to give it a go. Any type of boat can be used for this event with a range of classes, so if you know how to ski, you should be giving this race a go!

Saturday also plays host to the *Sterling Security Armourguard Long Race Time Trial*, a seeding event for the main race on Sunday.

On Sunday morning the Powerboats, Thundercats and Jetskis come out to play in *The Rock 93.0FM Sprints* at 9:30am. With the main event, the *Rollo's Marine Long Race* starting at 1pm in Cambridge.



One of the highlights of the weekend will be seeing Mark Cromie in his Turbine Power Jet boat "Kwik Kiwi". Cromie smashed his own record time last year with 2 sub 6 and half minute runs over the 20km course to set an impressive record of 12:38. He will be looking to once again better than time.

All the action and commentary can be seen and heard from the Grantham Street Boat Ramp near the Bridge Street Bridge in the middle of Hamilton.

For more information go [www.skirace.co.nz](http://www.skirace.co.nz)

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