

Australian Formula POWERBOAT GP

**ROUND 2
LAKE ALBERT
FEBRUARY 23-24**

Australia's premier powerboat series



Formula 3 will be close and competitive.
Photo: MICHAEL CLEARY.

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Racers ready to roar

AFTER completing a highly successful Round 1 at Bundaberg, Queensland last November the Australian Formula Powerboat Grand Prix, Australia's premier powerboat series heads to Lake Albert, Wagga on February 22-23 for Round 2.

Thanks to the support of Series Sponsor Anglomoil Superior Lubricants along with several local Business Sponsors and the Wagga Wagga Boat Club, early entries for the event have exceeded expectations.

Organisers are confident that more than 50 of Australia's leading powerboat drivers from five Australian states and at least one international driver will compete at Wagga.

The Australian Formula Powerboat Grand Prix (AFP GP) Series will showcase the best Australia has to offer in Formula circuit racing.

The drivers in the Formula 1,

2 and 3 classes will be competing for Australian Championship honours.

These colourful, lightweight, high flying outboard tunnel boats that turn at breathtaking speeds are sure to provide plenty of thrills and maybe some spills.

Malaysian champion Yanto Kandri will be competing in Australia's most competitive class - Formula 2.

Currently Rhys Coles (NSW) and Andrew King (NSW) are tied for the Formula 2 series lead. They will face not only Kandri but a capacity field of drivers including Todd Leary (TAS), Corey Doval (NSW) and Simon Troy (NSW) are all capable of causing an upset. A number of new drivers expected to make their Formula 2 debut at the meeting including former F1 star Gavin Bricker (VIC).

Jake Greentree (QLD) and Will Parker (NSW) will head a

group of fearless young guns in the battle for Formula 3 honours while current Australian champion Paul Eade (VIC) in his breath-takingly quick BudLight boat will be the one to chase in Formula 1.

Thanks to Brisbane Marine, Formula Opti will also be on the program at Wagga Wagga. Formula Opti boats are all powered by Optimax 200XS SST outboards that were developed by Mercury Marine as a green, environmentally friendly race engine.

Using the very latest in 4-stroke technology these engines have a capacity of 2.5L producing 200hp with a maximum of 8000rpm and a top speed exceeding 200kph.

Currently Grant Trask (QLD) leads this series but strong opposition is expected from former Australian F2 champion Michael Page (NSW) at Wagga.

After running a close

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Daniel McMahon at full throttle in Optimax.
Photo: NASHY.

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ROUND 2
LAKE ALBERT
FEBRUARY 23-24

Advertising feature

Australian Formula POWERBOAT GP

bigger and better than ever in Wagga

■FROM PAGE 40: second at Round 1, Page has carried out some major modifications to his hull and could pull off an upset victory.

The AFPGP Series also proudly features a strong group of Formula Future Classes for young male and female drivers aged between 12 and 16 years of age. There is plenty of interest in these classes as in some cases you have brothers and sisters competing.

Joining the series at Wagga will also be a strong field on



Outboard Monohulls.

These lively, traditional based vee bottom craft are sure to provide plenty of action as their drivers race around a four buoy course.

"This year, with interest in the series at a record high, a significantly larger contingent of teams, sponsors and fans will be travelling across the country and from overseas to attend round 2, resulting in an economic boost for Wagga," President of the Anglomoil Australian Powerboat Grand Prix Series, Gavin Simmons says.



Prime position for big event



UNLESS you happen to be racing in Australian Formula Powerboat GP on the waters of Lake Albert on the weekend of February 22-23, the Wagga Wagga Boat Club will be the place to be for a prime position to take in every thrilling moment of the big event.

"The Boaty" on the shores of Lake Albert has been an icon in the Wagga Community since 1952.

Boasting a large function room, bar area upstairs and The Sand Bar down stairs, the club is the perfect spot to take in all of the thrills and spills of the 2nd Round of the GP.

The club on Plumpton Rd offers the best views of any event on the lake and in between races you will be able to relax in airconditioned comfort and indulge in the bar and dining facilities.

The Function Room enjoys great views of the lake and the club's expansive balcony is always a popular spot during big events.

The Wagga Wagga Boat Club is open Tuesdays-Thursdays 3-9pm, Fridays 3pm-midnight, Saturday 11am-midnight and Sunday 9am-9pm. Check out their website: waggawaggaboatclub.com

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