



WORLD HOVERCRAFT FEDERATION

PROPELLING GLOBAL HOVERSPORT

Number 10

December 2004

A message from the President.

As 2004 draws to a close, and Christmas is nearly here, it is a time for reflection. At the World Championship in Germany we saw some of the most exiting racing ever staged. The competition was fierce and we now have our new World Champions. It was also a great time to see old friends and make some new ones and to strengthen and expand our sport at world level.

On behalf of the World Hovercraft Federation and myself may I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

However or where ever you choose to celebrate Christmas think of your hovercraft friends all over the world and have a great time!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Drake', with a horizontal line underneath.

Tony Drake JP. President of the World Hovercraft Federation

Vote for a new member

We have received a request for WHF membership from:

Name Air Cushion Club of Norway (ACCN)
Contact person Mr. Ørnulf Østbye, secretary
Address Limhusveien 51
N-2315 Hamar
Norway
Email accn@iventelo.net
Web site www.accn.espn.no

This club would like to join the WHF as a member, so we ask you to vote before December 24th 2004. If we do not receive your reply by that date Norway will be accepted as member.

Please sent your reply to the WHF secretary wordhovercraftfederation@planet.nl

World Champions 2004

We'd like to thank the Hoverclub von Deutschland for staging an excellent World Hovercraft Championship this past September in Berlin. We had excellent, very close and exciting racing and our hosts were warm and welcoming.

Here is a list of our new World Champions, and we congratulate them all.

Formula Junior

1. Tom Long	UK
2. Marcus Westerberg	Sweden
3. Tony Östermann	Sweden

Formula 25

1. Robert Trussler	UK
2. Terry Chapman	USA
3. Chris Barczynski Jr.	Canada

Formula S

1. Richard Wiles	UK
2. Jamie Lewendon	UK
3. Michel Thiry	Belgium

Formula 3

1. Scott Tiley	UK
2. Jamie Lewendon	UK
3. Lewis Webb	UK

Formula 2

1. Anne-Christine Dupont	France
2. Tony Goldney	UK
3. Michel Richard	France

Formula 1

1. Michael Metzner	Germany
2. Conrad Beale	UK
3. Michele Scanavino	Italy

World Hovercraft Championships, 2006

At the WHF Meeting held this past September 6th in Berlin, Germany, it was decided that the World Hovercraft Championship 2006 will be hosted by France. The event will be held in Latronquiere at Tolerme Lake from 21 – 26 August 2006. As soon as the French organisers have established a web site we will add a link to it from ours.

World Championships 2008.

We have received a very strong indication from Mauritius that they would like to host our Championships in November 2008. They seem well advanced with their investigations and are talking of serious sponsorship. If your Country is considering making a bid for 2008 please will you let our Secretary have a provisional application by the end of January 2005 so that we can plan for the future.

World Hovercraft Award of Excellence.

Each year the World Hovercraft Federation, if appropriate, makes an award to recognise 'excellence' in the area of hovercraft both past and present. This year at the annual meeting of the European Hovercraft Federation, the Award was presented by our President to Barry Oakley for all the work he has done as Race Director at National, International and World level. (Past recipients include Sir Christopher Cockerall, Dr Bertelsen, Mr John Gifford and Jean Claude Delorme).

Junior Teams at Future World Championships

Team racing will be permitted for Formula Junior and only Formula Junior at the forthcoming World Championships in France. *(This is an extension to the experiment in Berlin to encourage as many of our young drivers for the future to take part in our sport at the highest level).*

The existing rules are as follows, if you want to comment on, or suggest changes to them please e-mail your response to our Technical Director, Bob Rennick, at bob.rennick@gmail.com

Junior Teams must be genuine schools, college or youth groups.

Junior Teams may have a maximum of 4 drivers.

Junior Drivers cannot be in more than one team or if they choose to be in a Team cannot race as an individual.

Teams must register the names of all Drivers when initially registering to part in the World Championship.

Teams must inform the organizers prior to any race or practice who the Driver will be. (This is to ensure that the organizers know at any time, for health and safety reasons etc., who is actually participating).

As time trials will determine the first grid position the Team Driver with lowest time will start the first race.

WHF Web Page

As always if you have any upcoming announcements that you feel should be included in either the WHF Bulletin or placed upon the WHF web page, please contact the WHF secretary via email at worldhovercraftfederation@planet.nl

Team Endurance Racing Working Committee

At the moment a committee is working on a possible format for the introduction of WHC Team Endurance Racing. They want by end of 2004 to develop a final proposal. Members of this committee are

Owen Ellis, Australia	owen@revtechhover.com
Bob Rennick, Canada	bob.rennick@gmail.com
Terry Chapman, USA	hoverbucks@yahoo.com
Pascal Lepicier, France	p.lepicier@brodard-graphique.fr
Gavin Parsons, GB	hovercruiser@yahoo.co.uk
Cecil Scalf, USA	cscalf@charter.net
Graham Nutt, UK	graham@irrisupplies.com

New WHF Publications

Two new WHF publications are now available on our website.

Information required for World Championship bids. This has been written at the request of member countries that may wish to apply to host a World Championship in the future. (see attachment)

Marshalling Guidelines at World Championship events. This has been written by Barry Oakley to assist those organizing events.

Items for discussion via e-mail

At a most successful "open forum" meeting at the recent World Championships in Berlin many racing topics were raised. These will be circulated by e-mail by our Technical Director to all drivers who attended the last Championships and to all our members' representatives. This will happen soon. Please encourage as many people as possible to respond so that we may take any decisions with the maximum amount of opinion as possible.