



WORLD  
**HOVERCRAFT**  
FEDERATION

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PROPELLING GLOBAL HOVERSPORT

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Number 6

August 2002

### **World Hovercraft Championships, 2004**

We have received two proposals for the 2004 World Hovercraft Championships. Each of these proposals is attached to this document as Appendix A and B. One is from the Australian Hovercraft Federation and the other is from the German Hovercraft Federation. The WHF will hear more about them from their representatives and this will be followed by a discussion for selection of the location for the 2004 World Championship at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Terre Haute.

### **World Hovercraft Championships, 2006**

There has been some informal communication concerning the 2006 World Hovercraft Championships. If your country is interested in staging that event, please let us know. Your submission is best provided to the WHF prior to the September 2002 meeting where it will be considered.

### **Hovercraft World Cup**

Here is a response from Henk & Christal Maartens concerning the World Cup discussion started in the last bulletin:

*It does not sound too bad if someone else pays for a container and all the other expenses involved to enter a World Cup event BUT why should the WHF support this type of event? Does the WHF want to be associated with an event where only a few selected drivers are invited? When a country wants to hold an official WHF race meeting they should not only see the fastest hovercraft from the people who are able to spend a lot of money on their craft but also the drivers who spend lots of time and less*

money to get their 'door' flying! Also, new drivers who start in this sport should also have a chance.

Why not make this event an 'Invitation Race' as happened in Portugal 1992 when a lot of European and American drivers were invited. This event was called a 'World Cup' but never supported by the WHF. If the WHF officially recognizes a World Cup event then all eligible drivers from all over the world should have the opportunity to take part.

### **Financial**

The new policy of funding the WHF via 'user fees' comes into play at WHC 2002 in Terre Haute. All competitors will be charged \$2US as part of their competitor entrance fee. This money is used to allow the WHF office to operate and is the prime source of income for the WHF.

### **Points Allocations**

The voting is in and the new points allocations for all WHF Sanctioned hovercraft races in all formulae are as follows:

<b>Finishing Position</b>	<b>Points Allocated</b>	<b>Finishing Position</b>	<b>Points Allocated</b>	<b>Finishing Position</b>	<b>Points Allocated</b>	<b>Finishing Position</b>	<b>Points Allocated</b>
1	50	11	30	21	20	31	10
2	48	12	29	22	19	32	9
3	46	13	28	23	18	33	8
4	44	14	27	24	17	34	7
5	42	15	26	25	16	35	6
6	40	16	25	26	15	36	5
7	38	17	24	27	14	37	4
8	36	18	23	28	13	38	3
9	34	19	22	29	12	39	2
10	32	20	21	30	11	40	1

### **WHF Sanctioned Speed Records**

The WHF has voted to accept the proposed regulations. A copy of these is available on the WHF web site.

### **WHF Board of Directors – 2002 through 2004**

As per our Constitution, we will be selecting a new Board of Directors at the upcoming September meeting of the WHF. If you fancy yourself taking over as President,

Secretary/Treasurer or as a regional Vice-President, please submit your willingness to run for election prior to the September 23, 2002 meeting of the WHF to be held in Terre Haute, Indiana, USA immediately after the World Championships. There is no requirement for you to be present at the proceedings. You can submit to the WHF a written representation and it will be provided to the voting members present at the meeting. If you wish to nominate someone for one of these positions, please first ensure that they are willing to accept the nomination and, if possible, send them to the WHF office prior to the WHC this September.

To facilitate a more orderly and smoother transition, the present Governing Board Members have been invited (where possible) to make a statement regarding their interest or intentions to stand again for another term.

**President:**

*I will not be standing for the Presidents position.*

*I sincerely thank everyone for their support, friendship and co-operation.*

*In particular I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution that Secretary Bob Rennick has made to quality and structure of the organisation.*

*As I depart the Presidents position, I'm confident the WHF has been improved and strengthened to face future commitments and challenges.*

*Owen Ellis*

**Secretary:**

*After four years in the position, it is time to move on so I will not be seeking re-election as Secretary/Treasurer. I also would like to thank all of the country representatives who have helped me along. The role of WHF Secretary is challenging, but also very satisfying. Please consider taking on this position.*

*Bob Rennick*

**Formula 25 Changes**

Attached (as appendix 'C') you will find a new set of proposed Formula 25 regulations. These are a simplified version of the previous set that still hold to the true function of what Formula 25 is meant to be. The WHF will be asked to vote to adopt these new regulations at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting in Terre Haute, Indiana, USA. The purpose of creating this new set was to simplify what was felt were overly complicated rules.

**WHF Monogrammed Shirts**

The WHF has a *very limited* supply of extremely high quality, monogrammed dress shirts (Timberland<sub>TM</sub>) available for its representatives. They cost \$35US each plus \$10US shipping and handling. They can be obtained by sending a cheque or International Money Order in US funds to the WHF office.

### **WHF Web Page**

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 world\_hovercraft\_federation@hotmail.com.

### **Items to be discussed via e-mail**

The first round of the e-mail discussions went very slowly with little participation. At the time of this writing the second round is static. Any ideas you have to get things moving will be greatly appreciated. Remember, if these discussions *don't* proceed, there will be no changes to the regulations and nothing will have been achieved.

***See you all in Terre Haute!***

## Executive Committee

### **President**



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**Vice President, (EHF)**  
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## Country Delegates

These are the current delegates for each of the WHF member countries. If your name is listed here and you don't think it should be, then contact us immediately with the correct contact information. Aside from casting votes upon WHF decisions, the WHF delegates should be able to respond to requests for information concerning their national hovercraft clubs.

### Australia

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### Japan

(Japan has two WHF representative associations)

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## **Appendix 'A'**

*The following proposal from Chris Fitzgerald on behalf of the Australian Hovercraft Federation to hold the 2004 World Hovercraft Championships was received by the WHF in early June 2002.*

To Whom It May Concern:

The Australian Hovercraft Federation, Inc. (AHF) asked me to undertake a feasibility study into holding the 2004 WHC in Australia.

On 2 April 02, I was appointed Chairman of the proposed event by the AHF. Please find attached correspondence.

On the 22 April 02, I secured a letter of comfort concerning the staging of the WHC in Canberra from the authority responsible for approval. See attached letter.

The 2004 Australia Championship would be the 40th anniversary a commemorative event to celebrate the World's First Hovercraft Race, which was held in Canberra on the 14th March 1964.

The Canberra Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society staged this first event. I have asked this organization to once again lend their support. Please see attached email May 9, 02 and May 22, 02 which shows their level of interest.

Would the WHF please grant the AHF the privilege to stage the 2004 WHC?

I await your reply,

Sincerely,

Chris Fitzgerald  
President, Neoteric Hovercraft, Inc.  
www.neoterichovercraft.com  
Chairman, World Hovercraft Championship  
www.whc2002.com  
1649 Tippecanoe Street  
Terre Haute, IN USA 47807-2394  
Ph: 812-234-1120  
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AUSTRALIAN HOVERCRAFT FEDERATION, Inc  
c/o Mr. Ian Haddow  
State Sales Manager  
National Foods Ltd  
Victorian Retail Division  
Mobile: 041-935-1601  
Fax: 039-213-5678  
Home: 0139-9879-0251

02 April 2002

Mr Christopher Fitzgerald  
President, Neoteric Hovercraft, Inc.  
1649 Tippecanoe Street  
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807 - 2394.

Hello Chris:

August 2002

On behalf of the Australian Hovercraft Federation, I am writing this letter as an official notice that you now have the full responsibility and authority for planning, coordinating and conducting the world Hovercraft Championship (WHC)2004 event at Canberra, Australia.

Pursuant to this letter, it is anticipated that you will raise the necessary funds, coordinate the necessary people, and establish the necessary base support requirements to host the WHC 2004 event to the standards required by the World Hovercraft Federation (WHF).

Chris, as you would be well aware, the successful execution of this event will require a great deal of planning, staffing and coordinating. Please submit your organizational plan for chairing this event in as much detail as possible by September 1st 2002. The plan should include definitions of key positions, staffing proposals that show Australian requirements and any resource available to us if required, time lines, and all other resource requirements that need to be supplied by us (AHF) and also what is available to you now.

The AHF members are excited that this event is coming to Australia in 2004 and we offer our full support to ensure its success.

Regards  
Ian Haddow  
President of the Australian Hovercraft Federation, Inc.

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Subject: WHC 2004  
Date: Wed, 22 May 2002 10:59:12 +1000  
From: "R Stanier" <rstanier@ozemail.com.au>  
Reply-To: "R Stanier" <rstanier@ozemail.com.au>  
To: "Neoteric" <hovermail@neoterichovercraft.com>  
CC: <david.wright@natcap.gov.au>, <chris.jobson@natcap.gov.au>

Dear Mr Fitzgerald

Just to let you know that I have today met with David Wright and Chris Jobson from the National Capital Authority mainly to make the initial contact.

They are responsible for events planning within the National Capital Authority which has control over Lake Burley Griffin and its foreshores. There are other agencies that will have to be involved in due course such as the Territory Planning Authority and the Canberra Tourism and Events Corporation

Both David Wright and Chris Jobson were very positive about the plan and are anxious to progress it. They had hoped that you might be able to visit them in May but I guess that visit has been put off.

They have given me a checklist of things that have to be done which includes

1. A permit for use of unleased land
2. An indemnity form
3. Works approval application
4. Maps of areas involved
5. ACT dangerous goods approval
6. Environment ACT approval
7. Liquor licence permit
8. Public Liability Insurance (nominally \$10 but almost certainly will be bigger for this event)
9. Road closure plan
10. Event risk assessment



11. Police coordination
12. Permit to allow powered craft on the lake (the Lake is closed to power boats except with a special licence)
13. Public Notice in the Canberra Times.

These items are not urgent but will need to be attended to.

I suggest that contact should be made with Canberra Tourism and Events Corporation as soon as possible to ensure there is no clash of significant events on the date selected.

Robin Stanier  
Chairman  
Canberra Branch Royal Aeronautical Society

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*Building the National Capital in the hearts of all Australians*

Mr C. Fitzgerald  
President  
Neoteric Hovercraft Inc  
1649 Tippecanoe Street  
TERRE HAUTE INDIANA 47807 – 2394  
USA

APR 28 2002

Dear Mr Fitzgerald,

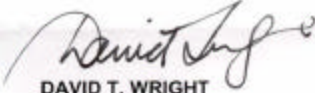
**WORLD HOVERCRAFT CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2004**

Thank you for your recent e-mail and telephone call regarding the staging of the 2004 World Hovercraft Championships in Canberra.

I am able to confirm that the Authority is happy to meet with you when you come to Canberra in May and we would take that opportunity to develop a proposal which the Authority can consider to the point that in principle support can be granted (or denied) by the end of June 2002. This should give you sufficient time to promote the Canberra case (or an alternative venue if either party cannot agree on a Lake Burley Griffin site) prior to your Federation meeting in September this year.

I look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,



**DAVID T. WRIGHT**  
Director  
National Capital Plan

22 April 2002

T 02 6271 2888 | F 02 6273 4427 | [www.nationalcapital.gov.au](http://www.nationalcapital.gov.au) | email [natcap@natcap.gov.au](mailto:natcap@natcap.gov.au)  
10-12 Brisbane Ave Barton ACT 2800 | GPO Box 373 Canberra ACT 2601 | ABN 75 149 374 427

## **Appendix 'B'**

*In July 2002, Michael Raucher, President of the German Hovercraft Federation, announced that the German Hovercraft Federation intends to submit a proposal to the WHF at the September gathering. Unfortunately, at the time of this writing, the GHF submission had still not been sent to the WHF. This presentation will be made by Mrs. Waltraud Blank and Mr. Michael Metzner on behalf of the German Hovercraft Federation at the WHF General Meeting in Terre Haute on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

## **APPENDIX C - Formula 25 Construction Regulations**

***The following Formula 25 Regulations are in addition to those in the main section of the WHF Racing Hovercraft Construction Requirements.***

### **Preamble**

A racing class to address environmental efficiency achieved by the choice of a 4-stroke, low-revving engine, the reduced maximum limit on developed noise and the inherent fuel efficiency that flows from these constraints. Restrictions on internal engine modifications are designed to keep operating costs low (constrained).

### **1.0 Engine**

- 1.1 The engine or engines shall be four cycle internal combustion based upon a generic commercial/industrial engine designed to produce a nominal total of 25 hp.
- 1.2 No internal performance enhancing modifications are permitted

### **2.0 Environmental**

- 2.1 Noise – The maximum noise limit for a Formula 25 craft at full power is 80 dBA measured at the standard noise measurement position for a particular race circuit. This is perceived as a noise level three times quieter than a standard racing hovercraft (10 dBA less than the racing standard).
- 2.2 Measurements to be taken at various points around the craft.

### **3.0 Safety**

- 3.1 The hull design should make the craft intrinsically stable whilst floating with power off. The natural buoyancy of the craft should be sufficient to support the un-powered craft and pilot.

### **4.0 Tow Points**

- 4.1 The craft must be fitted with a substantial tow point. This is defined by the ability to drag the empty craft with power off on land.