



Thundercat update for January 2010

1/ Important announcements! As most of you are no doubt aware Scott and Michelle Radley (Black Pepper) had a baby boy (Joshua Flynn) on January 15 but due to their dedication to Thundercat racing Scott was still able to race (and come third) at Waihi the following day. Kerry Wood (immediate past president) and his partner Lee also had a baby girl (Sophie) born premature pre Xmas. All are well. Simon Smith from Incon Automation was forced to miss the Waihi event as he needed to attend his own wedding on that day. **TRANZ would like to wish them all the best.**

2/ Waipu Cove Endurance Race Saturday Jan 30. This will commence at 11am from a start location just north of the surf club. All crews will need to meet at the Waipu Cove boat ramp at the south end of the beach at 9am. Scrutineering will be carried out at this time. The race will be 120km (1 ½ to 2 ½ hours of pain depending on conditions) and comprising 6 laps of a 20km course from Waipu up towards Ruakaka and return most of which will be viewable from the shore.

Note that this race is part of the national series but is open to one off competitors. An entry form will be available on the website this week and will need to be emailed to secretary@thundercatracing.co.nz Entry fee is \$60

If your motor is not sealed you can still race but your placing will not be listed as part of the national endurance series.

For those crews who have not done an endurance race you will need 48 litres of fuel to complete this race. There is a compulsory fuel stop at any time before the last lap when you must come ashore with the used fuel tank and collect a new tank. The tank must be secured to the satisfaction of the RD before you leave shore. Prop guards are not required.

The prerequisites to finish an endurance race are; triple checking of mechanical parts (any weak points are guaranteed to fail) and mental integrity of the crew.

You will also require the following safety gear which must be securely stowed.

1/ NZ standards approved lifejackets with a collar and leg straps such that they will roll an unconscious wearer onto their back.

2/ A safety sausage (available from a dive shop) attached to each lifejacket

3/ An orange V sheet (available from boat shops).

4/ 2 paddles

5/ A tool kit comprising minimum plug spanner, screwdriver and 10mm spanner to facilitate engine reinstatement after rollover.

6/ The ability to reinstate the motor after rollover

7/ Cellphone in a waterproof bag.

8/ A tow rope of approx 25m x 8mm

9/ 2 litres of water

Note that flares are not required for this event but will be for the Cook Strait.

3/ Waipu Cove Surf Cross Sunday Jan 31.

Again meeting time is 9am and racing will commence at 11am. As a result of the poor level of assistance for beach set up and pack down at Waihi the following boats are now rostered to assist at Waipu. Failure to do so will result in disqualification or loss of points for the day. If rostered crews are not available they must personally arrange for someone to replace them to avoid loss of points.

Beach setup: Jagermeister, Stingray, Novo, CMC

Beach packdown: Demon energy black, Demon energy blue, Quin buildings, UR Mama

Note that on both days it is proposed to have public rides for fundraising for 1 hour after racing. We require compulsory assistance from all crews.

4/ Lyall Bay Wellington Saturday February 13

We plan to take a truck to Wellington which can take up to 10 boats. The cost per boat is \$200. If you can secure a cheap airfare it is a cheaper option than driving. However we require 10 boats to make the truck cost viable. Please email steve@plumbquick.co.nz or text or phone 021965246 to book a place on the truck. If we have insufficient bookings for the truck by February 1 we will not be using it and you will need to make your own arrangements to get to Wellington. Accommodation. A separate email next week will confirm cheap accommodation in central Wellington for this weekend. Assembly time for racing at Lyall bay is 9am with racing to commence at 11am. A team roster will follow shortly.

5/ Cook Strait Race Sunday February 14

This is an iconic challenge which due to weather has only occurred once in the last 3 years. We hope to have media coverage of this event and will require all competitors to be fully prepared. A race safety plan will be sent out closer to the date outlining safety equipment and requirements for competitors. **Note that further to previous correspondence there will be no alternative day for the Cook Strait race.** If weather conditions prohibit the crossing there will be an alternative event of 100km after which (from 2pm on) prize giving, BBQ and drinks will be held at the Lyall bay surf club. We would suggest travel arrangements are made around these times.

6/ TV coverage

This years Thundercat feature story to air on TV later in the year is "A Tail of Two Cities". It focuses on Lyall bay (Wellington) and Piha (Auckland). If your sponsor wishes to feature significantly in these events either 1/ you need to do well at these events or 2/ you need to contact tony@superdockets.co.nz 021623623 for added coverage (at extra cost)

7/Next newsletter is in February which includes updates for Piha, King of the cape challenge and the upcoming fundraising auction/party night for March .

Regards
Steve