

Stabi-Craft Marine Limited

Adventure with Confidence

Media Release

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Te Anau to host Stabi-Craft tournament

Te Anau is to host a Labour Weekend fishing contest where the star attraction is a free Stabi-Craft Marine boat.

The 459 Fish'r package comes complete with trailer and a Yamaha outboard motor, to a total value of \$30,000.

The Stabi-Craft Yamaha Te Anau Fishing Tournament is the brain child of a ginger group of a half a dozen people in the lakeside township.

“We started the group just before Christmas so this is our first project,” said Don McFarlane who owns a B&B guest house, Loch Sloy, in the town.

“We’re aiming to create events in the town which have a spin-off for everyone. Labour Weekend seemed the right time; it’s the beginning of the summer season, when the farmers head to Te Anau to cut the lawns at their cribs, so we decided to build on that momentum.”

One of the group, Stephen Stock, mentioned the idea to Stabi-Craft managing director Paul Adams and New Zealand sales manager Sean McColl and ensuing discussions led to a partnership which is now well on its way to creating the inaugural fishing tournament.

“We’re delighted to be forging this new partnership with the Te Anau community. It fits in nicely with what Stabi-Craft stands for. We have been impressed with the dedication of the project group, it’s a good proactive committee and we’re hoping for a long association with the tournament,” Mr McColl said.

The tournament will run October 25-26 with divisions for teams, families, adults, individuals, juniors and children.

Event organisers have raised 180 young fish from Fish and Game Otago’s McRaes hatchery at the Te Anau Fish Observatory for its Take a Kid Fishing section to ensure every keen youngster gets a catch. (Uncaught fish will be released into the lake once consents have been issued.)

Mr McFarlane said he anticipated having up to 300 boats from all over the South Island on the water, vying for total prize pool which is worth nearly \$50,000.

At the request of Fish and Game prizes will be awarded on mystery specifications: length, weight, condition and rather than the traditional heaviest and longest. This ensures the on-going viability of fish stock.

“It’s been a lot of work getting it under way and we want to get it right this first time. But the enthusiasm has been so great we’re sure we’re looking at an annual event,” said Mr McFarlane said. “This time round the town will be humming.”

Mr McColl said the 459 Fish’r prize boat was designed for no-frills fishermen who want to spend their weekends out on the water catching fish.

“It’s a good, easy, family-sized boat which seats four people comfortably. The four-stroke outboard is economical in these days of high petrol prices and it’s an easy boat to tow. The boat comes with the turn-key package, including rego and warrant, all the winner has to do is drive it away,” Mr McColl said.

The Invercargill showroom is currently running a promotion to give away an all-expenses paid weekend to one lucky customer to enable them to take part in the new tournament.

“We couldn’t think of a better prize than a weekend’s fishing,” Mr McColl said.

The 459 is already in Te Anau and has had its first photo call on the water, for a poster campaign on three trucks owned by local carrier Evans Freight which ply roads around the South Island.

Check out the website www.teanauevents.co.nz or email fishing@teanauevents.co.nz

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For further information or .jpg pictures please contact:

Stabi-Craft Marine Ltd: (+64) 3 211 1828 Ext 1
Sales Manager Sean McColl

Te Anau Project Group Don McFarlane (03) 249 8455
Cell 027 437 7279