

1st August 2009

New Zealand Trailer Boat Federation Inc
Presidents Report to 48th
Annual General Meeting in Rotorua

The last 12 months has had so very busy times dealing with Council Bylaws proposed changes, and with Water Safety issues as they drew up a new constitution to be adopted at there AGM in September.

The increase in the number of persons drowning is a concern to the New Zealand Water Safety and they looking at why this is happening and would like more feed back from any area in New Zealand on what people have observed to be contributing factors as this information could help in drafting guide lines associated with water activities.

With the decrease in school pools young children are not being trained in water skill safety practices. We as family boating people can play a part in training or own children how to survive in the water.

The NZTBF made a presentation to the Waikato Regional Council on the proposed changes to the Navigation safety Bylaw requiring all pleasure boats using the waterways and coast line controlled by the Waikato Regional Council. All boats would have to be registered and display an assigned number. Our concern was that this could lead to boat registration New Zealand wide. The Trailer Boat Federation were able to prove that from records kept since 2004 that there has no reduction in incidence with Jet skis with registration, we were successful and no change has been made to the Bylaw regulations

The number of people in boating in New Zealand is approximately 1.5 million or 1 in every 3 New Zealanders. The number of boats 425 thousand supplied by Maritime NZ. Based on an average number of hours that pleasure boats are used being 40 the tax collected is estimated to be 20 million with no direct benefit to pleasure boat users and the tax take per litre is 56.3 cents made up of 42.5 tax excluding GST and 7.3 cents ACC + GST .

The DEC are currently working on lifejackets looking the after market testing and the manufacturing standard and types of material used It has been proven that kapok in plastic bags in life jackets are ineffective if the bags are bust as the kapok absorbs water and increases the weight of the life jacket causing the wearer to drown

In conclusion I would like to thank all the DEC members for there contributions and a special thanks to Sue Quedley for filling the position as secretary and to Sue Jenkins of the Water Sports Centre. Rotorua

David Beattie President