



Tuesday 3rd December 2019

2020 SOUTHERN 80 SKI RACE – Families the heart of water ski racing.

The Southern 80 ski race is all set to go on the Murray River in Echuca/Moama on the 7th, 8th & 9th February 2020.

The sport has grown since it's inception in the late 60's, from the family ski boat competing, with mums and dad's and extended family, to the same thing happening today, but with multiple generations of family, competing with each other and against each other.

The Southern 80 is the biggest ski race in the world and attracts around 400 entries from all over Australia and the world, with many of these teams are competing multiple times over the weekend of racing.

Families are the essence of the sport, often with Dad and/or Mum in the boat and one or two of the children skiing out the back. A classic example is of the Carne family.

Lisa and Adam with their parents Judy & Graham started ski racing in 1984, with their family 6 cylinder wooden boat 'Burn Out'.

Adam and Lisa continued their love of ski racing into adulthood, with Lisa being a constant competitor, in the Southern 80 and other ski races all over Australia. Lisa married a fellow ski racer, Peter Clancy and they have two children, Jaymi and Jake. The Clancy family moved to Echuca in 2003 and now work and live in the district, the attraction being the magnificent Murray River. Jaymi and Jake have been ski racing now for 7 years and Jake will actually be skiing with Lisa in the SMOC class, behind Agent 86 in the 2020 Southern 80. Whilst Jaymi will be skiing with friends behind 'The Contractor' and 'Meltdown'.

Adam, whilst involved in the sport, meet fellow ski racer Bernadette Nisbett and married and had three children, Summer, Ruby and Curtis. After a hiatus from ski racing for a number of years, they got back into the sport in 2018 and have subsequently moved to Echuca / Moama, to be more central to the river that we all love – The Murray. They will all be on the water for the 2020 Southern 80.

This family is one of many generational families that are involved in ski racing and a love for the Southern 80 Ski Race. Whether it be the generations of families who make the yearly pilgrimage to the watch the action at the finish line or from their special location along the river but then heading to the finish line to watch the big boats come home. The Southern 80 has many special memories for competitors and spectators alike, that makes them come back each year to Echuca / Moama to enjoy our region and watch the great race from the banks of the Murray River.

Entries are now open for the 2020 Southern 80 and we hope that you can join us at the Finish Line for some great action on February 7th, 8th and 9th, 2020. Further information can be found on our website www.southern80.com.au

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