

MEDIA RELEASE: 26 February 2010

WHAT A COUP! PORT STEPHENS TO HOST NSW STATE OUTRIGGER TITLES

On the 27 & 28 March 2010, athletes, competitors and spectators from all over New South Wales will converge on the pristine waters of Port Stephens, to be a part of the NSW State Outrigger titles hosted by Port Stephens Outrigger Canoe Club and proudly sponsored by Shoal Bay Resort & Spa.

The prestige of holding the state titles in Port Stephens is testament to the success of previous years outrigger challenge events held in the Port.

Hosted by The Port Stephens Outrigger Canoe Club and proudly sponsored by Shoal Bay Resort & Spa, Mother Energy Drink & Coca Cola, this event will be conducted over two days, the format of the competition will include a mixture of inshore and offshore racing.

2010 will be the biggest ever Port Stephens Outrigger event, hosting the state titles will be a huge draw card that will massively increase spectator & competitor numbers as will Port Stephens Outrigger Canoe Clubs' reputation for organising an efficient, well run program in previous years. A short & long course race for the state titles will be held on the Saturday, with the Sunday holding the 'MOTHER' sponsored combination outrigger obstacle challenge race, that will have over \$6000 cash prizes as well as a proposed celebrity race with big name locals.

Sunday's race will see competitors vying for over \$6000 in cash and prizes in the MOTHER of all races Twin Peak Challenge. Competitors will not only compete in an in-shore canoe race, they will be also challenged to run to the top of Tomaree & Yacaaba heads and canoe back to the finish line. This race will prove to be a gruelling and exciting event.

Coinciding with this event will be a huge focus on family fun, entertainment and social activities throughout the entire competition weekend.

While a relatively young sport in Australia, outrigger canoeing is also one of the fastest growing water sports in Australia. It attracts competitors of all ages, but particularly those in the 30 years and over age group, as a low impact adventure sport.

For tens of thousands of years Polynesian people have used sleek, streamlined and graceful outrigger canoes as their primary means of transport between their island homes. In the 20th Century, outrigger canoeing has evolved into a highly contested modern sport that pits athletes against the elements, themselves and their own physical and psychological limits.

Be at Shoal Bay from 7.30am on the 27th March and 9.30am on 28th March to see all the colour and excitement of this premier regatta. Kick on into the night at the 'MOTHER' of all parties, which will be held on Saturday night 27 March at the Country Club Hotel at Shoal Bay Resort & Spa from 6.30pm with free live entertainment from 8pm onwards.

A range of accommodation options are also available from just \$72 per person per night. *Terms and conditions apply. Call 1800 18 18 10 or visit www.shoalbayresort.com for more information.

Shoal Bay Resort & Spa – proud supporters of the Port Stephens Outrigger NSW State Titles 2010.

ENDS

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, editorial enquiries and images about Shoal Bay Resort & Spa please contact:

Fiona Coles
Marketing Executive
Shoal Bay Resort & Spa
E fiona.coles@shoalbayresort.com