

COMPETITION IS GOOD. Just look at what it did for kneeboarding in the '80s and wakeboarding in the '90s. As we get ready to enter the new millenium, hydrofoiling hopes to follow in the footsteps of these popular board sports. Could hydrofoiling become the "watersport of the '00s"? I think so! Tournaments will inspire riders everywhere to practice, extend limits, and gather together to exchange ideas about this new extreme sport.

The change in name to *The Hydrofoiling Newsletter* has also brought a change in thought. Behind the boat we will cover more than just sit down hydrofoiling. Air boarding and the soon to be developed "high performance stand up foils" will be covered as these sports grow.

Hydrofoiling also encompasses numerous other watersports usage. For example, Malibu Boat's Wedge system, Doel Fins, and more.

Fresh, cutting edge, or extreme? If the answer is yes, it's going in.

Tony Klauich, D.C.

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Over the Top



photo: Klarich

Jon Wilborn has his Eyes on the 1998 Worlds.

Inside Competition

Tommy Phillips, industry insider and world class promoter, takes a look at the tournament scene from a front row seat.

Many people ask me why I love promoting my own events. My answer is that events bring people together and create a master mind of growth. People talk about things related to the sport they are participating in and about how they can make it better.

I love doing events that have never been done, like the first skurfer tournament in 1987. I asked Tony Finn and a few other buddies if they wanted to give it a try. We had nine guys all wanting to compete. Go out and go big. Carve hard and try to impress the judges. The slalom skiers and kneeboarders that were around got a kick out of it and the day was a success.

Late the next year Tony Finn invited me to judge the first World Skurfer Championships in Hawaii. I met Eric Perez there and introduced him to Herb O'Brien. After that Eric flew over with some prototypes he had been working on and the next weekend Herb and I met at Stapleton International Airport and We saw the first prototype of the first compression molded wakeboard. The rest is history.

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