



**ISA NEWS RELEASE (POWERBOATING): 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Immediate Release**

- **Clifden Boat Club win new rescue boat valued at over €20,000 at ISA Yachtsman euromarine Rib Challenge 2010**
- **Lough Derg Yacht Club take home the Junior prize of a new rescue boat valued at over €10,000**

Three satisfied members of Clifden Boat Club drove away from Limerick yesterday, Sunday the 17th of October, with a brand new rib in tow for their club. Damian Ward, Brian Ward and Roger Snow were representing the Clifden club at the ISA Yachtsman euromarine Rib Challenge 2010 Final where the prize for the winning team was a brand new rescue boat valued at over €20,000. The competition began in August with 5 regional heats taking place throughout the country. This saw the top 16 teams then qualify for the final which was hosted by last year's winners, Foynes Yacht Club, Co. Limerick. The Galway men worked hard at their regional qualifier to secure a place in the final and then battled skilfully against the other 15 teams to earn a place in the final 4. Having whittled the 16 finalists down to the top 4 teams, the deciding event took place consisting of an 'on the water' manoeuvrability challenge. The Clifden team performed to the highest standard, which ultimately lead them to victory and the grand prize yesterday.

The competition began 3 years ago thanks to Matthew McGrory of Yachtsman euromarine in conjunction with the ISA (Irish Sailing Association) as an exciting, fun way to promote safe use of powerboats on the water. Competitors take part in a number of challenging tasks from safe boat handling and theory navigation to manoeuvring a trailer and even throwing a safety line simulating a rescue. These skills are paramount for any water user and rewarding those who strive to make our waters a safer place is an honour to both Yachtsman euromarine and the ISA.

Initially the competition was only accessible to participants over the age of 16 but this year that all changed with the introduction of a junior competition for participants between the ages of 12 and 16. This was a personal goal for Matthew McGrory as he is passionate about getting children educated in safe, responsible but most of all, fun, participation of water sports. It was an all girls team from Lough Derg Yacht Club that captured the essence of the competition blowing the other finalist out of the water. They demonstrated all the skills, knowledge and awareness needed to win and so deservedly took home the junior grand prize of yet another new rib valued at over €10,000.

**ENDS**

## Note for Editors

Please find attached photographs of the event which are free to use. The pictures are of the 3 Clifden team members along with Harry Hermon, Chief Executive of the ISA and Matt McGrory of Yachtsman euromarine.

The ISA Yachtsman euromarine Rib Challenge is open to all ISA affiliated clubs and training centres to promote safe use of powerboats in Ireland. Although in its third year, 2010 is the first year to see Junior competitors taking part. 2 ribs valued at over €30,000 have been very generously donated by Yachtsman euromarine as the grand prizes for the 2 categories within the competition.

## ISA

The ISA is national governing body for recreational and competitive activities involving sail and engine powered craft in Ireland.

[www.sailing.ie](http://www.sailing.ie)

**Yachtsman euromarine** offer you watertight boat insurance along with these additional benefits at no extra cost: Peace of mind through our comprehensive policies, Value for money through competitive premiums, Fast and fair claims settlement to get you back afloat quickly. Our extensive boat policy covers the following risks: loss or damage to your vessel, tender, personal effects caused by accidents (including fire, explosion, collision, grounding, stranding and heavy weather), negligence, theft, and malicious acts. The policy also covers salvage, wreck removal and third party liability.

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