

The **2004 Neil Pryde Garmin Glascraft Lake George Marathon + Speed Trial** has been run and won, and everyone would have to agree that it was a huge success.

15 competitors made the journey to Beachport to compete (including Chris Lockwood all the way from Western Australia), and all were greeted by sunshine and wind over the 2 day competition.

Saturday saw the first of two speed trial sessions with only light winds at around 10knts. Not everyone chose to compete in this first session due to the light wind, but those with big sails 8m – 12m rigged and glugged aiming to catch the elusive gust in front of the boat and radar gun. At the end of the day, it was Peter Ciesa who had diligently recorded the most runs past the boat, but Chris Lockwood (WA) pumped his way to the top speed of 42km/h.

The marathon was split into two divisions on Sunday due to the shifting wind and majority of competitors with slalom gear (not formula gear), so the formula sailors did two laps of a large triangle course, and the slalom sailors completed three laps of a large (3km reach) figure of 8 course. At race start, the wind had kicked in at around 20knts, and everyone lined up for a standing start. Lake George is a massive lake, so within minutes, all competitors were out of sight. The slalom course took about 30mins to complete, and the marathon a bit over an hour. The final results were:

**Marathon:**

1st **Peter Ciesa** (Gaastra / Starboard)  
2nd **David Mossop** (Neil Pryde / Bic)  
3rd **Steve Schuurmans** (North Sails / Starboard)

**Slalom:**

1st **Chris Dimond** (Neil Pryde / Naish)  
2nd **Bob Friend** (Gaastra / AHD)  
3rd **Norm Clarke** (Neil Pryde / Bic)

On Sunday afternoon, the final speed trial session was held in gusting 18–23 knot conditions on the southern side of the spit. Most competitors were feeling the weariness of the earlier marathon and slalom events, but persisted in these choppy conditions to push for either their personal best, or the event top speed. The final results after two days of speed sailing were:

**Speed:**

John Rohrsheim 49km/h  
Dave Mossop 48km/h  
Geoff Shuttleworth 42 km/h  
Chris Dimond 49km/h  
Norm Clarke 46km/h  
Bob Friend 49km/h  
Peter Ciesa 46km/h  
Ross Treadwell 39km/h  
**Chris Lockwood (WA) 53km/h** (Severne / Kinetic)  
Michael Sykes 45km/h  
Antoni Blazewicz 47km/h

A few sailors had their own personal GPS units, and did record higher speeds than those recorded here, but in fairness to all competitors, the official results are those taken by the radar gun on the set course.

All thanks go to **Glascraft, Neil Pryde** and **Garmin** for the very generous support and prizes including a Foretrex 101 Wrist Mounted GPS Unit, Neil Pryde Board Bag, Neil Pryde Sail Quiver Bag, Neil Pryde Seat Covers, Neil Pryde Rash Vests (x3), Neil Pryde Seat Harness, etc etc etc (insert many other Neil Pryde prizes here).

All competitors finished the weekend with a smile, a suntan, at least two great prizes, and the satisfaction of competing in South Australia's premier flat water event.

Thanks also go to **Nick Bellgrove** for the generous use of his boat. This was essential for the setting of courses, and retrieval or two competitors due to broken equipment: Chris Lockwood (WA) in the slalom with a broken boom, and Nick Bellgrove rescued by his own boat in the marathon due to a broken universal joint – it's all part of racing!

Thanks also to **Steve Schuurmans** and **Nick Bellgrove** for operating the radar gun, and occupying the boat over the two days for the speed trials.

As race organisers, Steve Schuurmans and I can confidently say that we aim to make this an annual event on our race calendar, and will aim to schedule the next one for the October long weekend 2005. Given this years attendance and sponsors support, we believe that this event will become a fixture on the Australian windsurfing competition calendar.

Also, a quick reminder that Boggy Race 3 is this Saturday (October 9) at Boggy Lake.

Cheers,

chris dimond + steve schuurmans  
event organisers