



NEW JUNIOR EVENT FOR WORLD HELI CHALLENGE IN WANAKA NZ

17 April, 2013 Wanaka New Zealand: Exciting changes to the World Heli Challenge announced today confirm a new Junior World Heli Challenge event will join the iconic heli-accessed competition in 2013.

Young skiers and boarders will participate in one day of heli-accessed backcountry competition testing their freeriding and big mountain skills in the rugged Southern Alps surrounding Lake Wanaka in New Zealand. The event will be held during a one-week weather window giving ample time for the athletes and their families to enjoy and explore Wanaka and its surrounds.

Event founder and director Tony “Harro” Harrington is excited to launch the Junior World Heli Challenge as a forerunner to the main event. “For the past couple of years we’ve developed the concept of a few hand-picked “Young Guns” in the competition so this is a natural progression to involve more junior skiers and boarders” explains Harrington.

“There is such strong interest coming from young athletes all around the world we’ve decided to create their own tailored event and we are excited about the opportunity to help these under 16s develop the skills and awareness about the backcountry that will hopefully see them progress to the World Heli Challenge in years to come. We love their passion and are blown away by how many young people and their families want to be involved.”

The Junior World Heli Challenge will be open to 15 skiers and 15 snowboarders aged between 12 and 16 years. As with the senior event, the standard is high and athletes are assessed on their skills and experience to be eligible. Application details are available at www.worldhelichallenge.com

The Junior World Heli Challenge will take place in Wanaka over one week starting 26th July 2013 and includes one heli-accessed competition day in the backcountry surrounding Lake Wanaka. In addition to the competition day a major focus of the week is backcountry tuition, mountain awareness training, snow days, adventure activities and family time at the local ski resorts of Treble Cone and Cardrona.

EVENT DETAILS:

- Friday 26th July, 2013 (registration night) to the Saturday 3rd August (Awards Night)
- Entry fee NZ\$1650
- Applications close Friday 31 May, candidates announced 7 June.
- All details available at www.worldhelichallenge.com

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