

Berea Mail Sport

Cream of crop for bodyboarding champs

THE popular Durban Beach Festival is hosting the highest rated bodyboarding contest of 2007 from 29 June to 1 July at Bay Beach.

The Durban Beach Pro-Am carries a 5A South African Boarding Association (SABA) rating which is bound to attract the cream of the SA bodyboarding crop to Durban to compete.

SABA chairman Alistair Taylor who commented on the enormity of the event said: "Due to the Durban Beach Pro-Am carrying the highest rating and the most points, this event will be critical to anyone aiming to win or do well on the SABA circuit end of year ratings."

The event also features a record amount of prize money for the women's division and with two times Women's World Bodyboarding Champion, Karla Taylor in the event, there should be some fierce competition.

Spectators can look forward to a spectacular showdown among the top women as the upcoming women will be going all out to attempt to topple Taylor's domination of the SABA circuit thus far and grab the lion's share of the cash.

A few international bodyboarders are expected to enter including expatriate Brandon Foster who is now living and competing abroad and has a string of impressive results under his belt and will be the clear favourite to win the drop knee title, and world renowned Australian rider, Brendon Newton, who has a reputation for his reckless abandon approach to riding big and dangerous surf.

"The timing of the event is perfect as it will be held in the middle of winter at the Bay of Plenty which typically picks up more swell than North Beach and New Pier. We hope to see some epic and maybe

Provincial team rider Sihle Xaba from Lamontville, two times world bodyboarding champion Karla Costa Taylor from Berea, SA's top seeded bodyboarder Wesley Fischer from Berea and top drop knee competitor Sean Tickner from Berea are gearing up for the 5A rated Durban Beach Pro-Am bodyboarding event. PHOTO: Geoff Brink



even sizeable surf for competitors to show off the aerial antics that bodyboarders are famous for," said Taylor.

Entry forms have been posted on www.sabaonline.co.za and www.sixty40.co.za; the closing date for entries is 24 June.