

Peruvian International Freeride Championships

Jan 30th, 2010

Asia Beach, Peru

The Peruvian International Freeride Championships were held on January 30th at Asia Beach, located about one-hour south of the Capitol city of Lima. This was the first time for this event and eight of the finest Freeriders were in attendance from four different countries, including Peru, Brazil, Australia, and the USA. The event was sponsored by **Yamaha (Zip's Motors of Lima), Dodge, Burn Energy Drink, Sole, Mormaii Wetsuits, and our favorite Barena Cerveza!** Over a thousand beautiful (Muy Hermosa Jervassios) people showed up to watch and cheer on these high-flyin hydro-cross pilots as they faced some huge surf conditions. The most amazing fact for this **HI-PROFILE** event was that all of the invited riders were riding on two bone-stock Yamaha Superjets (They survived and were sold immediately following the event). Temperatures hovered in the mid 80's with the fog lifting by noon. The Peruvian Jet Ski Association is headed up by President, **Anibel Alliaga**, and his event director, and former President, **Miguel Gonzales**, finished the rider's safety meeting and it was time to get busy for Carlos and Gonsalves...the judges!

The event began with the surf breaking at four to six feet, however by the time for the semi -finals, rollers were six to eight feet, with an occasional ten footer which helped for a terrific competition. The Brazilians were on fire with all three making it into the semi-finals in this double-elimination contest. Brazilian Carlos Sampaio aka "Zan the Man", made it to the final four by barrel rolling and surfing his way past Cuong Son of the USA and Australia's Adrian Ross. In the other bracket, Jarrod Aljouny, sponsored by Liquid Militia, quietly worked his way into the Semi's by edging out Zip's Yamaha sponsored Rafael Soto and fellow Peruvian Diego Leon. The battle for third was conceded by Aljouny of the US, giving Zan the final spot on the podium and a guaranteed Brazilian sweep of the top three spots! Leading the way to the finals, it was Brazilian closed course standout, "Topstar" Tiago Geitens and Bruno "The Stud" Jacob, both riders were undefeated coming into the finals and the judges decided it would be winner take all, six minute heat. The surf was perfect for these two exceptional freeriders from the same homeland...the crowd gathered and even featured such Closed-Course stand-outs as Paloma Noceda, Pro Women's competitor from Peru, and "Indy" Al Miller, 2008 Runabout Champ, from Indianapolis (Congrats on his recent engagement) Bruno and Tiago both started with surf re-entry's and progressed to big aerials and backflips, and "Topstar" finished with a 25,' one-footed, backflip which gave him the judges favor! Then, as the whistle blew to end the competition, and Tiago came to the shoreline, he immediately went to the hospital for coughing up blood

because he hit his chest on the handpole on his final one-footed backflip. Don't fret, he is ok and will be competing in two weeks, it was just a broken blood vessel!

Special thanks to the entire crew that made it happen, the Coast Guard and local policia for their permission to run the event and to Nikita Nightclub for host the Rider Party (It was off the chain, ended at 6am). It was an honor to attend, host, and help promote this event! As a team of enthusiasts from all walks of life and geographic dislocation, we set some new standards, and together we will try to help this sport progress in Peru and all around the world! Mike Young

Results

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| 1. Tiago Geitens | Brasil |
| 2. Bruno Jacob | Brasil |
| 3. Carlos "Zan the Man" Sempio | Brasil |
| 4. Jarrod Aljouney | USA |
| 5. Adrian Ross | Australia |
| 6. Rafael Soto | Peru |
| 7. 9*/Cuong Son | USA |
| 8. Diego Leon | Peru |