

The Roots Wake series kicks off Saturday in King with triple event lineup

The Roots, Canada's largest amateur wake series, will make its way to King Township this weekend for three headline events. The Boardsports Open is presented by Mastercraft and Buckeye Marine. The Ranch Wakepark Open is presented by Boardsports. Red Bull Raise the Bar high jump contest is the other exciting event.

The Roots is a six-part contest series with stops across Ontario including Newmarket, Huntsville, Haliburton, East Gwillimbury and Port Colborne.

Wakeboarders and wakeskaters from across the province of all ages and abilities will be out at Spray Lake flipping, spinning and grabbing for the overall series provincial title. This weekend the event lineup will feature a wakeboard boat contest, cable contest and high jump contest.

Local King Township riders Drew Austin, Riley Dillon and Braden Loi will be among the mix of athletes competing at the Roots for the top spot on the series. Austin was the overall provincial cable series champion in 2012.

The Boardsports open runs 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Red Bull Raise the Bar runs at 8 p.m.

Red Bull Raise the Bar, open to riders 16+ across Canada, will feature an open head-to-head format bringing together all skill levels including a handful of national pro riders. The rules are simple; the highest jump wins. Competitors will have two chances to clear the bar. If they knock the bar down, they are disqualified. If they manage to clear the bar, then they will advance to the next round and with that, raise the height. To sweeten the deal, competitors will have a shot at \$300 in prize money.

In the past few years, cable parks have become increasingly popular around the world offering wakeboarders an alternative to traditional towboats and the dependency on a driver. The Ranch Wake Park opened its doors in the summer of 2011 to cater to southern Ontario's growing population of wakeboarders. Since that time, the park has grown into one of the premier cable wakeboarding facilities in Ontario and the closest in proximity to Toronto. For more information on The Ranch, head over to www.theranchwakepark.com.

Those not competing still have a chance to win with the Red Bull Raise the Bar photo contest. Instagram and Twitter users who tag their event photos with #RedBullRTB will automatically be entered into the contest and could walk away with a brand new pair of Oakley sunglasses and gear from Fox Racing at the end of the night.

Registration is open now until the start of the event via www.redbull.ca/raisethebar for all competitors 16 years of age or older.

The action continues Sunday, June 23 with the Ranch Wakepark Open runs 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

It all takes place at Spray Lake, located off of Keele, just north of Highway 9.

For all event details and to register please visit www.rootswakeboarding.com.

The Roots is recognized by the provincial sport body as the designated wakeboard and wakeskate series in Ontario. It is a not-for-profit committee organized by long-time competitive riders hoping to provide the next generation of athletes with the opportunity to excel in sport.