

Words by Richard Fisher

Day 1

We arrived in Orlando, Florida at dusk. The weather was cloudy and it was pouring with rain. We picked up the vehicles and equipment, and assembled the crew at the hotel. We took the opportunity to discuss the schedule over dinner in a local tavern.

Day 2

Up at 06.00, we grabbed breakfast on route to Zane Schwenk's House in Winter Haven. Dan, Will, Stewart and Zane rode before lunch with each rider performing the basic tricks to be featured in the movie. Andrew Adkinson and Louise Moore arrived in the afternoon. They took the sunset session where Andrew landed a wake-to-wake 900 in his first set on film.

Day 3

We were up to film the sunrise at Zane's lake. Dan and Andrew rode in the glassy, early morning conditions. Stew and Will arrived later to talk through some basic tricks whilst riding with a radio microphone. After lunch Stew and Will described how to edge progressively on the back of the boat, floating out in the lake. They rode again late in the afternoon with some great sunset shots, surfing the wakes and carving around.

Day 4

Kent and Zane were out first, riding during the first hour of sunrise. They took a second set running through the basic tricks. Will and Stew came down later to describe heelside and toeside jumps on the back of the boat. After lunch they continue to teach 180's and switch riding. We used the chase boat in the evening to shoot some free-riding with Dan and Zane.

Day 5

We returned to Zane's lake at sunrise. Zane sat on the X-Start to describe boat setup, line length, boat driving techniques and the advantages of owning an X-Star. After lunch Will got back in the water to demonstrate the deep-water start. We shot Zane's interview and his own trick tips straight afterwards before the sun went down. On route to the hotel, we stopped for drinks at 'Hooters' and shot a quick undercover interview with the busty waitress.

Day 6

Wakeboard photographer, Thomas Gustafson organized the riders for the DVD cover shoot. Dan Nott rode first before the sunrise. We ran the chase boat alongside, with the film camera rolling, whilst Thomas shot stills from the ringo. Kent and Zane took the following sets before the sun was too high. Will and Stewart rode again once Thomas had finished, but the water was choppy as the lake is busy with fishing boats at the weekend. The decision was made to return to dry land and shoot Zane in his garden, by the lake, describing the different types of wakeboards and bindings. The lake was still rough in the afternoon so we drove up to Andrew Adkinson's house to scope out the location. Andrew shares the lake with top American pros Shaun Murray and Gerry Nunn. We found him skating a rail at the end of his 100-metre long driveway.

Day 7

At sunrise we returned to Andrew's lake to find the water perfectly reflecting the sky above. We sent Kent out with Andrew in his X2 to capture him carving up the butter and returning to the dock where he had to spray the camera. We got some amazing shots, as the water was so glassy. Kent and Andrew went out again to hit the slider and do some more free-riding before lunch. In the afternoon we pitched up in the garden to shoot the trick descriptions for inverts and spins. Each rider teamed up with either Will or Stewart to talk through a different trick. We also shot Kent and Andrew's interviews before the light dropped out. Dan rode back across the lake at the end of the day. He was attempting 900s but just popped the handle each time, before he could ride away.

Day 8

Stewart and Will were on call at sunrise to shoot the opening sequence for the movie where they will emerge from the glassy water. Eight takes later it was in the can. After lunch we drove down to Orlando Watersports Complex to shoot a session on the cable and slider park. We interviewed a couple of local riders who were doing some cool tricks off the obstacles, such as a transfer from a ramp to a rail, landing a front flip off the end. There were also some good wakeskaters ripping it up.

Day 9

We planned to spend the final days at Ride Wakeboard School with Nick and Julz Heaney. Whilst the morning light was good, we shot some free-riding along with Caroline Janson, the latest arrival from Sweden. After lunch we interviewed Caroline and the boys, who also ran through some coaching tips. We finished the day with Will and Stewart providing their own insight into equipment setup.

Day 10

The final day of the shoot and the weather was terrible. By lunchtime the rain had stopped but there was no sign of the sun. We started with Will and Stew demonstrating the deep-water start on dry land. Louise Moore provided the coaching for grabs and style, as well as sitting down for an interview. Matt Crowhurst provided a feature about wakeskating. Dan Nott's Interview was the last piece acquired before getting back on the water. We ended the day with a girly free-ride session. Louise and Caroline each took a set behind the X2. But disaster struck when Caroline attempted a toeside 540, crashed hard and burst her eardrum. The sun was down on the final day so we packed the equipment and headed out for a celebratory drink.