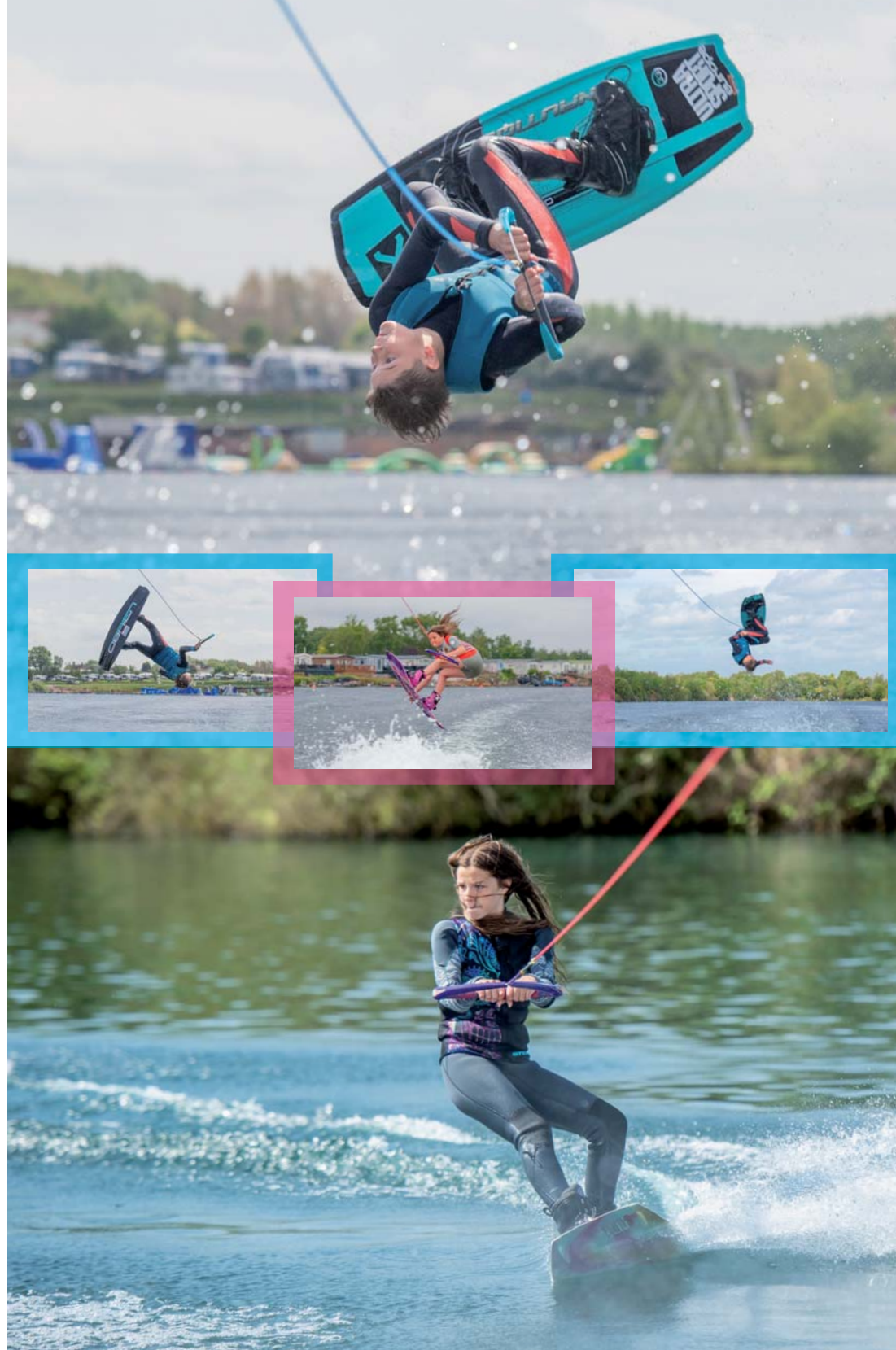


CHARLIE AND ISABELLE LLOYD

TEAM GB



The last time Team GB Boat Wakeboard were out competing internationally was in 2019 and, since then, we've had some new squad members including brother and sister Charlie Lloyd, 13, and Isabelle, 11. The IWWF World Wakeboard Championships are being held on 25th to 30th July this year on the Lago del Salto, Rieti, Italy. We were last there in 2018 for the Euros and it's a spectacular venue in the Italian hills. Charlie and Isabelle will be there for their first competition representing Team GB. We asked them a few questions in the lead up to the event.

How are you feeling about representing Team GB in your first international competition?

Charlie: I have been on the squad since the start of 2020 but because of Covid there were no international competitions. I am really excited to finally use this privileged opportunity to compete internationally and ride with my GB teammates.
Isabelle: Super excited to compete and meet new people. Me and my brother train hard but also have so much fun. It's going to be really good and it looks such an amazing place.

What do you know about the standard of riding of the overseas competitors?

Charlie: I know the standard is so good. These guys tend to have better weather than us so get to ride more often. I'm really looking forward to seeing the people I follow on social media ride in person. I'm sure meeting these guys will help push my own riding further.
Isabelle: Everyone is super good, especially in Europe. The Italian team are amazing. It will be a tough competition but I will give it everything I have.

What are you most looking forward to from this comp?

Charlie: Really getting to represent my country is going to be awesome. As a Midlands Nautique team rider I can't wait to meet some of the International Nautique riders like Cory Teunissen and Tony Iacconi.
Isabelle: I am sponsored by Supra Moomba Boats UK and I'm so looking forward to seeing Nic Rapa and Shota Tezuka ride and meeting the rest of the team. I just want to wakeboard every day so this is an amazing opportunity to do what I love with people that love it too.

What advice would you give to other young riders looking to ride for Team GB?

Charlie: Go for it, if you love wakeboarding and enjoy competing then enter as many UK competitions as you can. This will get you recognised and any ranked comp will give you points towards the overall UK ranking. This then counts towards team selection.
Isabelle: Come on girls! We need more girls riding in competition. Work hard but always keep it fun!!

It's both your birthdays while you are out in Italy. How do you plan to celebrate?

Charlie: There are four of us in the team who have birthdays while we are there so I guess there will be lots of celebrations. I'm not sure yet if I will be riding that day but, if so, I'll ride, support the team then probably spend some time at the pool with friends.
Isabelle: Erm not really sure, I'll just be trying to have as much fun as possible!!

*Interview by : Mark Osmond
 Photos : Mark Osmond / Mantis Pro Media*