

WITH IAN GRANT

Nomad handles the rough stuff

STACER has introduced an impressive, low-cost family open runabout likely to make a few wish lists this Christmas.

The Stacer Nomad 4.49m Northern Fisher, officially launched mid-year, is already grabbing the attention of those who prefer a boat with a proven pedigree and without the glossy appearance.

After all, a fishing boat tends to get a bit messy. A cockpit floor needs to be able to cope with mud and silt while the topsides of the hull need to deal with scratching associated with crabbing, fishing and prawning in shallow mangroves.

Sensibly, Stacer has presented a no-nonsense, good quality and sea-safe boat that will not break the family budget.

The standard Nomad Northern Fisher, fitted with a centre console helm station, a maximum 50hp engine and a carrying capacity of five crew, has a price tag of \$17,000 for the boat, motor and trailer package.

That represents an excellent entry level for the family who want to enjoy the aquatic lifestyle on a shoestring budget.

Stacer has acknowledged that the Nomad Northern Fisher has entered a very competitive market, but they

have ticked all the important boxes – most notably the design and structural strength of the hull.

Based on their proven EVO design, the new Nomad has a deeper and sharper entry and a neatly shaped transom, which adds to a quieter and safer ride for the crew.

Aluminium boats have traditionally been noisy, particularly from wave slap in choppy conditions.

This cannot be eliminated altogether but the new bow design of the Nomad Northern Fisher makes both wake and wave handling much quieter and safer.

The neat design of the centre console adds to the functionality, with weight of the crew and the helm person ideally located to provide a stable ballast when underway.

The spacious cockpit, meanwhile, provides uncluttered floorspace for fishing or stowing bulky picnic essentials such as a beach umbrella, chairs and cooler.

The craft also boasts a casting platform, roomy side pockets and a transom step and rail.

All of this adds up to one of the best family entry-level boats in the Nomad's size and price range.

Further technical details are available from www.stacer.com.au



Length 4.49m Beam 2.05m Engine 50hp Crew Five