

Stacer Striker BOATS

BOAT TEST STACER STRIKER BOATS NIGEL WEBSTER

STACER STRIKER BOATS

The name Stacer has been synonymous with quality fishing 'tinnies' for as long as most Aussies can remember. Amongst the great products available, the Proline hulls have been leading sellers within the Stacer range. In recognition of this, Stacer have just released two new and improved groups of Proline products. The "Proline Stacer Striker" series of boats includes a 399 and 429 sized hull. These hulls are perfect as entry level hulls into the boating market. In addition to this, the company has also introduced a range of hulls better suited to the more serious angler but also with the great features and ride expected from a Proline hull: this family of boats is called the "Proline Angler Striker" series and includes a 409, 429 and 449 sized hulls. Let's take a more detailed look at both groups of boats.

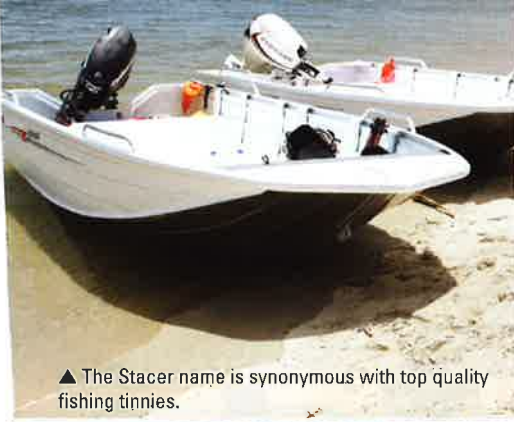
FWF Fact Box

PROLINE STRIKER SERIES

The Proline Striker family of boats can be split into two groups. The Proline Striker boats are an entry level tinny for boaters wishing to get into a budget friendly hull: they come in two sizes, the 399 and 429 hulls. The Proline Angler Striker boats are designed for the more serious angler and come in three handy sizes that will suit much of your estuary, river, bay and lake fishing. Within the range you will find 409, 429 and 449 sized hulls. The 409 Proline Angler replaces the existing 399 Proline Angler.



► Space and functionality are key design features for anglers.



▲ The Stacer name is synonymous with top quality fishing tinnies.

NIGE WEBSTER RECENTLY TESTED A RANGE OF BOATS THAT ARE VERY WELL SUITED TO OUR FRESHWATER FISHING APPLICATIONS. OFFERING A SOFT AND DRY RIDE IN AN ALUMINIUM HULL WITH PLENTY OF FISHING SPACE IT IS WORTH TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE STAGER STRIKER BOAT SERIES.



▲ Proline boats are designed to ride exceptionally smoothly and offer a dry ride.

REASONS FOR CHANGE

The Proline boats have historically been very popular amongst Aussie anglers. To align with changing times and requirements of the angler, Stacer have opted to adapt the overall makeup of these boats so that they better suit the needs of local fishers and boaters. Ultimately what you will find is a boat that is designed to ride more smoothly and offer a dryer ride. In addition to improved riding capabilities, the hull layout has been re-designed to provide greater space and function for the angler.

PROLINE STRIKER HULLS

The Proline Striker hulls include the 399 and 429 sized options. These boats have been redesigned to provide a simple boat with added space, a great ride and all at a cost that is attractive to entry level boaters. If you love your estuary, lake and river fishing and are looking to get into a boat, then this option is worth looking into further.

The two sizes in the range are perfect with regards to towing and storing at home. The clean design of the interior means you will enjoy boating in a non-complicated

fashion but still be able to stow all the important gear beneath the plentiful under-deck storage.

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- 399 Proline = S/S & L/S configuration
- 399 / 429 Proline's = 5ppl
- Bow & Transom Handles
- Bow & Side Rails
- Glove Box with Drink Holder
- 3 Year Warranty

POPULAR OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- Floors, Ext Side Decks, Rod Holders &

- Bimini
- Side Pockets
- Bow Mount Plate
- Front & Rear Cast Platform
- Transom Step & Rail
- 399 Proline – 2mm bottom/transom sheet upgrade = 30HP to 40HP

PROLINE ANGLER STRIKER HULLS

The Proline Angler Striker series hulls are designed with the more experienced angler in mind. The hulls available in the range include the 409, 429 and 449 sized options. These hulls have taken the improved design attributes of the basic Striker boat and added plenty of great features so as to create the perfect fishing machine.

The most immediate noticeable difference in the new Proline hulls is the added room around the cast deck. The square face of the gunnels leading around the bow has increased the space of the

FWF Fact Box **STANDARD FEATURES****

- Ext Side Decks, Bow & Side Rails, Transducer Bracket
- Painted with Stripes
- Roto Anchor Well
- Rod Holders x 2
- Front & Rear Casting Platforms
- 2 x Stacer Sea Pro Seats with 6 Seat Positions
- Transom Handles
- 3 Year Warranty

FWF Fact Box **POPULAR OPTIONS*****

- Side Console, Bow Mount Plate & Bimini
- Accessory Kit
- LBT in Rear Casting Platform
- Live Well in Front Casting Platform
- Transom Step & Rail
- Rod Storage Pocket
- 409/429 Proline Angler's = 40ltr Underfloor Fuel Tank
- 449 Proline Angler = 70ltr Underfloor Fuel Tank

cast deck by over 10%. The hull now offers increased storage capacity: a system bolstered by the provision of a roto-anchorwell. A single lift-up door within the Proline Angler hulls provides easy access to an original rod locker design. There are also plenty of options for fitting the hull to be a mobile fishing dream: some of these include a live bait tank and underfloor tanks to provide greater range.

HULL PERFORMANCE

I was quickly impressed with the performance of the Proline hulls: I was able to test a variety of different sized hulls across the wave action of a busy coastal estuary. I was honestly taken by surprise by how easily the hull entered chop. Yes I did get the odd bit of spray but nothing like I was expecting in a cross breeze and easily up there with the driest rides I've had in an aluminium boat of similar dimensions. The hulls resisted



▲ With improved spray deflection throwing water further from the boat, the Proline hull offers an impressively soft ride.

the urge to chine walk or dig the keel into side chop. I was most impressed with the softness of the overall ride. The hulls did not batter occupants with the renowned "tinny slap." The configuration of the cockpit made skipping the boat easy and relaxing which is very important in our smaller, tiller operated craft.

The ride has a lot to do with the design improvements: the keel has been relaxed by 7%, the hull now features wider chines that make the hull a lot more stable at rest, a deeper entry point has obviously softened the ride and improved spray deflection now throws water further from the boat when on the plane.

FISHABILITY

The simple layout of the hulls with carpeted cast deck makes the process of fishing comfortable, uncluttered and easy. The hull is fitted with a rear seat but other than that there is little that can get in the way of serious fishing and weekend water fun. The standard features fitted into these boats are well considered: rear and front cast platforms, seats and rod holders make life easier without having to add to the

purchased hull. Regardless of the type of fishing you choose to carry out, whether it be in the estuary, river or lake, these boats have plenty to offer the fisher.

SUMMARY:

The Proline Striker hulls are a great option for anglers wishing to take advantage of the varied waterways around this large country. A Proline hull includes a sturdy, efficiently designed boat at an affordable price. A 3 year warranty means you can purchase a boat with added peace-of-mind. Standard design features have carefully considered the entry level boater through to the experienced angler; a raft of great options means you can also adapt a hull to specifically suit your needs. All Proline Angler Striker boats are available as a package, complete with boat, motor and trailer. For more information on the Proline Anglers or the entire Striker Series range visit www.stacer.com.au

Nige Webster is northern field editor of Sport Fishing and field editor for Freshwater Fishing magazines. Based at Noosa he fishes the entire east coast in fresh and salt water – offshore – bream – barra – trout.

▼ Designed with storage needs in mind.

