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The sky's no limit

HIGH FASHION: 'Fashion shoots' will be part of the action, with (right) skyboarding.

Instructor challenges women thrillseekers to join skydiving fest

By Isobel Coleman

A COOLUM skydiving school has issued a challenge to local women to take the plunge.

Skydive Ramblers Coolum Beach owner/instructor Susie McLachlan hopes more women will sign up for the 2011 Skysisters convention.

"More than 100 female skydivers are expected to attend and more than 5000 jumps will be made by participants during the 10-day event," she said.

"The ladies will participate in various all-women formation skydives, including a record-breaking 60-way formation and an over-40s formation.

"The event will also give 12 virgin Skysisters the opportunity to learn the sport at the drop zone one week before Skysisters 3 with the potential to participate in a four-way jump during the convention," she said.

"There's more to this awe-inspiring event than simply breaking records. The spirited women taking part are planning fun activities such as key word and picture jumps, body-painted jumps and aerial fashion photo shoots. There

will be TV broadcasts, showbags, fashion shows, video festivals, nightly entertainment, filming of a documentary and much more."

Susie, who edits and publishes *Australian Skydiver Magazine* and organises Skysisters United, said the symposium was all about encouraging, supporting, motivating and challenging experienced, up-and-coming and new female skydivers through skills camps, record attempts, conventions education and communication.

"The last Skysisters meet in 2007 was a soaring success and the countdown is well and truly on for next year's event," she said.

"Female skydivers from all over Australia and around the globe will attend with a who's who list of some of the world's most renowned coaches, including Amy Chmelecki, Melissa Nelson and Kate Cooper-Jensen.

"This is a great opportunity to those girls who have been thinking about getting involved in the sport or simply want to enjoy a two-week mind-blowing experience - adrenaline junkies, sign up now.

"And we haven't forgotten about the guys - male slaves are welcome," Susie said.

"The slaves give us fantastic support during the event including coaching, filming, driving and countless other important roles."

Skysisters plan to break four Australian and two world skydiving records when they meet in Toogoolawah from April 22-30, 2011.

Register at www.skysisters.com.au

