

NT cattle farmer wins back licence after towing son behind chopper



Milton Jones tows his son behind a helicopter in a stunt that got him into trouble.

A Northern Territory cattle farmer and reality TV star who towed his wakeboarding son behind a helicopter has won back his licence to fly.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority cancelled the flight crew licences of Milton Jones, the star of short-lived Channel 10 reality program *Keeping Up With the Joneses*, after the show aired in 2011 due to regulation breaches, the *Courier Mail* reports.

Mr Jones owns a 400,000 hectare property called Coolibah Station near Katherine in the Northern Territory, and also controls a company with one of the country's largest helicopter fleets.

Scenes aired in the series showed Mr Jones tow his teenage son Beau behind a Robinson R22 helicopter while he wake-boarded in a race against a jet ski.

Another episode featured Mr Jones' young son start a helicopter engine while sitting at the controls.

Despite the breached regulations, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal found should be allowed to fly again once remedial training on rules and regulations was completed.

"The incident involving the jet ski and towing his son on the (wakeboard) were probably the most serious matters because they were obviously foolish actions that put other people in jeopardy," senior tribunal member Bernard McCabe found.

It was also found that Mr Jones had broken regulations through low flying, failing to wear a seatbelt or lifejacket correctly, and doing aerial photography without a commercial pilot's license.

The tribunal also found Mr Jones had failed in his duty of care in safely operating and navigating an aircraft but did not deem it necessary to cancel his licenses.

Extracted from:

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