AMERICAN POWER BOAT ASSOCIATION

MODIFIED OUTBOARD CATEGORY MINUTES

CHICAGO IL – JAN 21-22, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Tom Sutherland. He extended a welcome to all in attendance.
2. Roll call was taken. Commission members in attendance: Tom Sutherland, Alex Jennings, Jerry Davids, Karl Dyle, Jeff Williams, Eric VanOver, Brian Palmquist, Bob Koschka, John Sharp, Jasen Dircksen, Daren Goehring, Rick Miller, and Hunter Grimes.
3. Oath of office was administered by the Chairman.
4. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by John Sharp to approve the 2015 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Alex Jennings to approve the 2016 budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion by John Sharp, seconded by Jeff Williams to approve the category appointments as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
7. The chairman reported that 400ccMH had participating numbers above the minimum requirement so is no longer on probation. There are no Modified classes on probation.
8. Prototypes
	1. PRD Fireball – The chairman gave an update on the program. Howie Pickerall is currently selling the motors. They come with a powerhead, pipe, battery, ignition harness. It is being run currently on a HR tower and foot. Speeds are approximately 60 MPH. Craig Dewald is making props. There are 4-5 guys going to run this on runabouts in New England this year. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Brian Palmquist to continue prototype status for this motor for 2016. Motion passed unanimously.
	2. Jeff Williams reported that nothing had happened with the 20 cu in Sidewinder in 350ccMR. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Bob Koschka to continue this prototype for 2016. Motion passed unanimously.
	3. Tom Sutherland reported that the 20 cu in Sidewinder powerhead in 400ccMH did not happen in 2015. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Rick Miller to continue prototype status for 2016. Motion passed unanimously.
9. The chairman reviewed the awards.
10. Old Business
	1. Cliff Johnson reported on the Exhaust Kit Program. 3 kits were sold in 2015 making a total of 27 kits sold. There are 3 kits in APBA’s inventory. Also people have begun building their own versions using some pieces so we are also selling parts.
	2. Gary Miller reported on the Powerhead Program. The 302 Motor purchased by the commission has been converted to Modified and is ready for purchase. The committee has also acquired a proved 500 cc Mod Hydro. The committee now has a complete rig for any new Modified racer. The committee estimates they have about $4,250 in the entire package.
	3. Racing weights. A discussion was led by Tom Sutherland on the weights acquired at various races. It was reported that there is a petition in the 750ccR class to lower the weight. A brief discussion was held on how the petition process works. Chairman Sutherland volunteered to acquire weights again at Hinton in order to get more data.
11. Committee Reports
	1. Safety – Bob Koschka reported on the meeting. Highlights included a review of 2015, a brief discussion on past fatalities, a discussion on if procedures were needed for EMT’s in cases of multiple injuries, and a discussion on radios and a common source of communication in cases of emergency.
	2. Insurance – John Sharp reported on the insurance meeting. Highlights included a review of what is covered and changes for this year, specifically the change in outside course markers.
	3. Marketing – Brian Palmquist discussed a new project. He recommended that the commission look for ways to market the Yamato 80 motor for the 350 cc classes. Motion by Rick Miller to extend the promotion activities to the 350cc classes with a full rig available for racers. Seconded by Alex Jennings, the motion passed unanimously. Brian also reported that he had requested pricing from HydroRacer for a banner ad and also a side ad to promote the exhaust kits. This space could also be used to advertise the complete rigs we have.
	4. Inspection – Jeff Williams reported on highlights of the meeting. One point of interest was that our APBA insurance covers inspectors and all officials.
12. Manufacturers Reports.
	1. A manufacturer’s report was present from Ric Montoya.
13. Championships
	1. Howie Nichols provided an update on the 2016 Winternationals in Jesup, GA. April 21 is scheduled as a test day after 100% of the race is set up and ready to go. April 22 and 23 will be the winternationals race for both stock and mod with possible testing in the morning on April 22nd. After the championship racing is completed on April 23 and again on April 24th they will run a regular race. The schedule will include all stock, mod and J (Sat & Sun only) and 2 pro classes.

The commission recessed for lunch.

* 1. The commission received a request from CVRA for a gift of $2,000 towards the 2016 Modified Nationals at Hinton, WV. Motion by Eric VanOver to approve, seconded by Jeff Williams. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that Abby Pond will attend the MORC meeting at a later time to provide a complete update.
	2. Kristi Ellison provided an update on the 2016 Kingston, TN race. She announced that Kingston will again provide funding for 6 North American Championships. Racing will be on July 1, 2, & 3 this year and everyone will need to be out of the pits early on the 4th. She is working with Kingston to provide the high school parking lot for motor homes.
	3. Bids were received from Seattle Outboard for the 2018 Nationals to be held in Moses Lake, WA and from Badger State for the 2019 Nationals to be held in Wakefield, MI These bids were tabled.
1. 2016 Divisionals were discussed. DIvisionals will be held:
	* 1. Northeast Millville, NJ spring race
		2. Southeast Tabor City, NC 5/14-15
		3. Central Alexandria, KY 9/24-25
		4. West Eatonville, WA 8/20-21
2. North American Championships. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Daren Goehring to award them as follows. Motion passed unanimously
	* 1. 200CCR Seaside, OR 6/25-26
		2. 250CCR Hillsdale, MI
		3. 350CCR Kittanning, PA
		4. 500CCR Kingston, TN
		5. 750CCR Kingston, TN
		6. 850CCR Kingston, TN
		7. 200ccH Huntington, IN
		8. 250CCH Kittanning, PA
		9. 350CCH Kingston, TN
		10. 400CCH Huntington, IN
		11. 500CCH Kingston, TN
		12. 750CCH Kingston, TN
		13. 850CCH Yelm, WA
3. Proposals
	1. A change to the Fuel of the Day Rule presented by Jeff Williams. Proposal to change Rule 15-D to read: “At each Regatta, the Inspector may purchase a sample of local gasoline, mix it with TC III oil at a ratio of 8:1 and test it according to the Tech Manual. If the test fuel exceeds the 0 Digitron DT-15, DT-47 or FT-64 threshold, the higher reading will become the maximum limit of the day. The source and grade of the gasoline must be announced when Registration opens. At that time, testing equipment must be available to all competitors. The Fuel of the Day is not applicable at straightaway or Record races, Championships, or National events (Nationals, Winter Nationals, Divisionals, Regionals). “ Motion by Brian Palmquist, seconded by Eric VanOver to approve the change. Motion passed unanimously.
	2. A change to Rule 2-4 (Changing motors or boats between heats) was presented by Mary Williams. The new rule to read: “The same boat and motor must be used in all heats of a race where points of a heat are counted in the final standings. It shall be legal to change motors between heats only if there is irreparable damage to the engine. However, the contestant must notify the Inspector, make proper notifications and registration prior to the finals at the registration stand, and present both engines to the Inspector for inspection immediately following the final heat. It shall not be legal to change boats between heats unless the boat is deemed damaged and unsafe by the Inspector or Referee. Drivers in different qualifying races or heats may not use the equipment previously used in qualifying for the same event. If a change of either engine or boat is made all points earned the previous heat of the race shall be forfeited. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Eric VanOver to approve the proposal. Motion passed unanimously.
	3. A proposal was presented by Steve Dunn to allow an “up to .030 overbore on Model 80 motors”. Motion by Jerry Davids to approve the proposal, seconded by Karl Dyle. Motion passed unanimously.
	4. A proposal was presented by Mike Thierfelder to update points and condensers to CD ignition in 20 cu in Mercury motors with 1987 stock specs in the 250 cc classes. After discussion, this was tabled.
	5. A proposal by Jeff Williams to allow for owner voting privileges under the following conditions:
		1. An owner is one who owns equipment in a class but does not compete personally on the water in that class.
		2. An owner gets one vote per class he has equipment competing in, no matter how many entries he owns in the class. A person only gets one vote.
		3. Owners must join APBA as a competition member by the early deadline of February 28th.
		4. Owner must provided APBA along with his membership application a listing of all classes he is sponsoring equipment in. No additional classes can be added for current competition season after the February 28th deadline.
		5. All entry forms must be signed by both the owner and the driver.
		6. The boats must have affixed to the hull the owner’s competition boat number as provided by APBA for each class registered.
		7. At any race, if the owner has not signed the entry blank and if the boat does not have the owner’s APBA boat number affixed to it, the owner shall have no rights to appeal or protest.
		8. Tracking of owner registration shall be done as follows:
			1. Owner registration of classes sponsoring as received with competition application
			2. Does that boat number appear on summary sheets

Motion by Alex Jennings, seconded by Jasen DIrcksen to approved, the motion passed 7 in favor, 4 against.

* 1. A proposal was received from Kristi Ellison for both the 2018 and 2019 Modified Nationals to be held in Kingston, TN.
	2. Various ideas were presented by Rod Terzinski
		1. No double points for Winter Nationals
		2. At nationals, if a boat is stopped in the water, racing should stop
		3. If a driver is in the water, racing is stopped.

There was no motion on any of these ideas.

* 1. A proposal by John Mauck and Jeff Williams to allow the 14:16 gear set to be used in the 302 gear housing. Internal machine work to accommodate the gear set is specifically allowed. Motion by Jeff Williams to approve, seconded by Bob Koschka, the motion passed unanimously.
	2. A proposal to change Safety Rule #1 to read: “At least one rescue boat is required at each regatta.” Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Jerry Davids, the motion passed unanimously.
	3. A proposal by Jeff Williams to add a new Rule #31 in the front of the Tech Manual: “It is permissible to tack weld repair any multiple piece crankshaft for the purpose of maintaining alignment.” Motion by Alex Jennings to approve, seconded by Eric VanOver, the motion passed unanimously.
	4. A proposal to change Rule 20-K to give the Category Chairman some flexibility in getting the nationals in. After discussion, this was tabled.

Meeting was recessed for the day. Meeting was reconvened Friday AM.

* 1. Motion to change Rule 20-K. The new rule to read: “ The previous year’s national champion shall be qualified to run in the next year’s National Championship race without having to participate in qualifying elimination heats. At championship events a two (2) heat elimination race and two (2) heat race must be run. The only exception would be for lack of time. If racing is reduced to one heat, scoring will be based on the one final heat…..” Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by Eric VanOver, the motion passed unanimously.
	2. Revisit the proposal from Mike Thierfelder for the 250 cc classes – 20 cu in Mercury with 1987 Stock Specs. Rule to read. ”The Phelon ignition can be replaced with the OMC CD2 system utilizing the OMC cast steel flywheel PN584584 / CN 513972 prepared in the same manner as the Sidewinder / Hot Rod OMC flywheel 584222. The flywheel must meet existing rule weight. No modification of the crankcase or block is allowed. Either the single or dual output ignition coils may be used. Any mounting bracket method for power pack and coils is allowed.” Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Eric VanOver to approve with the addition of the following at the end “Flywheel must be machined by a single source, Ed Runne.” Motion passed unanimously.
	3. A proposal by Jim Nilsen to change Rule 3.2 to read “Three (3) mile records shall be established on a ¾ mile course, 4 laps. SO, MO, and PRO classes may also establish competition records of three (3) miles on a surveyed course of one (1) mile per lap and recorded separately. (As Pro Class records transition from 5 lap / 5 mile to 3 lap / 3 mile records, in order to set the initial 3 lap / 3 mile record in each class, the average speed must equal or better the previous 5 lap / 5 mile record speed multiplied by 1.003).” Motion by Daren Goehring to approve. There was no second.
	4. Proposal by Larry Stenander to add a flat aluminum plate to the outside surface of the cylinder head to create a water jacket in 500ccR class. Motion by Jeff Williams to approve. There was no second.
1. Motion by Daren Goehring, seconded by Eric VanOver to approve the Seattle Outboard bid for the 2018 Nationals at Moses Lake, Wa. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. It was agreed to table the 2018 and 2019 national bids until a meeting to be held at Hinton, WV during the 2016 Nationals.

Commission recessed for Lunch.

1. A proposal was presented by Brian Palmquist on voter eligibility. The new rule would read: “A driver must score points in at least two races in a class to be eligible to vote in that class.” Motion by Brian Palmquist to approve the proposal, seconded by Eric VanOver. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Chairman Sutherland reported that Modified will have 3 Hall of Champion Inductees in 2017.
3. Abby Pond joined the commission and gave a short presentation on the upcoming Hinton nationals, followed by a question and answer period. She provided handouts with lists of places to stay in the Hinton area and noted that there is a booth near registration with more information and some sales items.
4. Motion by Jerry Davids to award the 2017 winternationals to Tabor City, NC. The event would be held around April 21-22, 2017. Seconded by Alex Jennings, the motion passed unanimously.
5. Following a question from the audience on promotion, the commission held a discussion on how to do a better job of elevating drivers and promoting our races and our sport. One suggestion was to draw on the tourism department in every state.
6. Motion by Jerry Davids, seconded by John Sharp to revert back to the 2015 rule book until we can straighten out the problems with the separated one. After discussion the motion was withdrawn. After further discussion, the motion was reinstated. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion by Brian Palmquist, seconded by Karl Dyle to send the chairman to the Board of Directors meeting to strongly request a return to the combination rule books. The motion passed unanimously.
8. There being no further business, motion by John Sharp to adjourn, seconded by Jasen Dircksen.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams

Modified Secretary