

**OPC Commission Meeting  
Orlando, Florida  
January 27, 2022**

**Roll Call:** Commission members present – Jeff Shepherd, Jeff Titus, James Chambers, Robert Trolian, Merv Bjork, Dee Berghauer, Spencer Love, Mike Quindazzi, Bill Gohr and Chris Fairchild. Members absent/excused – Austin Cheatham, Mike White, Mike Maskall and Tom Stanley  
A quorum was met. Officers and Committee Chairs present: Ken Scoville and Monica Allen  
Excused – Doug Rea and Jim Nerstrom.

**Meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm by Chairperson, Sherron Winer.**

**Sherron thanked everyone for their attendance.**

**Sherron reviewed the Conflict of Interest statement.**

**New Business:**

1. Correction to OPC Rule #2.4 .. change to read “A driver must be a current OPC Category member to compete in an OPC sanctioned race. A Single Event member cannot participate in any OPC Championship event:

**\*\*Motion/Jeff Titus 2<sup>nd</sup>/Robert Trolian Passed/Housekeeping**

2. On Page 28 of the current rule book, under Formula 200 Engines, change to the following list:

. Mercury 2.0 L – 122.0 cu.in. 16’ 1100 lbs.

. Mercury 2.5 L – 154.0 cu.in. 16’ 1150 lbs.

200 XS Optimax – 153.0 cu.in. 16’ 1200 lbs.

.Yamaha 2.6 L -- 158.4 cu.in. 16’ 1200 lbs.

OMC 3.0 – 183.0 cu.in. 16’ 1200 lbs.

**\*\*Motion/Jeff Titus 2<sup>nd</sup>/James Chambers Passed/Housekeeping**

3. Adjustment to Rule 19 (as approved on January 6, 2022) Insert under the titled: Rule 19 Classes Formula 200 Class The OPC

Commission reserves the right to modify or change these Technical Rules at any time to ensure the competitive compatibility of engines, for safety reasons, or in the interest of controlling the participant’s cost of racing. Any technical changes must have the support of the OPC Technical Committee. Reason: This brings Formula 200 Class in line with the National Limited Classes. **\*\*Motion/Robert Trolian 2<sup>nd</sup>/Merv Bjork Passed/Housekeeping**

4. In the spirit of reducing the OPC Rule Book, eliminate Champ Class from OPC Rules. This would reduce the OPC Rules by 3 ½ pages. There has been no activity in this class for several years. NO MOTION

5. Adjustment to Rule 19 Remove the Sport Agreement from Rule 19 .. no longer applies

**\*\*Motion/Merv Bjork 2<sup>nd</sup>/Robert Trolian Passed/Housekeeping**

6. Adjustment to Rule 19 Formula 200 Class – Remove the weight listed in the information column and replace with Mercury 2.5 L 153.0 cu.in. 16’ 1175 lbs. Reason: to bring OPC and SPORT boat standards into agreement. \*\*Motion/Robert Trolan 2<sup>nd</sup>/Bill Gohr Passed/Housekeeping

7. Adjustment to Rule 19 – Formula 200 Class – Motor Standards. Paragraph 1 To  
the sentence “All cowlings...same as OEM.” Add the following .. “this includes the Optimax 200 XS engine  
\*\*Motion/Merv Bjork 2<sup>nd</sup>/Robert Trolan Passed/Housekeeping

8. Adjustment to Rule 19 – Formula 200 Class – Motor Standards, Paragraph 2, after the sentence  
“The Formula 200 class...24-volt starting system” Add the following new sentence “The Optimax 200 XS must  
use 12-volt starting system. \*\*Motion/Dee Berghauer 2<sup>nd</sup>/Jeff Shepherd  
Discussion: issue revisited by M. Bjork .. ruling is to encourage racing by matching OPC and NGK. Passed/To  
the drivers for a vote

9. Proposal from Ken Scoville .. “For clarity, the Opti title should be changed to Formula 200 (F200) because  
the SPORT specs were added to the bottom of the SST200 specs where they are difficult to find” NO MOTION

10. Safety Consideration – Seat belt request from driver, Tim Kraft. Would it be possible to bring up the  
seatbelt date tag in the meeting? The belts that have 3 or 4 races on them that are new. Having to be replaced  
every 2 years. I think all inspectors would know if the belts are good or not. Having to replace belts that are new  
that have been sitting around not being used, is a waste of money. NO MOTION This  
request was referred to the National Safety Committee. Committee formed .. Jeff  
Titus, Ken Scoville, James Chambers for follow-up.

11. Ken Scoville – OPC Safety Rule – Add the following to OPC Safety Rule 2.B. Head and neck supports,  
support collars, sometimes referred to as donut collars are prohibited. Reason – Acting as a pivot point under  
the chin, these collars actually increase the possibility of hyper-extending the spine in a head-on collision or  
stuff. Referred to the National Safety Committee .. if ok’d by National Safety Committee, will go back to the  
OPC Commission for an email vote.

## 12. Series Requests:

Major Series ... Powerboat Nationals .. SST 45      NGK ... F1

Minor Series ... None

## 13. Championship Bids:

**World** ... none

**Nationals** ... Springfield, OH. August 26-28, 2022

**North American** ... SST45/Branson, MO. September 10-11, 2022 .. Powerboat Nationals

F200/Portsmouth, OH. September 3-4, 2022 .. Breakwater Powerboat

**Eastern Divisionals** ... F200 – SST60 – SST45 New Martinsville, WVA September 24-25, 2022 APR

**Central Divisionals** ... F200 – SST45 Branson, MO. July 23-24, 2022 .. Powerboat Nationals

**\*\* All Championship bids listed above were approved by the Commission \*\***

**Regionals ( Region 4-6-8 )** \*\*Motion to accept Regional bids as presented. \*\*Motion/Bill Gohr 2<sup>nd</sup>/James Chambers Passed Advised Powerboat Nationals contact the appropriate Region Chairman. Powerboat Nationals: SST45/Region 6 & 7 SST45 and F200 Region 4.

**Sherron asked each promotor to send her their listing of their 2022 Schedules ... she will compile a list of 2022 OPC Events.**

14. Request from Mercury Racing, Stuart Halley, GM. – per our discussion, I am requesting that (Mercury Racing's) \*\* Motion .. 200 APX be allowed to legally race in the Formula 200 class with APBA's OPC category. Motion/Robert Trolan 2<sup>nd</sup>/Merv Bjork Passed

Discussion -- items reviewed: 1. Education by Mercury with OPC Inspectors 2. UIM homologation sheets available 3. Police the ECU's correctly. 4. Mercury will participate/do their part to be sure that there is an equal basis for all competitors.

15. If the Mercury is accepted as part of the Formula 200 class, add the following to Rule 19, Formula 200. "The engine must be raced as homologated.

\*\*Motion/Robert Trolan 2<sup>nd</sup>/James Chambers Passed/Housekeeping

16. Mike Wienandt requested: Proposal #1 a new parts availability for piston skirt coatings and Proposal #2 pistons for 200 class. \*\*\*See Addendum TWO for outline as requested. NOTE: Referred to the OPC Motor Technical Committee for review.

17. Rule change request by Mike Hansen for required 50% high-visibility single color requirement on race helmets. Referred to National Safety Committee for review.

18. Jake Alkema requested a discussion regarding seat belts ... current rules vs FIA belts, etc. Referred to the National Safety Committee for review.

19. Class Issues: National -- none requested for Sport C, SST45 (see below), SST60, SST120, F200, F150, F1, Champ (B. Gohr to submit updates, etc. to commission), Tri Hull and Mod U.

\*\*Note Request #1 and #2 from John Broge ( as emailed to Commission) re: SST45 – referred to Motor Technical Committee for review and recommendation.

Sportsman – none requested for Mini GT, GT Pro, VP75, SuperSport and Hobby Stock.

20. Request by Chris Fairchild concerning the scoring of bonus points if the final heat (heats) of a championship must be canceled due to adverse conditions. \*\* Motion: Insert the following sentence into Rule 14 (Championships) as 14.11, a continuation of the existing paragraph .. "If a championship final must be cancelled and you revert to the previous day's results, and if the entire class eligible entry field has not raced as a complete group, then no championship bonus points are awarded. Regular APBA points remain as scored.

Note: this can also be inserted into Rule 11.7.C

\*\*Motion/Merv Bjork 2<sup>nd</sup>/Robert Trolan Passed/Housekeeping

21. Proposal by David McMurray regarding creating a new class within OPC ... APX 60

1. Specs formulated for the boat .. plug and mold are in the finishing stages. Boat to be manufactured by Legacy Performance Craft boats. David states he/they will be able to provide quality, with the latest APBA safety standards at a reasonable cost.

2. Engine is a new 4 stroke APX 60 ( used by UIM as Formula 60) Mercury Marine to provide engine and product support. We are confident that financing can be provided thru Nashville Marine.

3. Sole provider of the 'spec boats' for the first 3 years of competition. The initial build will be 10 packages provided by Nashville Marine. After the first 3 years the class will be open to any other boat manufacturer.

4. Will follow all APBA OPC general and safety rules

4. Please refer to David for Technical standards, etc.

\*\*Motion to approve the idea of spec class Formula 60 as stated by David McMurray.  
Motion/James Chambers 2<sup>nd</sup>/Jeff Shepherd Passed/Unanimous

**Other New Business:**

22. Bill Gohr to reword the F150 request: Rule 19

F150 Motor Standards .. Delete #12 .

F150 OMC .. Delete #1

F150 Yamaha .. at the end of the first sentence .. delete 'and heads'.

F150 Suzuki .. delete all

F150 #13 delete "Suzuki 39cc"

\*\*Motion/Bill Gohr 2<sup>nd</sup>/Jeff Shepherd Passed

\*\*Motion to recess and reconvene at 9 am Friday. Motion/Merv Bjork 2<sup>nd</sup>/Robert Trolan Passed

Meeting reconvened by Chairperson, Sherron Winer at 9 am, Friday January 28

1. Rule 16 Safety Rules Belt anchors can only be installed per manufacturers specifications as identified on Figure C Item #7 & and Figure J item #4 \*\*Motion to Identify U channel mount, page 12 listed as Figure J. Motion/Jeff Shepherd 2<sup>nd</sup> Dee Berghauer Passed

2. Ken Scoville submitted a request for review: Rule 9 Reinforced Cockpits Par E. To read as follows: All competitors driving and all passengers in an approved reinforced cockpit boat shall be required to utilize a restraint system consisting of a minimum 5-point mounting design. The restraint system shall consist of not less

than two lap, two shoulder and one crotch strap, hooked together in a central release system. This release mechanism must remain released/open once it is activated and until it is reset. All belts shall be at least two (2) inches wide, entirely constructed of polyester material, SFI 16.1 certified. One conformance patch shall be sewn into the one strap of the lap belt assembly, one onto the strap of the shoulder harness assembly and one onto the anti-submarine strap. The patch must have a manufacturer's expiration date. Belts with a manufacturer's expiration date must be replaced upon the manufacturer's expiration date. Belt systems must be mounted following manufacturer's recommendations ( see illustrations ). A list of manufacturers whose belts meet these criteria can be found on [www.apba.org](http://www.apba.org).

**\*\*Motion to accept the proposal as presented by Ken Scoville Motion/Jeff Shepherd 2<sup>nd</sup>/Jeff Titus Motion Passed**

3. ~~APBA President, Chris Fairchild announced to the Commission that he has signed the SPORT AGREEMENT and given it to John Schubert.~~ Currently there is no signed agreement between the two parties.

4. Mike Quindazzi, Chr. OPC Promotional Committee .. working alongside Sherron Winer presented an overview of Strategic Planning. As a commission we need to promote and market OPC racing. It is not just what is in the rule book !!! Discussion on how to encourage drivers which, in turn encourages racing in OPC.

- a. OPC National High Points ... possible \$\$ as a reward for Hi Point Champion in each class.
- b. Tracy Hawkins Safety Fund ... rent parts? Get equipment out to people to help get them to an event.
- c. OPC Safety Fund has \$10,000 Can Safety Equipment be available for rental ??
- d. Travel Box with equipment take to an event with available safety equipment.
- e. R.J.West to chair the committee to look into all possibilities.
- f. Develop an OPC Page ... as a single resource to find .. boats/motors/parts/people/etc.
- g. Tim Seebold to send information to Sherron to help develop the OPC Page.
- h. We as a category need to move forward.. promoting OPC racing ... using the available digital services

**\*\*Motion to adjourn .. 11:00 am Motion/Bill Gohr 2<sup>nd</sup>/Dee Berghauer Motion passed**

**Minutes submitted by..**

**Sally Titus, OPC Secretary**