

BE PREPARED

As I write this, racing has already begun in APBA's southern regions. Racing will begin in our northern regions soon.

As you prepare for the 2017 racing season, be sure to take some time to examine your safety equipment. Make sure your helmet is up to date (SNELL 2005, SFI, FIA or newer). Check the zippers on your lifejacket and give it a thorough inspection. Take a few moments to check every piece of your safety equipment, and repair or replace as necessary.

Whenever possible, race committees should provide some testing time prior to the weekend's first heat. This is especially important at races early in the season. Many drivers show up early in the season with new equipment, and a few laps in a new boat can reveal problems that are best discovered prior to competition. After a few test laps, if you find your new equipment proves challenging to drive, it is best to take it home and correct problems before completion.

—Mark Wheeler, APBA President

J CLASS NEWS

The J Committee recently voted in a couple of rule changes and a spec change that were approved by your APBA Board of Directors. These are in the current J Classes Rule Book published on the APBA website.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: Spec change on the thickness of the adapter plate on the gearcase for the Mercury 15HP. We have added a minus spec to this, since it was called to our attention that the possibility exists that there may be some engines in the field that may not meet the present spec. This is a non-speed issue. The new spec for the Mercury 15 gearcase adapter height is **0.50+0.010/-0.025**.

EFFECTIVE 3/17/2017: ADD Rule 18.D: For J Hydroplanes only, hulls will maintain a minimum of 1" setback distance between the leading tip of the gearcase and the aft portion of the planing surface.

EFFECTIVE 11/1/2017: ADD Rule 1.2.F: Official Logo. All boats participating in APBA sanctioned events shall display in a highly visible location on essentially vertical surfaces, port and starboard, an APBA approved logo. APBA.ORG may be displayed in place of, or in addition to, the official APBA logo. "APBA" must be minimum dimension of 1.75" high and 7.25" long.

Please note that the sticker rule is presently part of the APBA By-Laws. APBA's categories were asked by the Board of Directors to add these to their rules as well. This rule was passed to comply with the Board's request. In other words, you still need APBA stickers on your boat in J, even though the rule does not take effect until November. It is still a By-Law.

—Patrick Gleason R-19/APBA J Committee Chairman

CAPSULE TRAINING

Region 6 Capsule Training - Saturday, April 1st, 1:30 -3:30 PM! Bluewater Dive Team - L'Anse Creuse High School, 38495 L'Anse Creuse St., Harrison Twp., MI. Cost: \$40 - Contact Andy Guaresimo 585-242-0673 or BLWTRDVR@msn.com

CHECK FOR NEW RULES

Revised rules for 2017 are online for most categories. OPC rules were just updated. (Offshore rules are yet to be finalized, and Modified Outboard has a couple of ballot items still out.) Check <http://www.apba.org/rules> to make sure you have the most recent version for your category.

FUND SET UP TO HELP OUT BILL WHITLOCK

Bill Whitlock was recently diagnosed with colon cancer, with surgery scheduled Tuesday, April 4. To help with medical expenses, please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/bill-whitlocks-medical-fund>

RACE CALENDAR

REGION 1

5/20-21	Annual Standish, ME Icebreaker Regatta	PRO, MOD, SO, J
6/10-11	6th Annual Milton, NH Summer Kick Off	PRO, SO, J
7/8-9	COA Annual Thompson, CT Regatta	PRO, MOD, SO, J
8/27	Fall River, MA Grand Prix	Offshore
9/23-24	10th Annual Kingston, NH Fall Classic	PRO, SO, J

REGION 2

9/15-17	Crystal Lake Regatta- Redwood, NY	MOD, SO, J
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REGION 3

5/21	Point Pleasant Beach, NJ Grand Prix	Offshore
6/3-4	Stock NE Divisionals, Whitney Point, NY	MOD, SO, J
6/17-18	Thunder in the Mountains - West Milford, NJ	Special Events, Inboard
9/2-4	Labor Day Lock Haven, PA Regatta	PRO, MOD, SO, J
9/9-10	Mary Ann and Daniel J. Murphy, Jr. Memorial Regatta Mays Landing, NJ - Lake Lenape	Inboard
9/16	New Jersey State Championships, Roxbury, NJ	Inboard
9/24	Lake Hopatcong, NJ Grand Prix	Offshore
10/14-15	Fall Millville, NJ Regatta	MOD, SO, J

REGION 4

4/7-9	Tabor City, NC 2017 Winter Nationals	MOD, SO, J
5/6-7	Flying Point Outboard Regatta - Edgewood, MD	PRO, MOD, SO, J
5/13-14	Cambridge, MD Classic Powerboat Race	Inboard
6/17-18	New Martinsville, WV Vintage Regatta	Special Events
7/22-23	POWERBOAT NATIONALS - Grand Prix of West Virginia Huntington, WV - Ohio River	OPC
7/29-30	Southern Maryland Boat Club Summer Regatta Leonardtown, MD - Breton Bay	Special Events
9/1-3	Wheeling, WV Vintage Raceboat Regatta	Special Events
9/10	Ocean City, MD Grand Prix	Offshore

REGION 5

4/1-2	Spring Jesup, GA - Lake Lindsay Grace	PRO, MOD, SO, J
4/29-30	Southeast Divisionals- Jesup, GA	PRO, MOD, SO, J
4/29	Point Pleasant Beach Grand Prix- Bimini/Bahamas/FL	Offshore
5/20-21	Stuart, FL Sailfish Regatta - 6th Year Anniversary	Inboard, OPC
5/20	6th Annual St. Cloud/Kissimmee, FL Grand Prix of the Seas	Offshore
6/3	4th Annual Jacksonville, FL Grand Prix of the Seas	Offshore
6/17-18	St. Pete Beach, FL Grand Prix of the Seas	Offshore
6/19-23	Lucas Oil Ocean Cup- Key West, FL	Offshore
7/1-2	33rd Annual Sarasota, FL Powerboat Grand Prix	Offshore
8/19-20	Islamorada, FL Grand Prix of the Seas	Offshore

10/7-8	Fall Jesup, GA - Lake Lindsay Grace	PRO, MOD, SO, J
11/17-19	Tavares, FL Fall Thunder Regatta	Special Events
11/18-19	Englewood, FL Beach Waterfest	Offshore

REGION 6

4/29-30	APBA/IRC Driving School, Region 6 Test & Tune -Dayton, OH	Special Events, Inboard, PRO, MOD, SO, OPC, J
6/7-11	Solar Splash 2017- Springfield, OH	Special Events
6/17-18	Joe Whetstone Memorial Regatta/Great Lakes Challenge Constantine, MI	MOD, SO, J
6/23-25	APBA MOD/PRO Nationals - J NAC Constantine, MI - Saint Joseph River	PRO, MOD, J
7/15-16	67th Annual PNC ROAR ON THE RIVER Presented by Trenton Rotary Club Trenton, MI - Detroit River	SO, OPC
7/24-30	Stock & J Outboard Nationals- Grass Lake, MI	SO, J
7/30	St Clair, MI River Classic	Offshore
8/12-13	Top O Michigan Marathon Nationals- Indian River, MI	SO, Thundercat, J
8/26-27	Great American Outboard Race- Dayton, OH Record Runs	MOD, SO, J
9/9-10	Wild Ones Regatta- Grass Lake, MI	SO, J
9/16-17	Mecosta County Regatta- Big Rapids, MI	SO, J
9/30-10/1	RegattaFest - Duffy, OH - Ohio River	Inboard, OPC, J

REGION 7

5/20-21	Powerboat Days- Bloomfield, WI	PRO, MOD, SO, Thundercat, J
6/3-4	7th Annual Harry Brinkman Memorial Regatta Huntington, IN - Lake Clare	PRO, MOD, SO, Thundercat, J
6/17-18	Whiskey City Regatta- Lawrenceburg, INr	OPC
7/8-9	Rock Falls, IL River Chase	MOD, SO, J
9/1-3	Evansville, IN HydroFest	Inboard
9/16-17	Thunder on the Rock- Beloit, WI - Rock River	MOD, SO, J
9/23-24	Madison, IN Vintage Thunder	Special Events

REGION 8

6/3	Lake Race- Lake Ozark, MO	Offshore
6/10-11	Ron Baker Sr. Regatta- Forest Lake, MN	OPC
7/21-22	Hastings, MN River Town Days	OPC

REGION 10

4/8	4th Annual Kenmore Hydroplane Cup-	Special Events, PRO, MOD, SO, J
4/15-16	Salmon River Jet Boat Race - Riggins, ID - Salmon River	Special Events
4/29-30	Jet Chevrolet/Business Elite RUN FOR THE RECORDS- Yelm, WA	Inboard, IE, MOD, SO, OPC, J
5/6	WARP- Burley, ID - WARP sprint track	Special Events
5/6-7	Mount St. Helens Regatta- Castle Rock, WA	PRO, MOD, SO, J
5/19-21	Race the Joe- St Maries, ID - River	Special Events
5/20-21	Soap Lake, WA Hydroplane Regatta	Special Events, Inboard, IE, OPC, J

5/20-21	Armed Forces Regatta- Bremerton, WA	PRO, MOD, SO, J
5/26-29	Boatnik 2017- Grants Pass, OR - Rogue River	Special Events
5/27-28	Newberg, OR Memorial Weekend Races	PRO, MOD, SO, OPC, J
6/3	WARP Burley, ID - WARP sprint track	Special Events
6/3	Silver Lake Regatta- Everett, WA	Special Events, PRO, MOD, SO, J
6/9-11	Richland, WA Regatta	Special Events, Inboard, IE
6/17-18	Cullaby Lake Regatta- Warrenton, OR	PRO, MOD, SO, J
6/25	Rooster Crow Regatta- Rogue River, OR	Special Events
7/2	Lower Rogue Outboard Challenge- Gold Beach, OR	Special Events
7/8-9	Little Creek Casino Summer Spectacular- Olympia, WA	Special Events, Inboard, IE, MOD, OPC, J
7/15	WARP Burley, ID - WARP sprint track	Special Events
8/4-6	Albert Lee Cup at Seafair- Seattle, WA	Special Events, Inboard, OPC, Unlimited
8/5	WARP Burley, ID - WARP sprint track	Special Events
8/19-20	Hydos for Heroes II- Oak Harbor, WA	Special Events, Inboard, IE, OPC
9/4	Labor Day Regatta- Grants Pass, OR - Rogue River	Special Events
9/9	Yappachino Memorial Regatta- Spanaway, WA	Special Events, Inboard, OPC
9/9	Frank Hansen Memorial Regatta- SeaTac, WA	PRO, MOD, SO, J
9/23-24	Rockey Stone Memorial Kilos- Lincoln City, OR - Devils Lake	Special Events, Inboard, IE, PRO, MOD, SO, J

REGION 11

4/1-2	53rd Annual Region 11 Bud David Time Trials- Bill Boyes/Frank Banducci Memorial- Oroville, CA	Special Events, PRO, MOD, IE, SO, OPC, J
5/14	Hoopa Hydro Heritage- Hoopa, CA - Trinity River	Special Events
6/10-11	A Nice Summer Race- Copperopolis, CA	PRO, MOD, SO, OPC
6/11	Newt Grant Memorial- Willow Creek, CA - Trinity River	Special Events
7/16	Klamath, CA Regatta - Klamath River	Special Events
9/2-3	Redding, CA Outboard Racers Group Labor Day Regatta	Inboard, PRO, MOD, SO, OPC, J
9/30-10/1	Lake Minden Bonus Points Regatta- Nicolaus, CA	Inboard, PRO, MOD, SO, OPC, J
10/28-29	4th Annual Bob & Stevie West Regatta- Lathrop, CA	Inboard, PRO, MOD, SO, OPC, J

REGION 14

6/03	Knoxville, TN Powerboat Classic - Tennessee River	OPC
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REGION 15

4/9	Highlands, TX Spring Classic - San Jacinto River	OPC, J
4/29-30	2017 Gulfport, FL Grand Prix- Boca Ciega Bay	OPC
5/6-7	Port Neches, TX Riverfest - Neches River	OPC, J

SAMMAMISH SLOUGH RACE RETURNS FOR 4TH YEAR

THE 4TH ANNUAL KENMORE HYDROPLANE CUP EVENT REVS UP ON APRIL 8TH

Get ready to hear the nostalgic sounds of hydroplanes!

On April 8th, title sponsor Seattle Water Sports and presenting sponsor 192 Brewery, with the Seattle Outboard Association, proudly present the 4th Annual Seattle Water Sports Kenmore Hydroplane Cup. Vintage Inboards and 45SS Tunnel Boats exhibition races will be held in front of the North Lake Marina and the Air Harbor. The 2- and 3-cylinder outboards will leave the Kenmore Boat Launch for a timed exhibition race. From the entrance to the slough upriver, one boat at a time will pass the boat launch and Squires Landing, round the bend to the right, round another buoy at the Kenmore City Limits, and back to the Boat Launch.

We have had about 25 boats for the last few years. This year we are expecting more entries, due to an overwhelming response from the boating community.

Opening ceremonies will start at 10 AM, with races starting at noon and running until about 4 PM. Past Unlimited drivers will be in attendance. Kenmore native Kay Myers Brewer will be announcing the river race, and Jim Olsen will announce the circle race. Admission is free. The best viewing areas will be the public dock at Log Boom Park, Harbor Marina, 68th Ave. Bridge walkway, and Squires Landing.

On Friday, April 7th, the community is invited to the 4th Annual Hydro Happy Hour at the 192 Brewery. Hydroplanes will be on display, and you can meet drivers past and present. Parking is limited, so plan ahead.



This historic event first brought the community to the banks of the Sammamish Slough in 1938, and ended in 1976. The idea to reintroduce the event came after local artist Amberly "Gaul" Culley organized the Sammamish Slough race exhibit at Kenmore City Hall in 2013.

The title sponsor for the 4th consecutive year is Kenmore's very own Seattle Water Sports. Mark Lord and his company are a class act; they have been a local business for over 20 years and are strong supporters of building community through interaction with water recreation. If you are ever in need of parts, storage, or beautiful boats, please go see them or visit www.seattlewatersports.com.

Derek Wyckoff and his crew at 192 Brewing Company are excited to celebrate the history of the slough race by starting off the event with a Hydro Happy Hour. They have a great venue. Go grab a microbrew beer, order something off the menu (that will definitely satisfy you) and enjoy their cozy, rustic atmosphere.

We are also very thankful to North Lake Marina and the Davidson brothers for allowing the Vintage Inboards to pit their boats and to showcase part of the ongoing history of hydroplane racing. Plywood Supply, C&M Trophy, Tranquility Home Care, and the Hydroplane and Race Boat Museum also have sponsored this event for the last 4 years.

Please welcome some new sponsors this year: RJ Masonry Inc., Olson's Hydros, Pierre's Dock, Parker Henry Glass, and Compton Lumber. And, Kenmore's own Daddy's Donuts will be on site for our event.

Seattle Water Sports, the Seattle Outboard

Association and all of our community sponsors look forward to seeing you all at the 4th Annual Kenmore Hydroplane Cup. This will be an exciting event, so please grab your friends and family and come on down to watch history in the making!

—Jan Shaw and Ana Cappelletti, co-race chairmen

STOCK OUTBOARD: YAMATO ENGINE COOLING UPDATE

When drilling the water intake on the Yamato tower, you do not have to go to the maximum size for cooling. We set the maximum at .310" because if the average person tried to drill their hole out "in the pits" using the old dimension of .297", the drill is apt to enlarge the hole past the .297" size. If we had set the maximum at 5/16", it is possible that a person would have used a 5/16" (.3215") drill bit. At that point the hole would have been .316" or larger, even if you were extremely careful.

In our testing, the first hole was drilled in the pits in Florida, with a 19/64" (2.969") drill bit. When measured accurately afterward, it was .302".

When drilling the inlet hole, I suggest that you drill it in at least 2 or 3 steps, with smaller drill bits, working up to the 19/64" drill bit. When I do this process, I am going to use a 19/64" reamer, three-piece set with a pilot on the end (.268") to guide it straight.

Please send any further questions or concerns to tjohnston15m@live.com

—Tom Johnston, Stock Outboard Chief Inspector

FROM HERE TO THERE: APBA, SPONSOR ACQUISITION AND YOU

We received an interesting set of questions from Ed Runne just before the January marketing seminar. We knew that what he posed would be of interest to APBA member clubs, and we promised that if we had not provided answers during our Thursday evening session, we would, over the course of this year, offer potential solutions...getting all of us from HERE to THERE.

ED: *How do you approach sponsors when the sanctioning body has little name recognition?*


HERE to THERE: APBA as a sanctioning body has value when it comes to establishing credibility for your potential event; and the fact that it is both national and international in scope (via U.I.M.) is important. With over 100 years of sanctioning history, established racing rules, and a brick-and-mortar headquarters, as an organization, APBA has a credible and a responsible reputation for powerboat racing.

Most sponsors will need to know that liability insurance is in place—and APBA provides that coverage. Additionally, APBA can help publicize your event via the website (www.apba.org) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/APBARacing), this SPIN newsletter, and PROPELLER magazine. The Race Calendar posted on our website's home page is essential for fans (and drivers) searching for upcoming events. APBA cannot be everything to everyone. However, it can and does offer these basic elements for race production; and credibility and insurance are essential for sponsorship acquisition.



APBA events are often the first exposure of the Association to spectators and sponsors. Using this available platform to create awareness and promote our organization is a primary method for establishing overall brand identity and recognition. As members, the more frequently we advertise APBA at our events, the more exposure the Association receives. When we put up a popup tent and hang a banner, we sell APBA. Moving beyond events, when we drive our vehicles and tow our race trailers with APBA decals, we promote APBA. Every APBA banner and flag that is hung, every race flyer and poster with the APBA logo displayed, establishes APBA's brand. Think of the possibilities when using social media. Race photos that have the APBA logo clearly visible on boats, signs, and flags are viewed and shared from one person/page to another; and from there the brand recognition begins to grow. When all of this is multiplied, the numbers grow exponentially, getting all of us from HERE to THERE.

Contact APBA Headquarters for APBA decals.

 We all need to remember that APBA's primary function is sanctioning. Sponsorship for individual events is the responsibility of the event producer/local club. Understanding the difference is key, but let's take this question one step further. As individuals, members and clubs, what are we doing to help APBA?



the **SPIN** 

APBA MEMBERS, SEND YOUR NEWS TO EDITOR@APBA.ORG

