

Samamish Slough Race Returns to Kenmore for a Fourth 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 proudly presents the 4th Annual Seattle Water Sports Kenmore Hydroplane Cup. Vintage Inboards and 45SS Tunnel Boats exhibition races will be 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 around a buoy at the entrance to the slough upriver past the boat launch, and Squires Landing, around the bend to the right and around another buoy at the Kenmore City Limits, and back to the Kenmore Boat Launch. Only one boat at a time will be on the river.

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

The opening ceremonies will start at 10 am with races starting at 12 noon and running until about 4 pm. We will have in attendance past unlimited drivers. Kenmore Native, Kay Myers Brewer will be announcing the river race, with Jim Olsen will be announcing the circle race. Admission is free for the event. 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 at this location. Come meet drivers past and present at this event. Parking is limited, so plan ahead.

This historic event has brought the community to the banks of the Sammamish Slough since 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 very beautiful boats, please go in and see them or visit them at 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 are a great venue to go grab a micro brew beer and order something off the menu that will definitely satisfy you and enjoy their cozy and rustic atmosphere. We are also very thankful for North Lake Marina and the Davidson brothers for allowing the Vintage Inboards to pit their boats and to showcase a part of a long going history that hydroplane racing has to offer. Plywood Supply, C&M Trophy, Tranquility Home Care, and 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, Olsons Hydro’s, Pierre’s Dock, Parker Henry Glass, and Compton Lumber. And now we have added Kenmore’s own Daddy’s Donuts to be on site for our event.

This year bring your family out to create your own Sammamish slough memories.

Seattle Water Sports, the Seattle Outboard Association and all of our community sponsors look forward to seeing you all out 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 once more in the making!

Article written by Jan Shaw and Ana Cappelletti co- race chairmen

