

Regatta Review

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL HYDROPLANE RACING FANS!

Happy Holidays from the Detroit River Regatta Association, the Chrysler Jeep Superstores, and all our Sponsors and Volunteers!

It's not too soon to start planning for the historic 100th running of the Gold Cup, July 11-13 2008! Tickets are on sale now - make your order before February 1st to keep the same seats you had last year.

UNLIMITEDS DETROIT HOLIDAY PARTY THIS SATURDAY - DEC 8TH

One last reminder that this Saturday December 8th is the annual UD holiday party & auction. Everyone is invited!

The silent auction will run from 1:00pm to 3:30pm with hydro memorabilia including buttons, pins, programs, books, patches, shirts, jackets, hats, toys, glassware, photos and artwork. Some items are one of a kind.

The silent auction will be followed by a live auction of some very special items.

The party will be held at Skinny's on 10 Mile in Warren (just West of Schoenherr). The UD web site is at: <http://www.unlimitedsdetroit.com>

VOLUNTEERS - RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BEFORE JANUARY 1ST

Volunteers - remember that by renewing your volunteer membership before January 1st you will get \$10 off the regular \$35 fee.

The 2008 sign-up form can be found here:

<http://gold-cup.com/volunteer/DRRA-VolunteerForm-2008.pdf>

INSIDE A 1/5TH SCALE MODEL ROLLS-ROYCE MERLIN XX

You have to see this 1/5th scale model of a Rolls Royce Merlin to believe it! Don't miss the .mpg video towards the end, where the builder starts it up:

http://www.enginehistory.org/merlin_xx.htm

U-21 FREEDOM RACING TEAM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

From: Jeffrey Michael Johnson, Kevin Aylesworth

As you all know we share ownership of not only Freedom Racing Team, but also All Access

Equipment Rentals. As officers of All Access it is our pleasure to find ourselves in a position to watch All Access grow to a national scale over the next five years due to substantial contracts, both Government & otherwise.

After much consideration and with heavy hearts it has been decided that we must step away from the racing series for an undetermined length of time, causing us to sell all the assets associated with Freedom Racing Team. This creates a huge opportunity for anyone involved in the sport, or wishing to become involved. We have invested a substantial amount of time and money to create a state of the art Unlimited Hydroplane and an extensive supply of the best equipment in the industry. While we would be willing to discuss separate purchase of specific items it would be advantageous to the new owner to keep the package complete.

Please keep in mind that members of the best race team in the history of the sport are now available.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Michael Johnson
Kevin Aylesworth

2008 UNLIMITED HYDROPLANE SEASON SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The American Boat Racing Association has announced its schedule for the 2008 unlimited hydroplane season. A total of eight races are tentatively scheduled with Nashville possibly having two races on J. Percy Priest Lake at Nashville Shores.

The season opener scheduled for May 2-4 is a definite "go" with the potential of adding the second race to close the year on October 2-4.

"We are excited to have Nashville back on the schedule," said ABRA Race Chairman Sam Cole. "Rick Bowles of the U-3 Cooper's Express team has done a wonderful job getting the site in Tennessee back on our schedule."

Nashville hosted its first race in the Music City Hydrofest in 2005 but scheduling the event on the first day of the pro football season didn't help the promoters.

"We think having Nashville open the season in May will help the promoters bring in the crowd we hope to have for this race," said Cole. "This will be an early start to our season but we need to get more races on the circuit early so we can start to generate more excitement for the entire season, not just a seven week period."

The race teams will have over one month before they run the second scheduled event, but Cole hopes to find some exhibitions and maybe even another race to fit in before the second event in Evansville, Thunder on the Ohio June 27-29.

"We have some ideas of how we can create some excitement in other venues around the

country," added Cole. "This is welcome news for our sport."

After Evansville, the circuit heads to Madison, Ind., staying on the Ohio River for the July 4-6 Governor's Cup before going to Detroit for the 100th running of the Chrysler-Jeep Superstores APBA Gold Cup-the oldest active motor sport trophy in the world, dating back to 1904.

The circuit goes west to Tri-Cities, Wash. and the Atomic Cup on the Columbia River then to Seattle for the Chevrolet Cup at Seafair on Lake Washington.

The boats then head to San Diego for the Bill Muncey Cup on Mission Bay, finishing the season on Mission Bay or the fleet could be headed back for a Saturday finale in Nashville.

Nashville, TN May 2-4

Evansville, IN June 27-29

Madison, IN July 4-6

Detroit, MI July 11-13

Tri-Cities, WA July 25-27

Seattle, WA August 1-3

San Diego, CA September 19-21

Nashville, TN October 2-4 (Saturday Race) **Tentative

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer