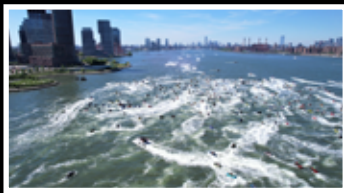


SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2022



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Photo: Morné du Rand



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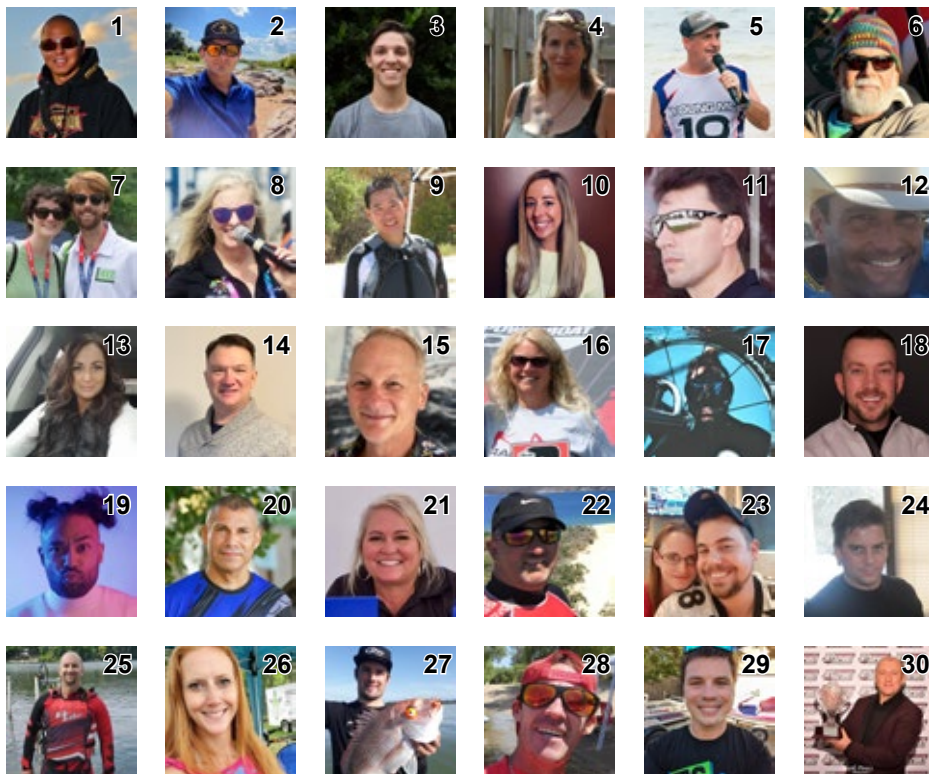
Much of the action depicted in this publication is potentially dangerous. Virtually all the riders seen in our photos are experienced experts or professionals. Do not attempt to duplicate any stunts that are beyond your own capabilities. Always wear appropriate safety gear.

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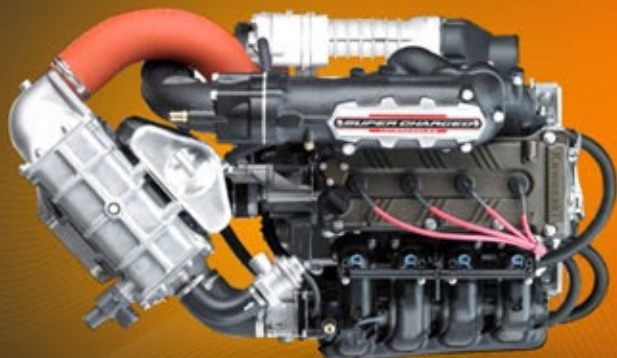






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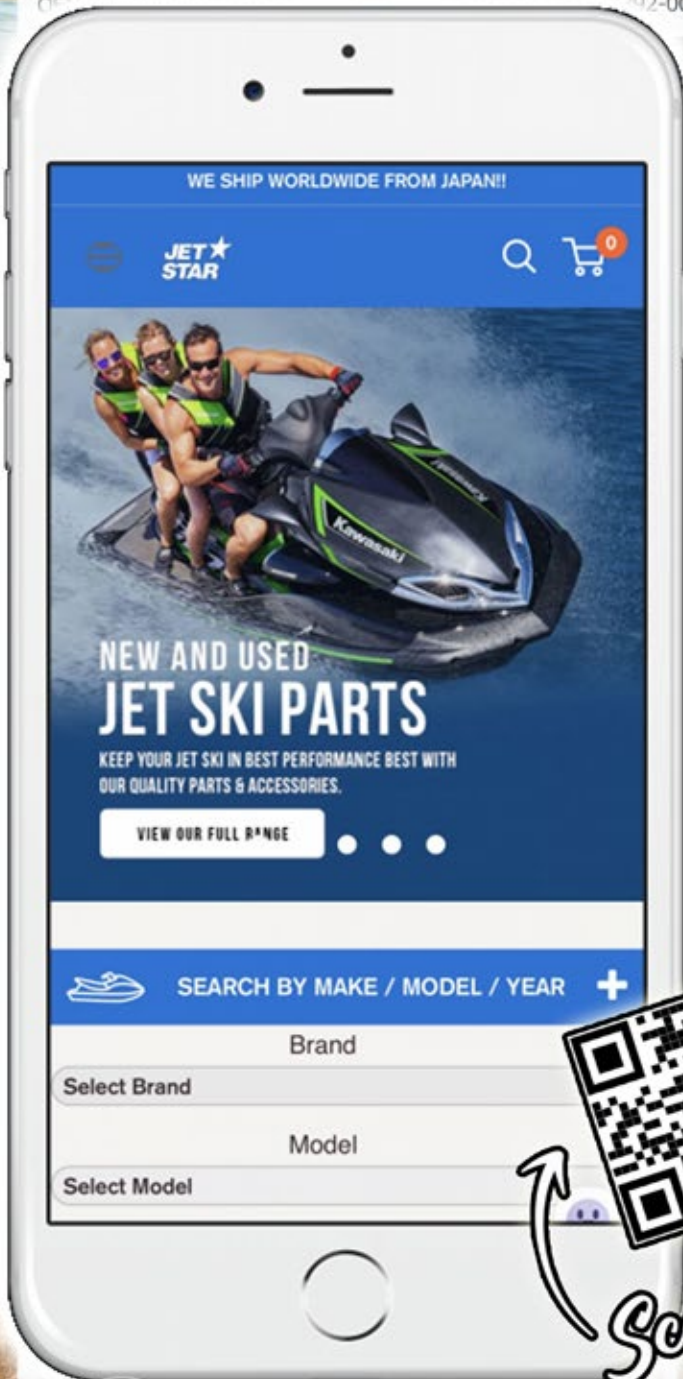
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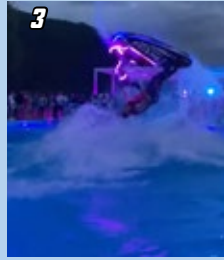
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OEM ENGINE Used [K684-000]



Condition:Used  
Hour:236  
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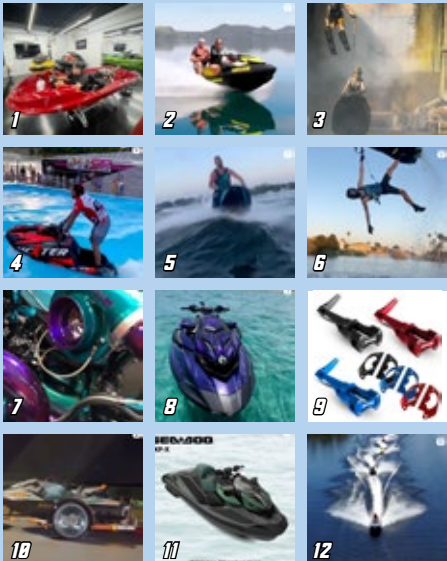
## THE MONEY \$HOT SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

The 2022 September/October cover shot goes to Yamaha WaveRunners and their race-ready, supercharged GP1800R SVHO, the gravity-defying JetBlaster, and the iconic SuperJet standup designed for riders committed to the sport of personal watercraft riding. If sport is what you're looking for in a personal watercraft, you've found it in spades in these dynamic WaveRunners. Go ahead, create a little chaos on the water, in a good way, of course.



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2. "Wonder if I will ever witness this again!" – Video: @aquadan
3. @vlas\_provotorov sending it in the pool! – Video: @vlas\_provotorov
4. Thinking of @ericcaseyfrancis, @sophiebeccafancis and their family as we celebrate his life. – Photo: @p1aquax, @proridermagazine
5. A different meaning to "jet surf"! – Video: @dato.jolo
6. "Time to catch up on our reading." – Photo: Ken Gallagher
7. Carve in confidence @prowatercrafttracing



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- EASTCRAFT
- BNG
- 48 HOURS
- READING BETWEEN THE LINES
- LENS HOG

- PIT PASSES
- WHAT'S EVERYONE
- DEVELOPMENT
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1: Scarecrowing it out Sea World Australia | 2: Taking a break with the cast of Thunder Lake Stunt Show Gold Coast Australia | 3: Salty Captain Built for Battle Catch Bag use code **PRRIDER15 saltcaptain.co** Photo: Rome Coates | 4: Celebrating 4<sup>th</sup> of July with Pro Rider Toddler Editor Aaliyah Rain Ratti | 5-6: Double Fountain with Beau Arscott



1

## PRO RIDER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE

Photos: Liam Quinlivan; Rome Coates

**W**elcome to the 2022 September/October 68<sup>th</sup> print and digital issue of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine.

The watercraft industry continues to thrive and grow by leaps and bounds with more rides, races, products, and equipment than ever before. Working and collaborating with industry leaders, event promoters, talented photographers, and writers in the creation of this issue has been exciting.

The 2022 September/October cover shot goes to Yamaha WaveRunners and the race-ready, supercharged GP1800R SVHO, the gravity-defying JetBlaster, and the iconic SuperJet.

Features include watercross with IndyCar, history making female flagger, the return of racing to Chattanooga, the new Sea-Doo Apex 300, record breaking participation in recreation rides and races across the world and more. Don't miss this issue's Future

Threats presented by Jettribe, Fitness, Safety, Tech, PWC fishing, Products and Gear-Giveaway.

We join in mourning the loss of jet ski pioneers Clayton Jacobson and Bill Turpin. Look for a tribute feature in the next issue of Pro Rider about their powerful contributions to jet skiing.

Visit Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine on Facebook, Instagram at @proridermag, and online at [www.proridermag.com](http://www.proridermag.com) for news, announcements, digital issue access and extras. **PR**

Sincerely,

Michael Ratti and the Pro Rider Team

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# BLOWSION

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### What our Riders are saying!

3X JET SKI WORLD CHAMPION SEBASTIEN GIRELLO



"After spending a few days with the BlowSION crew testing different versions of the 2021 Superjet BlowSION scoop grate, I can conclude that the 3 Fin intake grate is perfect for smooth water and small chop. It has an amazing hookup in the turns without losing speed on the straightaways. The 5 fin grate is amazing for super choppy water. It hooks up great in the rough straightaways and handles great in the corners." - Sebastien Girello, 3 time jet ski world champion.

This billet scoop grate is an amazing piece! The 3 fin or 5 fin can match your demand for different types of water conditions and is a must have on your 2021+ Superjet. - Christophe, Owner of Go Fast US

# BLOWSION



## VANESSA JONES FREESTYLE PHENOM

Photos: Ken Gallagher

At 13, Vanessa Jones, Reno, Nevada was the youngest female to compete in freestyle. Now 19, Vanessa is a force to be reckoned with on her 1991 Yamaha Superjet square nose. When asked what motivated her to choose freestyle, Vanessa shared, "Because Kelly Hieke was doing it! I grew up around my dad and his friends at the lake. Everyone taught me. Kelly helped with the balancing part of it. Chris Hieke taught me the building blocks of the tricks I do. Tony Cholewa has given me many pointers. Iceman, Vaclav Zacek provided time and support in freestyle events. Larry Rippenkroeger helped with tips and the last roll of vintage turf. Paul King, Mark Gomez, and others are always friendly and helpful. Riding in Iceman's events at a young age has been amazing. Being the youngest at 13 was difficult. I fell off the ski in the routine but built up strength and courage to go out in front of a crowd and ride. Each time it's more fun and being interviewed for Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine is an achievement! Every time I ride, I get better! Outside of jet skiing, I'm officially a senior in college getting my bachelor's in criminal justice with a minor in law."

Vanessa has a goal to beat a double back flip routine, without back flipping. "If I could beat a double back flip routine in overall scores doing old school, I would be ecstatic! And I want to race. The jet ski community is a large family. I lost my mother last year; it was a very difficult time for me. The feeling and enjoyment of riding my ski and the friends I've made along the way has been wonderful."



## WELCOME TO HYDRO GAMES!

Submitted by: Kurt Binter, Chairman  
Hydro Games



Held in Mission Bay, San Diego, Hydro Games is a non-profit organization with a drive to create the most crazy, interesting, and amazing compilation of water sports events! As of now, we are the only HydroFlight competition in North America. With HydroFlight competitions to jet ski racing, EVOJET, Jetsurf, foils, wakeboarding and skating, foil bikes and more, we are the world's largest multi-platform watersports event of its kind and growing! Don't miss out! More information [www.hydrogames.org](http://www.hydrogames.org).





## PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Christopher Scudder, Brookfield, Connecticut on winning the Jul-Aug 2022 photo contest! Taken at Brookfield Town Park, Kaylee, 4 is sitting on dad's '94 triple swapped Yamaha WaveRaider while brother Owen 6 finishes football practice as dad gets the ski together for a race with East Coast Watercross.



## BUNNY RESCUE ON LAKE MICHIGAN

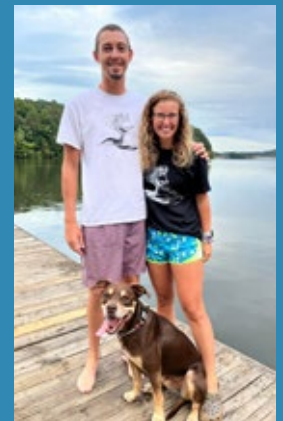
Cailyn Missak, age 12, Illinois, loves cheerleading and tumbling. Her favorite place to jet ski is Lake Michigan "because the water is so blue, and it feels like a vacation!" said Cailyn. "I started jet skiing with my family when I was 8. Now I'm able to drive on my own! One day we saw something paddling in the water. We thought it was a muskrat, but when I saw its ears poking out, I realized it was a bunny! We picked it up because he was struggling to stay afloat. I got to hold the bunny and drive it back to the pier. It was the best jet ski ride of my life."



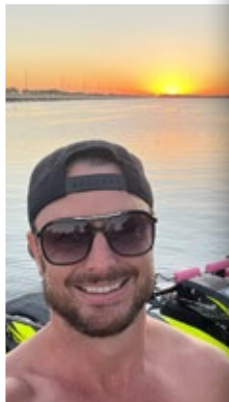
## THROTTLE THERAPY

Photos: Katie McCurdy

From Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia, Lexi and Chas Goodson, 24, together 9 years and married 1, have always been fast paced, enjoying adrenaline based outdoor activities. Shared Lexi, "Our dog Roscoe has adapted to our lifestyle and rides anything that moves, dirt bikes, four wheelers, one wheels, our Kawasaki STX-R ski and X2. Our appreciation for the lake and water sports grew into a passion we share. Chas was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 2018 on his 21st birthday. He's been in remission twice after it spread to his lungs. He bought a 1988 Kawasaki X2 as a project to keep his hands and brain moving since he couldn't ride during treatments. Jet skis have been a major motivation factor through his treatments and wanting to feel better, we call it "throttle therapy." Many days he felt so sick from the chemotherapy but would work up all the strength he had to ride. We'd leave the cancer center and head to the lake. People including doctors said he was crazy or couldn't ride and be sick at the same time which only motivated him more! We strongly believe getting out to ride pulling himself up on the X2 made him physically better to fight off cancer along with massive support from the jet ski community. We love doubling on the X2 and trying new things. We travel for work and drag the skis everywhere we go. If you think you cannot do it, you absolutely can so get out there and do what sets your soul on fire and find your passions to get through tough days!"







## DEAR PRO RIDER WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE,

Thank you for your continued support of the standup community, I love seeing all the great events covered in each issue and learning about all the new product releases and what is happening in the industry/community. Especially enjoy the swimsuit issue.

Born and raised in Sydney, Australia I grew up surfing. When I moved to Miami, I needed to find a watersports hobby and bought my first standup in 2015 having never ridden one before and started riding alone in the intracoastal waterways of south Florida. Before long I found the Florida freeriders who embraced me as a newbie and let me join them riding surf. The thrill of riding in the surf was addictive, and like most standup riders I wanted to learn how to back flip. Trying in the surf on a Superjet wasn't easy, so I upgraded to a Thrust Innovations built Rickter edge in 2016 and quickly nailed my first backflip in the surf.

I still love a good surf session, but in 2020 built a flatwater ski when I moved to Dallas, Texas and haven't looked back. Started competing with the Virtual Freestyle event in 2021, and in 2022 had a blast at my first in person freestyle competition at Lake Havasu for Iceman's event US Freestyle Championship in 1200 novice.

Moved back to south Florida in 2022, enjoying the warm weather and ability to ride skis all year. Currently building a 900 CC Amateur class ski and looking forward to competing this year at world finals.

Thanks again for all you do at Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine!

**Anthony Vitnell**  
West Palm Beach, Florida



## DEAR PRO RIDER,

I come from a motocross background and have found the PWC community to be some of the most genuine generous people, always willing to lend a hand, it reminds me of the days of old. I am already looking forward to the 2023 season! Thank you guys for all your hard work in putting together a great publication, I look forward to years of enjoyment to come.

**Jordan Hunner** Athens, Texas







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The 2022 Pro Watercross Slalom Drags and Closed Course Invitational gathered some of the best Pro/Am Ski GP, Sport Spec, IROC Stock, and Jr Ski racers in the country to configure onto picturesque Cumberland River in downtown Nashville, TN. With jitters typical of first-time ventures, participants set aside their differences making a remarkable showcase of our sport in conjunction with the renowned IndyCar Racing Big Machine Music City Grand Prix!

Pro Watercross racers coordinated with IndyCar in Nissan Stadium Park. City goers and travelers stopped at the arena and pedestrian bridge above to view the fantastic display of racing on the river.

The Slalom Drags were conducted by Team Faith President, Brian O'Rourke alongside Pro Watercross who managed the closed course racing. Slalom Drags is a new adaptation of an old idea that O'Rourke hopes to bring to the modern race scene. For much of the history of the sport, slalom races were an important part of competition, especially in ski class. Slalom duels were wildly popular with fans and showcased top riders' ability to control their craft, however, slalom was plagued with problems that Slalom Drags set out to solve. The most significant difference is the use of a starting launch pad, an anchored pontoon boat with adjustable bunks that holds the ski at idle and allows it to slide off smoothly into the water. Add the drag-style timing light tree and unfair starts are a thing of the past.

O'Rourke said, "I didn't want to produce just another jetski race. As much as I love closed-course and offshore endurance racing, those disciplines have proven to be difficult to acquire the new fan base our sport deserves. I came up with this format featuring the top PWC racers from all over the US coming together to showcase this brand-new format with side-by-side racing on two identical tracks consisting of slalom turns and long drag straight aways. Starting from a stationary launch pad, competitors time the drag-style light tree for the best reaction time because the fastest elapsed time leads to the overall victory. Racing is exciting and entertaining, starts are equal and fair and the focus is more on the rider than the equipment they ride. Pair this with recognizable on-air talent for TV Supercross' Daniel Blair, Lucas Oil Off-Road, watercraft racing's Dave Arnold, and Snocross' Arica Alread as pit reporter, put the race in the middle of downtown Nashville during the IndyCar Music City Grand Prix and you have an event with the potential to grow the fanbase of the sport! I'd like to thank AJ and the entire crew from Pro Watercross for supporting me and giving me the opportunity to try this new race format on such a huge stage."

Everyone got a chance to run the course and try their hand at winning a share of the \$16,900.00 prize purse. According to TV Producer Glenn Selig, Digital Realm, Inc., the footage of the races is amazing and showcased via MAVTV.

Pro Watercross closed-course racing saw Carson Bachelder at the helm as Race Director. Things went off without a hitch. The format included 2 heats for each class where the top 5 advanced to the Main, and an LCQ where the top 2 advanced to the Main for a 12-man Final for each class with long motos, Pro/Am Ski GP 20 laps, Sport Spec 15 laps and 12 laps for IROC Stock and Jr. Ski 10-15 testing riders' stamina and strength of their race craft builds!

Notable take-aways: 1. JR Ski and IROC racers out of Lake Havasu are fast and successful with both formats of racing! 2. The sport of Watercraft Racing gained legitimacy because of the collaboration of Pro Watercross and IndyCar Racing 3. Most everyone that participated expressed interest in returning next year! **PR**



**RESULTS:**  
[HTTPS://PROWATERCROSS.ORG/MT-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2022/08/2022\\_NASHVILLE\\_FINAL\\_RESULTS.PDF](https://prowatercross.org/mt-content/uploads/2022/08/2022_nashville_final_results.pdf)





# BIG MACHINES AT MUSIC CITY GRAND PRIX

FIRST EVER PRO WATERCROSS SLALOM DRAGS AND CLOSED COURSE INVITATIONAL COMBINES WITH RENOWNED INDYCAR RACING AT BIG MACHINE MUSIC CITY GRAND PRIX

By: Dexie Payne | Photos: Jessica Waters Waters Edge Photography





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The RXP-X Apex 300 provides unbeatable control and is a ride unlike any other. Push the limits on every ride. The T3-R hull design dices through tight turns at speed, and the unique Shark Gill mid-hull feature allows for best-in-class control, even at full throttle.

The pinnacle of race-inspired performance, the all-new RXP-X Apex 300 is expertly crafted to offer unparalleled precision and high-powered thrills to the most adrenaline-craving riders. Everything about this new package – from the supercharged engine to the hydraulic steering to the carbon fiber body materials – is designed to offer riders the most electrifying high-performance experience on the water.

Act fast—the RXP-X Apex is exclusively available via pre-order until November 30, 2022. **PR**

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**PWC PILOT:** Fred David, Bodysurfing World Champion  
**LOCATION:** Nazare, Portugal  
**PHOTO:** Kyle Richardson

**PRESENTED BY:**

*Kyle Richardson*  
Adaptive Athlete & Content Creator





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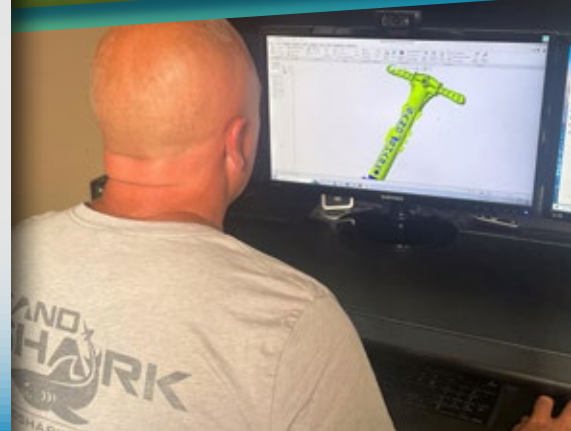




L-R: Derek Mattix Marketing Manager, Kathy Koontz Head of Shipping & Receiving, Shop Supervisor Andy Smith General Manager, Brandon Mattix Head of Repairs & Product Design Contributor, Susan Mattix Owner, Duane Mattix Owner



Jeff Steinger,  
Engineer/Business Partner



## MEET THE INVENTORS OF SANDSHARK!

**S**andShark was established in November 2009 by Duane and Susan Mattix of Plymouth, Indiana who shared, “We loved to spend the weekends boating and at the beach and sandbar of the local lake. It made for great family times and fun activities. We would try to anchor our boat at the beach and walk across the street to The Original Rootbeer Stand in Culver, Indiana, right next to Lake Maxinkuckee, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest natural lake in Indiana . When we got to the stand, we could see our boat coming unanchored and crashing to the shore.”



Wanting to solve this problem Duane set out to make an effective anchor for shallow water, beaches, and sandbars so everyone could enjoy their time and not worry if their anchor was going to hold for the day.

In 2016 they took on engineer and jet ski enthusiast Jeff Steinger as a third partner. They have continued to design and refine new and effective marine products since their inception.

**PRO RIDER:** Please describe the focus of your business.

**DUANE MATTIX:** Our focus is currently on shallow water anchoring. We continue to add new products and branch out with products focusing on the jet ski, boating, and beach lifestyle.

**PR:** What are you most proud of regarding your business?

**DM:** We are very proud of our commitment to the customer and improving their experience at the beach or on the water. It starts and ends with the customer. Our greatest satisfaction comes from knowing an individual or family made some lifetime memories on their vacation or weekend trip and our products were a part of that!

**PR:** What is your best advice to jet ski owners and water sports enthusiasts?

**DM:** Be safe and take time to enjoy the moments for the memories. Too many times I want to get to the next adventure without enjoying the journey!

**PR:** Please share with readers your favorite riding locations.

**DM:** We enjoy Lake Michigan and the Gulf Coast of Florida. I am sure there are many more great locations we have not been to but will get there soon!

**PR:** Any special plans for the remainder of 2022 and 2023 you would like to share?

**DM:** We have some exciting new products coming out in 2023 so be on the lookout!



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*"I've had the opportunity to test many different anchors over the years. In 2016 I discovered SandShark, and it quickly became my favorite anchor and the only one I use to this day. Exploring new areas with my family, I love the peace of mind knowing when we are anchored our skis are 100% secure and not going anywhere. It was an honor to work with them and inspire their latest product, the JR 2.0 anchor. On top of a superior product, the customer service you receive with SandShark is absolutely incredible. It's like you're family to them."*

**—Randy Cabrera**  
 Founder of Florida Ski Riders

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# AND SO IT BEGINS...

## Jet Ski World Series kicks off IN OSTROW WARCKI, POLAND

By: Dawn Dawson | Photos: WGP#1 Jet Ski World Series

The jet ski racing world eagerly anticipates the three stops of the Jet Ski World Series. The Jettribe Euro Finals World Series round 1 in Ostrow Warcki, Poland, was bigger than most in recent years. 300 racers attended from Europe, USA, Thailand, Cambodia, and Australia. The two most awaited classes, Pro Runabout GP, and Pro Ski GP was a lineup of jet ski racing celebrities.

Pro Ski; 23 riders, 4 motos, faster skis than ever before. The track was larger and longer. Though riders were afforded two massive splits, they were tight making passing difficult.

Racing started off strong with Kevin Reiterer seizing early wins. Jeremy Poret, Triple Crown winner 2019, broke in moto 1 and ongoing boat troubles meant missing motos 3 and 4. Quinten Bossche broke in moto 4, forced to exit due to intake grate issues. Dustin Motzouris was injured, popped his shoulder, soldiered on for a lap but numbness in his arm and the nozzle sheering off his boat meant retiring early. In the mayhem Marten Manni led the charge stealing 3<sup>rd</sup>, Reiterer 2<sup>nd</sup>. Raphael Maurin, wickedly fast and consistent kept his stability taking a win his first since 2018. This win surely reinvigorates his confidence and tenacity.

Pro Runabout GP was a bittersweet series of breaks and wins. Defending World Series champion and record breaker, Skinny Mo Burbayea was plagued with boat troubles WHICH hampered this talented rider from the get-go, it was heartbreaking. Favorites James Bushell, Mohamed Albaz and Gyorgy Kasza all broke at some point curbing much-needed momentum to keep scores up on the board. Destiny gives way to the consistent. Yousef Abdulrazzaq, the prince of strategy, stunned with a win in moto 3. Samuel Johansson, one of the youngest riders on the track, pulled 3 third place finishes. Francois Medori powered through to a victory in moto 2. The 2022 European winner of the Pro Runabout GP class, Jeremy Perez, bookended his victory with wins in motos 1 and 4. Perez has always been a force to be reckoned with. This win against heavyweights was a great start to his year.

Jean-Bruno Pastorello added another Pro Endurance win; second was USA rider, Anthony Radetic, no stranger to Endurance racing.

Twins Tanawin and Tanawid Molee took the podium together 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Pro Am Ski Stock behind Mattias Reinaas. Lucy Gadsby #8 made history winning Pro Am Woman Ski Stock and Pro Woman Ski GP, and Expert Ski GP; a rare occasion for a woman to win in a mixed gender class, an emotional tremendously exciting milestone for the young UK racer. **PR**





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# YAMAHA WAVERUNNERS CHAMPIONS OF THE SPORT

Story and photos: Yamaha

Over the decades, personal watercraft have evolved into plush, tech-rich luxury vehicles that take the place of small boats for many families. However, at Yamaha, there will always be room in the WaveRunner line for models that create a little chaos on the water, in a good way, of course.

The race-ready, supercharged GP1800R SVHO, the gravity-defying JetBlaster, and the iconic SuperJet standup are designed for riders committed to the sport of personal watercraft riding.





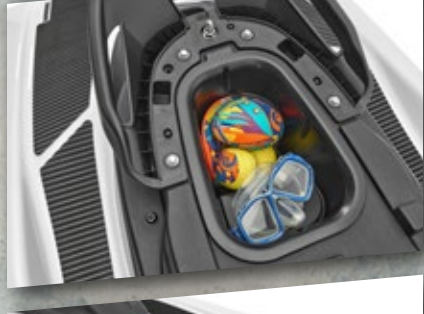
The mid-sized Yamaha **GP1800R SVHO** is the top performance model that Yamaha offers today. It's powered by Yamaha's supercharged 1.8L SVHO marine engine.



This WaveRunner is quick off the line, blistering fast in the straights, and turns on a dime around race buoys. On the professional racing circuit, the GP's only competition is the larger Yamaha FX SVHO that many riders choose when competing in the surf.

Exclusive to the GP Series are Launch Control and Cornering Control, activated through the GP's Connex touchscreen. When on, the engine's computer system instantly senses the optimum bow trim for hole shots or tight cornering.

The GP SVHO is not completely uncivilized, however. It does come with Yamaha's RiDE dual throttles for forward, reverse, and decelerating and optional factory-installed audio speakers. And now, for 2023 is the option to add Yamaha's versatile RecDeck accessories for fishing, lounging, and towing.





The compact, lightweight **JetBlaster** is the most playful sit-down WaveRunner Yamaha offers.



Its exclusive, custom-tuned electric trim, elevated competition handlebars, and raised foot chocks make the JetBlaster as enthusiastic as a surly bronco or as tight as a go-kart on rails.

Powering the JetBlaster is the three-cylinder 1L Yamaha TR-1 HO Marine Engine, the most powerful motor in a compact-size watercraft today. Feeding this award-winning motor is a 13-gallon fuel tank allowing for a full day of riding.

Its performance hull delivers excellent stability for two or three-up riding and towing but truly comes alive when riding solo and standing up. Affordable and versatile, the JetBlaster is a personal watercraft that the whole family can enjoy.





Yamaha's iconic **SuperJet** standup needs no introduction. Some version of the SuperJet has been in the WaveRunner line since 1990.



Today's SuperJet challenges a new generation of standup riders with a torquey Yamaha four-stroke 1L TR-1 marine engine and nimble performance hull that's 142 pounds lighter, 8.8 inches shorter, and twice as fun to ride than its competition. And because it's four-stroke powered, owners are no longer required to have a racing license to purchase.

Amazingly, this SuperJet is only a scant 69 pounds heavier than the two-stroke version. The deck features a three-position adjustable handle pole extending up to 50mm in length, race-inspired handlebars, and a wide padded foot tray with an integrated reboarding holder. For novice riders, L-MODE reduces engine performance to 85 percent or approximately 40 miles per hour.



*If sport is what you're looking for in a personal watercraft, you've found it in spades in these dynamic WaveRunners.*

**Learn more at [yamahawaverunners.com](http://yamahawaverunners.com)**



# RETURN OF THE 30-Year-Old **SUPER CHICKENS!**

Story and photos: Tony Malisheski

**TCJETPILOTS.COM**  
MINNESOTA JETSKI FREERIDERS

Several years ago, we realized the Minnesota jet ski crowd was accumulating a lot of Kawasaki Sport Cruisers aka 'Super Chickens', so we put together a ride to see how many we could gather and have continued to gather as many as possible in our short busy Minnesota summer.

This year's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual World-Famous Chicken Brood started out exactly how you would expect when you are gathering 30-year-old Kawasakis — wrenching in the parking lot! One member took parts off a Kawasaki XIR to get his chicken to run. Jet skis unloaded; everything was running well enough to head from the Fridley boat launch in Minneapolis to the Islands of Peach Regional Park a quarter mile up the Mississippi River to the Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. Tents went up, tunes blasted, grills heated. 17 chickens, 2 Jet Mates and 1 Superjet headed off for 6 miles on the first group ride. Water was lower than normal on the Mississippi with a few shallow spots but the whole group was able to get around and make it almost to the dam which was our goal.

Following some chicken tricks, we headed 6 miles south to the St. Anthony Falls Dam with a stopover at Psycho Suzi's Waterfront Lounge. Weather was awesome as riders enjoyed the large patio overlooking the river. With no major breakdowns, everyone made it back to their coops making it a very successful group ride for some very old Kawasakis! We even had a chicken rider give a tow to a boat that hit a rock and wrecked their prop.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicken Brood went off without a hitch and plans are already underway for next year's event! **PR**





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## MEET JULIO PAULA THE DRIVING FORCE OF JP RACING, INC.

**PRO RIDER:** Please tell us about yourself and how you became involved with watercraft.

**JULIO PAULA:** I'm 34 and started modifying cars at 16. After running multiple auto repair shops, I decided to become a firefighter, got certified as an EMT, couldn't afford the next step in schooling, and went back to working at auto shops. I got bored and purchased my first ski 2002 GP1200r, blew it up and re-built the entire ski from the ground up. Had fun doing it as it reminded me of the car scene. Sold my cars and bought my first Sea-Doo. I always wanted my own shop for car performance but ended up with jet skis instead. I worked at a power sports dealer doing performance work on the side. Making more money working for myself and more time vs working at a dealer, I took a leap of faith and quit everything with \$300 in my bank account. I worked out of a 2-car garage for 1 year, moved into a shop with Fizzle we shared for a year. When he moved to West Palm I stayed in Ft. Myers and moved into my own shop and have been expanding the last 3 years, opened a second location and in the process of a third.

**PR:** What is the focus of JP Racing, Inc.?

**JP:** We strive to be a one stop shop offering maintenance, repairs, custom fabrication, tuning, parts, and full builds from the ground up. All products are tested brutally before being released to the customer. We help people understand what they have purchased, explaining details in repairs / maintenance. Everything is geared towards an experience the customer will not forget.

**PR:** Please tell us about your YouTube channel.

**JP:** YouTube is a great tool. It shows the transparency of what we do, the results and consistency of our products and work ethic. We have a blast making videos and feel satisfied showing the average DIY person tips and tricks. We have 30k subscribers with fan base throughout the world. My team brings a different style to the market. Our channel is informative and fun, topics are random, some are planned out (big builds) but for the most part it's on the spot.

**PR:** What are you most proud of regarding your business?

**JP:** I'm most proud of the environment I've built not only for myself but for my employees. We come to work happy and love what we do. Each customer is treated as an individual. I give customers an experience when they are here including detailed pictures of their ski's progress. Customer satisfaction is my top priority.

**PR:** What is your advice to PWC enthusiasts?

**JP:** Find a reputable shop unless you do your own work. Ride responsibly, have fun and understand jet skis are high performance machines that need regular attention and maintenance.

**PR:** Describe your current ride(s).

**JP:** 2021 Sea-Doo RXP Stroker Turbo Build is my 'everyday' ski. My 'fast' ski is a 2016 Yamaha FZR Stroker Built Turbo and Nitrous Ski. My wife rides the 'normal ski' an 85MPH GP1800r. I have a Spark for friends to ride—I will be doing a giveaway on the Youtube Channel for that ski. Favorite spot for a normal ride is Keewaydin in Naples FL near the Dome Homes off Marco Island. For speed we hit the river, always glass. I've been 117mph+ many times out there, the water just feels safe for those speeds.

**PR:** Any special plans for the remainder of 2022?

**JP:** We'll be releasing new parts not currently on the market and improving on what's out there. The addition of the NY location is being planned and finalization is right around the corner.

Just want to say thank you to Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, we are excited to be part of the family.









The Jettribe Mid America WaterX Championship, by Nautiwater Racing completed their final rounds in Sulphur Springs, Texas the first week of August. Coming off an action stacked tour stop in Tennessee, racers and staff headed straight for a 4-day jam packed Championship the following week to wrap up the tour series and bring together the USA Central Nationals. Tour champions were crowned, with many classes coming down to the very last moto! Jettribe Team Riders Bailey Cunningham from Australia and Casey Leech from the UK traveled for their first visit and experience racing in the central United States.

The Championship week began as we welcomed JR Star racers to the Next Level Nautiwater JR Stars Race Training. Junior racers had the track dialed in putting on a show of their talents and progress over the series. The JR Stars had arriving racers and families excited for the Championships and making an impression, wow, those kids are fast! Race trailers, tents, pit vehicles, and vendors filled the venue and delivered an amazing racer turnout. Jettribe set up a fabulous VIP area for locals to get a front row view of racing.

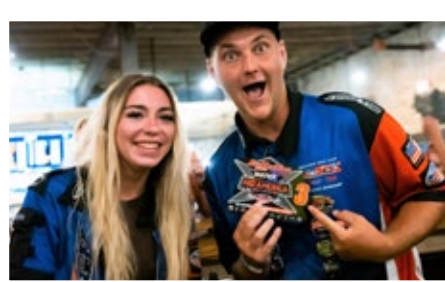
From the first band snap to the last checkered flag, racing was intense and pushed the endurance of pilots. Jettribe's Casey Leech came in to scramble some points and turn heads as the Stock Ski 1500 class battles have been going on all season and top riders Marriot, Fisk, and Seivley all had sights on a win. Pro Ski Open brought racers from all over the USA with top prize payout of \$1,000 guaranteed. Ricky Trevizo, River Varner, and JB Gasperone traveled from the far west corners, with Trish, Ryan and Jeremy Poper, Tim Miller, Haigen Smith, Mason Kotara and McKale Seivley waiting for them on the line. It was the industry's finest equipment for sound and sight racing enjoyment. The intensity of every round came down to consistency and mechanics of the last moto to win the Championship.

Awards were grand for a National Championship and winners were all recognized. It was an incredible year and series and was bittersweet for me. I am thankful for the opportunity to work with an amazing sponsor in Jettribe, amazing staff and course marshals at Nautiwater, and with the Junior Star Racers that are the future of our sport and to see all the racers and their families growing and thriving.

Plans are already underway for next year, so stay tuned as we have very exciting races on deck. See you on the Nautiwater! **PR**







"THE TEXAS RACES WERE AWESOME AND REALLY HELPED EVERYONE GET READY FOR THE BIGGER EVENTS WITH HOW THEY WERE RUN AND ORGANIZED. THEY ARE ORIENTATED AROUND FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHICH WAS GOOD TO SEE, VERY SIMILAR TO AUSTRALIAN RACING."

**BAILEY CUNNINGHAM #81**  
BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA



# FROM BANDSNAP TO CHECKERED FLAG



## INTENSE RACING

### JETTRIBE MIDAMERICA WATERX



By: Justin Smith, Race Director | Photos: Charles Guinchard







# PERFECT PRO PAIRING = MAGNUSON PERFORMANCE & TAYLOR STEWART

**NBA** legend Michael Jordan once said that "talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships."

The talent of pro jet ski racer Taylor Stewart and the great minds at Magnuson Performance are impressive in their own right, but together? It's a new level of extraordinary.

When Magnuson Performance's content creator Ben Flohr first met Stewart at a jet ski event in Michigan City, Indiana, the Pit Viper racer was busy making connections.

"I like to get out in the crowd; I can't just sit in around," said Stewart, "I'm out walking the event, trying to talk to anyone. I can about the sport." His business mind (he's already got a landscaping company and an energy drink brand under his belt) fuels his drive to earn sponsors for his racing brand.

Magnuson Performance, a LaPorte, Indiana-based customization shop that offers Jeep and RAM customization options, from lift kits to HEMI Engine Swaps, offroad accessories, and anything else their clientele can dream up — saw an opportunity with Stewart to break into the heart-pounding, high-octane world of watersports.

The two connected quickly at the event, feeding off each other's bold vibes and passion for adrenaline.

"We immediately recognized potential with Taylor; we see how much of a presence he is on social media," said Flohr, "his energy was instantly a good match for Magnuson Performance. He was out there, talking to people, engaging with people — this is who we want to be involved with."

Not long after, the South Carolina native was on a plane to discuss sponsorship with Magnuson Performance. By the end of his visit to Northwest Indiana, Stewart didn't fly back home with a sponsorship; he drove back in his Magnuson Performance-sponsored, totally customized 2022 Jeep Gladiator.

"I've had a lot of people talk big and say they're going do something — and then never do," said Stewart, "when I met with Magnuson to talk sponsorship, I quickly learned that if they say they'll make it happen, they will. And they did."

When he's not actively racing jet skis, Stewart is either on the road driving across the country, or at home on his South Carolina farm where his new Jeep and its many custom modifications thanks to Magnuson Performance coming in clutch.

"We want to be THE go-to dealership for outdoor and auto enthusiasts in Taylor's world," said Flohr on behalf of Magnuson, whose partnership portfolio already boasts an array of pro and college athletes. "We see how dedicated Taylor is to promoting his sponsors on the road and we know he was the right choice to get our name out there." **PR**



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**JAKE ELLIS**

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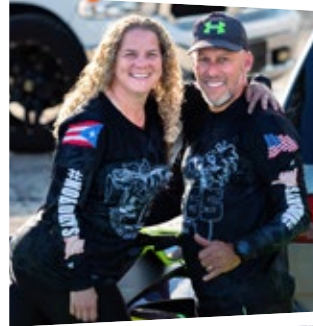


# 5<sup>TH ANNUAL</sup> RIVA KEY LARGO EXCURSION POWERED BY FLORIDA SKI RIDERS

**RIVA EXCURSION**  
"I WAS THERE"

By: Randy Cabrera | Photos: Zee Khan

2022 Riva Key Largo Excursion kicked off with 200 riders from all over the US who made their way to Florida to Key Largo for four days of riding. The event commenced with a free ride for riders to explore followed by mangrove riding and sightseeing then on to the famous alligator reef ride. The final stop was Islamorada sandbar followed by a meet and greet where riders put faces with names they had been talking with via social media. The final portion of the event started at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park to Christ of the Abyss, such an amazing area! The reef is beautiful and truly a spectacle to see! **PR**





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WavesRx was founded by two friends from sunny Sarasota, Florida who share a deep passion for open waters, and a deep appreciation for the freedom and excitement that one feels when riding their Boat or Jet Ski. We both love tinkering with our "water toys" always coming up with new product ideas for making our boating experience safer and more enjoyable. One day, in 2019, while brainstorming how to make a better beach anchor, we decided to share our ideas with the world and that's how WavesRx was born.

## OUR PASSION

Have you ever found yourself lost in the endless blue open waters, feeling the cool breeze gently touching your face and perfectly complementing the warmth of the summer sun? Have you ever gazed at a perfect sunset over the water while letting your daily stress and worries give way to a true feeling of awe and appreciation? If you had, you may be one of us, looking for any opportunity to spend more time on the water, be it sailing, fishing, or some adrenaline-filled Jet Ski fun.





# 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RUFF WATER RALLY FUND-RAISER

PRESENTED BY WNY PWC OWNERS,  
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DIAMONDS IN THE RUFF



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Photos: John Witt

The WNY PWC Owners raised just over \$5,000 for Diamonds in the Ruff Animal Rescue during their annual fundraiser on Lake Erie in New York. Each of the 80 participants received a swag bag with a commemorative poker chip, a copy of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, t-shirt, raffle ticket, and discount coupons for Turtle Joes Sandbar. A raffle was held for a restored 1993 Sea-Doo XP donated by Luke Laskowski. **PR**

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# VIRTUAL FREESTYLE BRINGS TOGETHER GLOBAL FREESTYLE COMMUNITY

**By:** Paul Hewitt, Founder and Creator of Virtual Freestyle  
**Photos:** Anthony Hadaway, Prairie Paint, Jessica Burtka, Gregor Szech

What started as a British response to the Covid pandemic three years ago, has become an acclaimed freestyle event with worldwide appeal. More than a competition, it brings together the global freestyle community, showing off the full range and diversity of freestyle talent across the world.

Competitor Gregor Szech, of Germany, put it succinctly: "You reached so many people, from all over, and made it possible for us to start out in the world of competitive freestyle."

The 2022 Virtual Freestyle Championships, attracted 27 competitors from six countries, including a record number of female riders, and more than 7,500 views.

Taking the win in 800CC was Paul Hewitt of Great Britain, closely pursued by Darren Ogden, Great Britain and Thomas Wolf, Germany third. Szech put on a confident display in his first ever freestyle competition, to become the Novice 800cc Champion.

800CC Open offers the opportunity to current aftermarket freestyle riders to show they have all the moves on a stock Yamaha Superjet. 1200cc riders Gary Burtka and Brad Turnbloom accepted the challenge, and in a closely fought contest, Gary narrowly took the win breaking the record for the world's longest fountain!

900CC was close, pitting USA versus UK. Adam Reynolds narrowly beat Demi Morgan to the win. Jason Wright, USA finished third.

Established now is the 1200cc Novice class, with many riders choosing to start their freestyle career on an aftermarket hull.

Dominic Trolio, USA took the win with his high action late night run, followed by Chris Taylor, Great Britain. Geno Bates, USA took third.

1200CC took on a new dimension with brothers Nolan and Gabe Jukish competing against each other for the first time. Watching their incredible routines, it's hard to believe they are only 14 and 16, respectively. Gabe took the 1200cc title, closely chased by brother Nolan. Third went to Brad Turnbloom who lit up the screen with combos and the event's only superflip.

**BEST TRICK TROPHIES:** Darren Ogden (800cc), Brad Turnbloom (800cc Open), Demi Morgan (900cc), Chris Taylor (1200cc Novice) and Brad Turnbloom (1200cc).

**JUDGES' SPECIAL AWARDS:** Chris Taylor (Most Inspirational Newcomer); Brad Turnbloom (Bravest Competitor).

WATCH FULL EVENT HERE!



Gregor Szech 800cc



Chris Taylor 1200cc Novice



Brad Turnbloom 1200cc superflip



Darren Ogden 800cc Monkey Jump



Gabe Jukish 1200cc



Adam Reynolds 900cc no handle



Gary Burtka with trophy



Gary Burtka 800cc Fountain



Paul Hewitt 800cc ski backwards



Dominic Trolio 1200cc Novice winner

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [BRITISHFREESTYLE.COM](http://BRITISHFREESTYLE.COM).

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### 800CC CLASS

Claire Hartung GER  
Sarah Krätzel GER  
Gregor Szech GER  
Darren Ogden UK  
Ile Ranta FIN  
Paul Hewitt UK  
Thomas Wolf GER

### 800CC OPEN

Gary Burtka USA  
Brad Turnbloom USA

### 900CC CLASS

Jason Wright USA  
Demi Morgan USA  
Brian Fredericksen USA  
Adam Reynolds UK

### 1200CC NOVICE CLASS

Rick Hawthorne USA  
Farzad Takaloo UK  
Geno Bates USA  
Dennis Saulnier CAN  
Chris Taylor UK  
Bailey Cunningham AUS  
Dominic Trolio USA

### 1200CC CLASS

Henry Li USA  
Gary Burtka USA  
Brad Turnbloom USA  
Gabe Jukish USA  
Nolan Jukish USA  
Tony Blair AUS

### JUDGES

Vaclav Zacel – Chief Judge  
Mark Sickerling – Variety  
Michael Ratti – Difficulty  
Mark Curtis – Flow  
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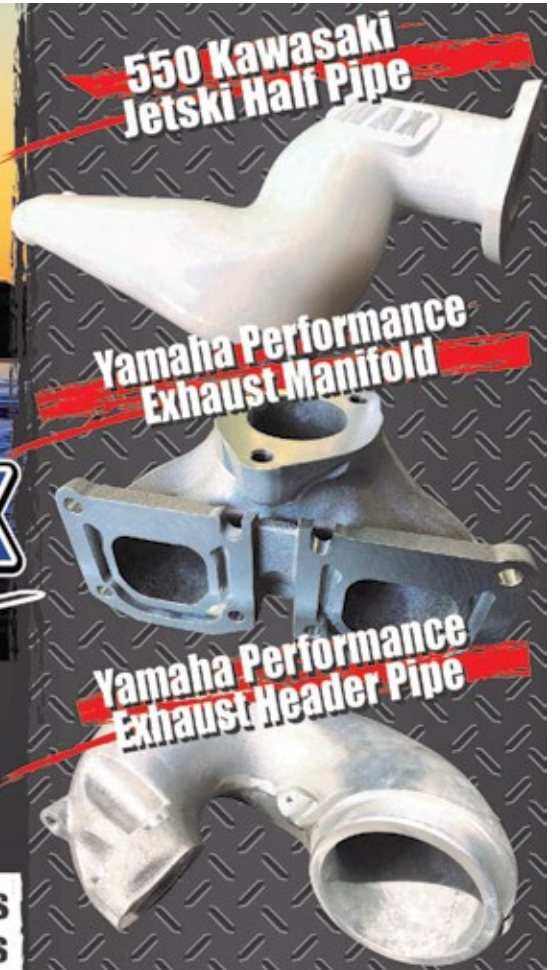


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# CHATTANOOGA WATERCROSS PREMIER IS BACK AFTER 30 YEAR ABSENCE!



By: Keith McAfee  
Photos: Ginger Sumerlin Photography

The Chattanooga Jet Ski Club recently hosted the first jet ski race held in the Chattanooga area since the 1990's! A soggy weekend turned out to be an amazing time as nothing dampened the spirits of the 97 racers in attendance.

Race festivities began with a Corporate Challenge followed by the Junior Stars program. The Corporate Challenge provided local organizations team building opportunities while experiencing the thrill of racing. Teams competed for bragging rights while raising money for The Forgotten Child Fund, which benefited from the competition among a local plumbing company, the Chattanooga Police Department, the United States Marine Corps recruiting office, and the Chattanooga Sports Commission. (Plumbers won!)

The Junior Stars program allowed 21 juniors to gain knowledge of racing rules with full access to the course. Justin Smith and seasoned riders led the program.

Nearly 100 racers participated with 140 skis, all makes and models. Spectator boats anchored outside the course, as 300 viewers lined the shore. Lines were full, racers revving to go at the starts. Most exciting was the healthy lines of juniors, who showed remarkable sportsmanship. Lighthearted moments amid the competition, included starting line shenanigans of pros Matthew Richuk and Jimmy Wilson, who instead of taking a holeshot and leading the pack, waited until the start line cleared and yielded to the winner of paper, rock, scissors.

The Chattanooga Jet Ski Club expresses appreciation to Nautiwater Racing and Jettribe USA for their partnership to bring this event to the Southeast and to Race Director, Justin Smith, who kept the action moving. Thanks to Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, Reagan Outdoor Advertising, Chase Plumbing and Mechanical, White's Cycle and Marine, and Doubletree Hotel of Downtown Chattanooga. We thank Tim Morgan and his team at visitchattanooga.com for by coming on board as the first sponsor.



**Most of all, thanks to all who came to Chattanooga to race! If not for you, it would not have been successful. Some racers drove 20 hours, some drove 20 minutes — thank you all! As we look to launch a brand-new series next year, we hope you will come back to the south and race again! PR**



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# A COMPETITION WITHIN A FREERIDE

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Brave the Wave

SPONSORED BY MICHIGAN WAVE MAKERS

By: Ryan Kulka | Photos: Candice Kulka



Year six is in the books and what an amazing event it was! Brave the Wave held at Green's Park, Lake Orion in Michigan, has not altered its grass roots approach; smiles and fun from start to finish! With 75 participants and the best of the best in freestyle and racing, Brave the Wave included nonstop, action-packed excitement from 'Chicken' Racing to GP1 to high flying Freestyle. The slalom course was intense, and racers loved it. We had so many world champions at Brave it was hard to believe, including Chip 'Chips Ahoy' Gillan 1988 World Champion and 2021 Amateur Freestyle World Champion Gabe Jukish and many more.

Special thanks to our charity Dutton Farm ([www.duttonfarm.org](http://www.duttonfarm.org)). Year seven is looking great and we are excited to keep the athletes happy with true enthusiasm. A competition within a freeride, it's hard to tell which one we are, and we will always keep it that way. Thank you to all sponsors, donors, and Lake Orion municipal workers for all they do to ensure a successful event year after year! **PR**





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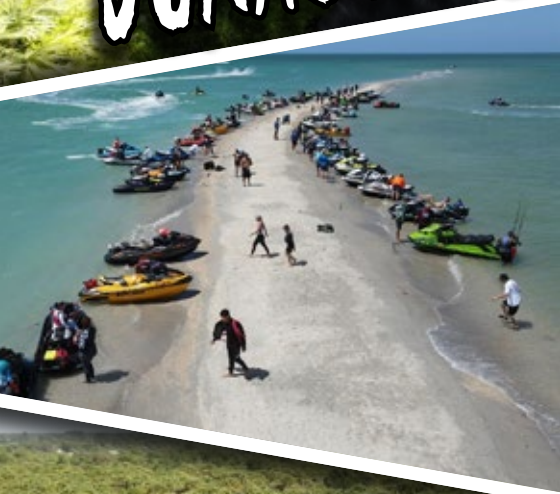
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# JURASSIC RIVER RIDE

Story and photos: Rob Chanclata



A retired police officer from NJ, turned truck driver, drone pilot and YouTuber, born and raised in NJ, I was always anxious coming out of winter into spring to get my ski out and on the water. My first ski was a '97 Sea-Doo XP in 1998 after being introduced to the ski life by my brother and his modded '96 Sea-Doo XP. The power launching from a stop or off chop was exhilarating. I was instantly hooked. In 2002 I joined a group of wave jumpers at Long Beach Island, NJ called the Barnegat Light Riders.

On our Yamaha GP1800 and Yamaha VXR we frequented many places including Lake George in upstate NY, Treasure Island in Brielle, NJ, and lakes in Pennsylvania within the 4 short warm months of riding. In 2020

we moved to Lakeland, Florida making it easy to travel in any direction where the most exciting water life exists and year-round riding weather!

My wife Maria and I go everywhere together on our 2021 FX SVHO Limited. She's my ride or die and helps with drone footage for my YouTube channel which is all about helping others experience my weekly rides at their convenience. I enjoy helping people and this is my way of doing that.

The 'Jurassic' River Ride is the Kissimmee River in Kissimmee, Florida. I love this ride! It's basically a water racetrack, exciting and intense with side trails and an Amazon Jungle feel, alligators around every corner. 25 riders

participated in the 115-mile ride with 3 lead skis. A local ski group checked the river the previous day for obstacles and water level. Safety instructions were provided at the ramp before launch and reminders in the river's lock to keep a straight line and following distance from each other.

Favorite places to ride include Silver Glen Spring, Rainbow River, and Silver Springs, Crab Island in Destin, Alligator Reef, and Anclote Island. Maria loves blue salt water; I love blue fresh water, so we compromise. My best advice to any PWC rider is to keep a safe distance from other skiers, ride at a safe speed and in line. I hope to experience 'spring hopping' at Suwannee River and the Tennessee Waterfalls Ride. **PR**





# THE FINAL COUNTDOWN



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# FUEL 101

By: Greg Gaddis AKA "Hulk Junior"

GREENHULK.NET



There's many misconceptions when it comes to what gasoline should be used in your watercraft. Some believe premium fuel or ethanol free is required, or the cheapest gasoline on the market will be just fine. Depending on the application, the answer will be different.

What is the difference between premium, mid-grade, and low octane fuel? Gasoline's octane rating is simply the fuel's resistance to knock; higher octane fuels are less resistant to preignition/detonation/knock. Higher octane fuel is required in high performance applications. In today's modern four-stroke PWCs with supercharged engines or high compression naturally aspirated engines, 91 octane gasoline is needed! Lower octane fuels used in these applications will cause detonation that could damage your engine, hurt overall performance, and reduce fuel economy.

If low octane fuel is the only thing available and your watercraft requires 91 octane or higher, it can be used if you don't ride hard or run wide open. There are knock sensors on modern engines that reduce ignition timing to protect your engine in a worst-case scenario. However, 91 octane in a watercraft that doesn't require it won't increase the performance or fuel economy; there won't be any difference between using the cheapest fuel at the pump.

Ethanol. What is it and is it necessary? Ethanol is fuel made from corn with an octane rating of 113; ethanol has a far higher octane rating than pump-gasoline, is cheaper, but less efficient and will destroy a fuel system not designed for it. Because of the low cost of ethanol and its high-octane properties, ethanol is typically added to pump gasoline in small quantities. Most pump gas contains 10% of ethanol and is suitable in any modern engine. All fuel-injected four-stroke watercraft can handle pump gas with 10% ethanol without a problem (the fuel system was designed for it). Ethanol tends to be a problem on older vehicles/PWCs that are carbureted; these fuel systems were never designed to process ethanol and will cause fuel lines to crack, carburetors to "gum up" and fuel pumps to fail. The easiest answer for the fuel required can be found in your owner's manual!

Regardless of make and model, there's a specific fuel to use. Using low octane fuel in an engine designed for high octane will ultimately result in engine damage; fuel containing ethanol in an application designed for ethanol free gasoline will cause problems. It's better to be safe than sorry and refer to your manual.

If damage has occurred, the GreenHulk store has everything you need to repair your watercraft or upgrade. All WORX Racing products, all FIZZLE Intercoolers, and most RIVA Racing products can be bought at a 10% discount in the Greenhulk Store, use coupon code "greenhulk" at checkout.

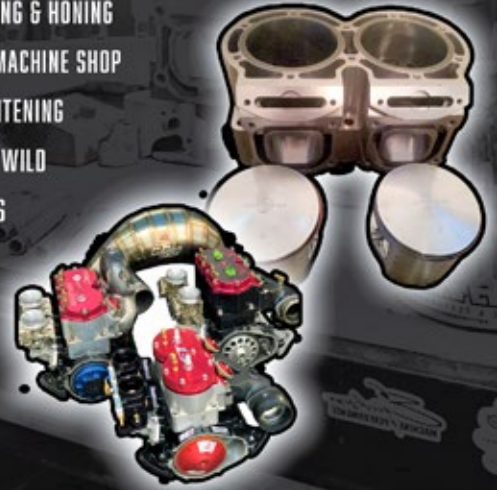


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Created in 2017 to give PWC enthusiasts the experience of a lifetime, the 2022 NYC Jetski Invasion attracted riders from all over the USA and Canada! New York City has many historic landmarks including the Brooklyn Bridge, Statue of Liberty, World Trade Center, and The Intrepid Museum. What better way to enjoy the best city in the world than from your own personal watercraft! The NYC JETSKI INVASION ride was organized by several local jetski clubs. The first year the ride attracted 200 riders, fast forward to 2022 where close to 800 riders participated! As the ride progressed each year, the U.S Coast Guard and NYPD Harbor joined to provide support and to keep everyone safe. Each year we collect donations and sponsorship for the ride to donate to a good cause. This year's recipient was the National Coast Guard Foundation.

The PWC community just keeps growing, making friendships and connecting, we hope to see you all at the next NYC JETSKI INVASION! **PR**

# THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

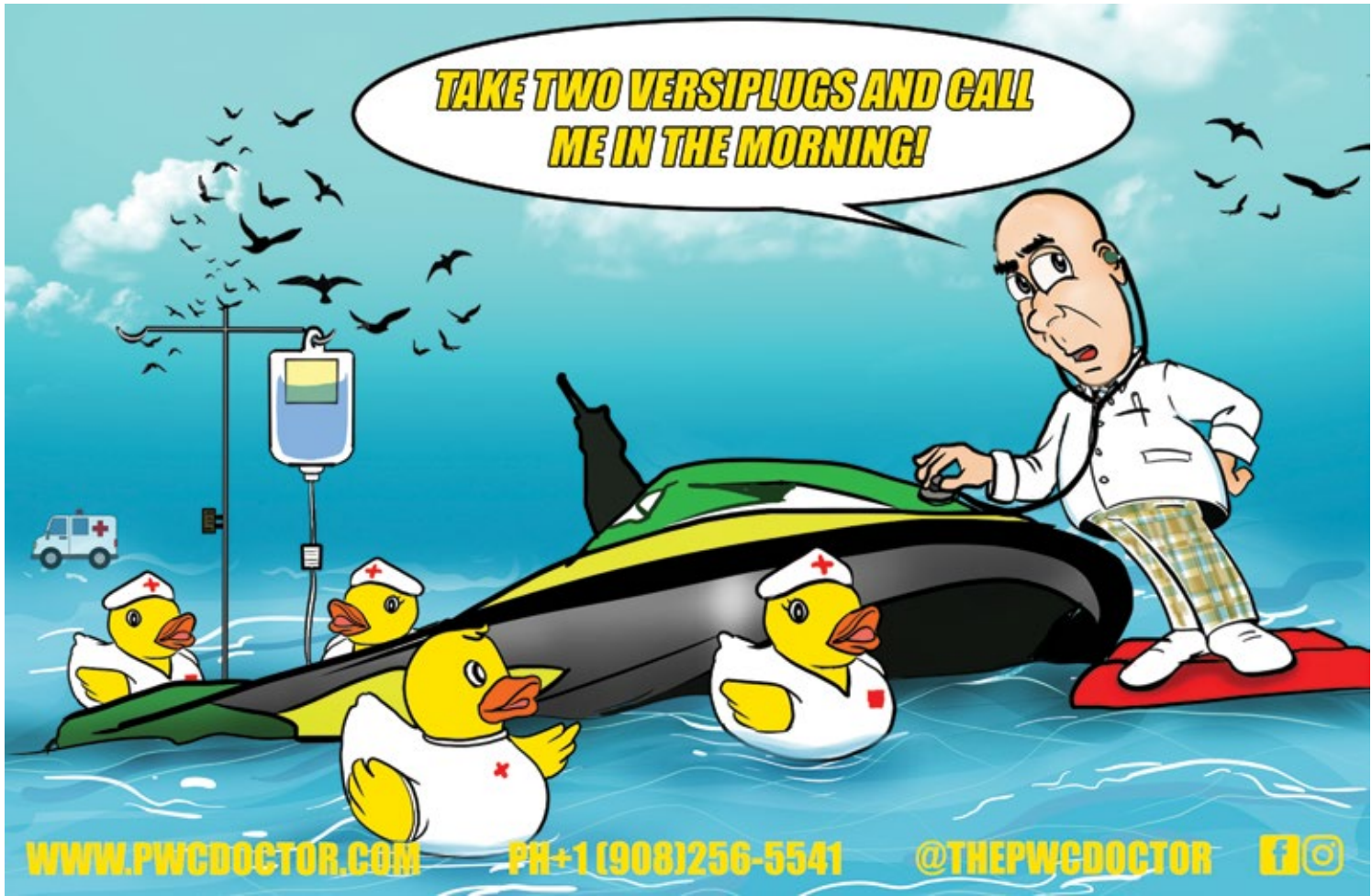
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By: Adam Lao, H2O Addicts | Photos: @princezee





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By: Tommy Nuttall,  
E-RYT Yoga Teacher / Fitness Coach

Photos: Zane Nuttall

Exercise Demonstrators:  
Tommy Nuttall, Dakota Nuttall

## DON'T OVERLOOK *POST RIDING RECOVERY*

After an exhausting ride on your PWC, you may be tempted to load up the trailer, jump in your vehicle and drive home. Unfortunately, getting off your feet too soon could cause muscles and tendons to tighten, leading to soreness and tightness. Muscle recovery is a complex process, often overlooked. Jet skiing is an athletic activity.

When you treat it like that and use proper recovery methods, soreness and injuries are minimized. Recovery methods suggested are hydration, stretching, and foam rolling.

A day in the sun causes your body to generate excess heat; excitement and intensity of watercraft riding in the sun increases body heat thus the need for additional hydration.

Drink at least 12-20 ounces of water directly after getting off the water.

Following proper hydration, I recommend full body standing stretches and foam rolling. There are many other excellent yoga stretches for athletic recovery, such as downward dog and pigeon poses.



CHEST OPENING STRETCH



REACH HIGH HANG LOW



SIDE STRETCH



### SIDE STRETCH:

1. Root feet firmly into the ground.
2. Inhale, raise arms overhead.
3. Interlock fingers, extend index fingers like a pointer.
4. Exhale, bend to the right.
5. Hold, inhale, lift the torso to the upright position.
6. Exhale, bend to the left.
7. Hold, inhale, lift torso to an upright posture, repeat.



FOAM ROLLING HIP & GLUTE



FOAM ROLLING UPPER BACK

### FOAM ROLLING HIP & GLUTE:

1. Sit on roller on right hip, plant right hand on floor 6-12 inches behind you.
2. Cross right ankle over left knee in a figure four position.
3. Slightly shift weight to right hip/glute area, roll back and forth a few inches each direction for 30 seconds. Repeat on opposite side.

### FOAM ROLLING UPPER BACK:

1. Rest your upper back over the foam roller.
2. Lift hips, gently roll your body up and down the foam roller with hands clasped behind your head.
3. Breathe deeply, slowly, and gently extend your upper back over roller as you open the ribs and lift the heart.
4. Feel great after!





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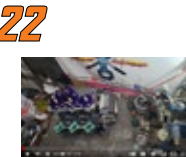
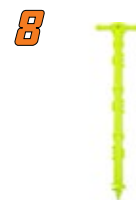
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Story and photos: Glen Cox, GC Jetski Fishing, Auckland, New Zealand

### GC JETSKI FISHING



ALBACORE TUNA



MAHI MAHI



Eight years ago, I was set upon reliving a favorite childhood pastime — fishing. I briefly fished off a kayak but wanted more. In search of a boat, my funds wouldn't allow me the kind I wanted, so I set my sights on a PWC, a 2010 Sea-Doo GTX.

I kitted the Sea-Doo out for fishing with whatever parts were available at the time, started catching fish and having a blast! A PWC provides incredible freedom on the water, add fishing to the mix and you can't go wrong. Living in Auckland, New Zealand I'm never far from water, out there every chance I got exploring new locations, catching new

species of fish, my all-time favorite being the insanely strong Yellowtail Kingfish.

To share my amazing experiences with others I created a YouTube channel "GC Jetski Fishing" to upload my fishing trips in vlog style format. Gaining a following online led to making new friends and encouraging more people into the sport.

Upgrading to a new 2019 Yamaha Waverunner FXHO, and wanting to do things differently, I used this new ski as a platform to create a range of accessories as there simply wasn't much available, from rod holder kits, fish finder mounts, auxiliary fuel tanks and more.

Viewers soon wanted the same parts - this was the moment my brand and website [www.gcjetskifishing.com](http://www.gcjetskifishing.com), was born.

Using lures instead of bait was new to me, which was another learning curve, but a PWC makes for the perfect 360-degree fishing platform. I often scout new areas searching for fish with a Lowrance HDS LIVE 12 then casting lures at them rather than sitting in one spot waiting for a nibble on bait, which has turned my fishing trips into "hunting trips" on water, adding to the adventure factor!

There is an undeniable popularity growing world-wide with PWC fishing. **PR**



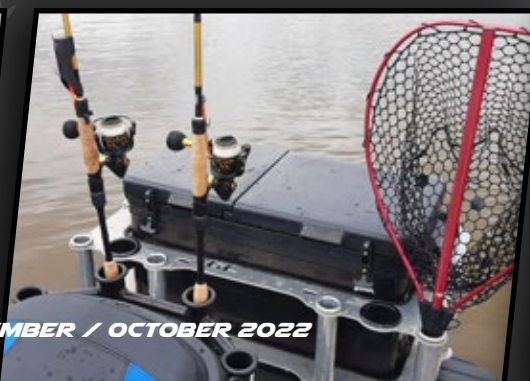
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*Kings River Invasion*

Jared Conder of Fresno, California found jet skis 10 years ago when he had a little extra cash in his pocket. He bought a 650SX for \$1,200 which had a few goodies and aftermarket parts; he drove his little family 3 hours to the coast and picked it up. "Since then, it's been a game changer for me and my life," shared Jared. "I started racing in 2019 with Jet Jam. I came in last but oh man it was such a blast and I have loved racing ever since!" 559 Standups is a local jet ski group over 500 strong. "We have a very strong community and great group of guys and gals that love to ride jet skis. The group is active online and in person at our local riding spot. I knew there was something more I could do to bring us all together and in a short time 559 Standups was born concentrated mainly in Central Valley, California," said Jared. The group often gets together at a local private lake they refer to as "the spot" and pride themselves on keeping it as their secret jet ski oasis.

They recently held their 4th Annual Kings River Invasion. "The Kings River is a great venue with million-dollar mansions along the river. There are several places to drop in and beautiful locations to spend the day with your family. I'm so happy I got into jet skis and have met many great people through the sport and plan to do this for the rest of my life. My children are growing and they're getting into the sport as well. There are so many things good about jet skis: the people, the events and of course the jet skis themselves; so glad I took a chance all those years ago and went out to spend \$1,500 on my 650sx which I still have to this day!" **PR**



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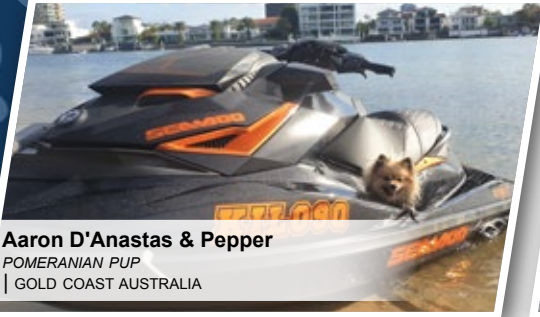
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**Kelly Graham & Saffron**

“Whenever I take my ski out, Saffron gets mad, goes to the back of the ski and sniffs the rear like it’s an animal.”

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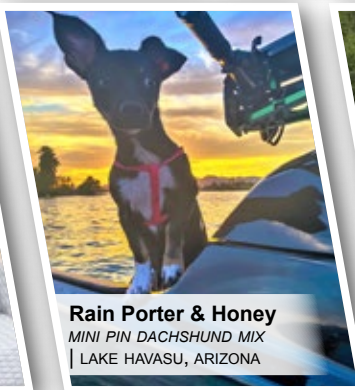
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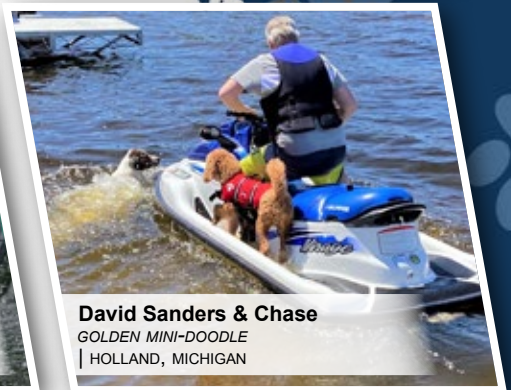
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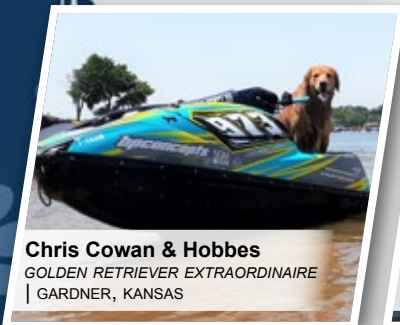
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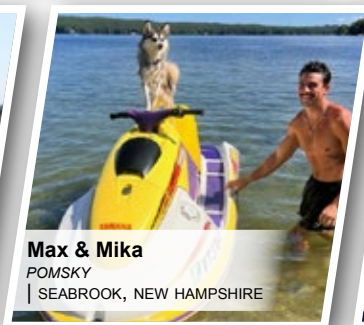
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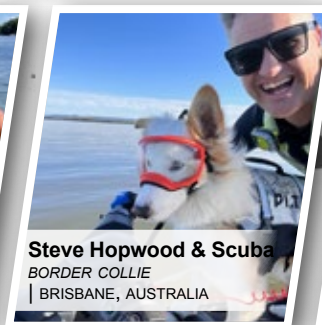
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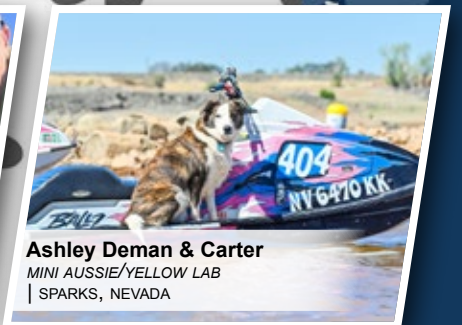
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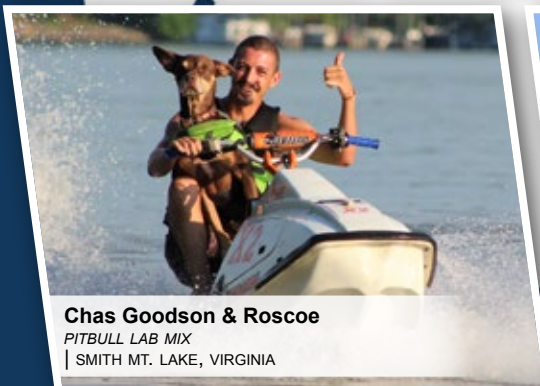
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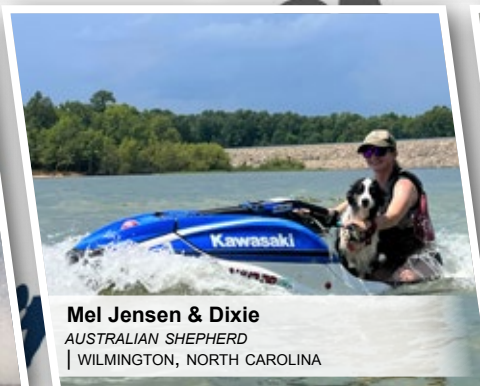
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# HISTORY MADE

## AT FULL THROTTLE WATER X!

LIQUI MOLY

PRO WATERCROSS

### FULL THROTTLE WATER X

By: Nicole Pettit, Full Throttle WaterX Coordinator  
Photos: Kenny Wong, KDW Sports Photography; Chris Liu



Racers converged in Nor Cal at favorite race spot Camp Far West, Wheatland, CA. Although water levels dropped tremendously, amazing weather was enjoyed, and the Full Throttle Water X staff and riders made the best of it.

Shout out to Amanda Gutierrez, aka Mandy from the World Finals tower, for totally owning, and rocking the tower! She has become the second female flagger in the world! Congratulations for making history at our event. Huge applause for the funny and amazing Jim Dietz for announcing in Lisa Price's absence. Jim was on point and kept fans on the beach in stitches. Dad to Madison and Mason and owner of 771 Industries, Jim is a sponsor of the north races.

The fullest class was Sport Spec dominated by beautiful Isabella Parker #169 of Reno, NV. Keep your eye on her! Sport Spec is very strong in the north. It was nice seeing Tom Yamamoto #21 back on the water taking wins in the X2 class.

Thank you to new Junior riders Brandon Wong #921, Ronin Dragon #855, Arianna Chen #111, Alexis Chen #27, Z Baker #45, Destry Smith #520 and Gavin Hoggard #752 for making their debuts at our races. You are the future of this sport! Thank you and congratulations to David Zipperian #508 of Tucson, AZ for attending every race in 2022 and taking control of the wins in Ski Stock and 30+ Ski Stock. **PR**



KDW PHOTOS





**RESULTS AND DETAILS**  
[HTTPS://WWW.FTWXRACING.COM](https://www.ftwxracing.com)





# AN EVENT OF CHANGE WAVERAVE FREERIDE 2022

By: Jim Kwiatkowski | Photos: Chad Rankin, Adam Herrema, Andy White, Jim Kwiatkowski, Brent Thomas, Toby Fredericksen



One of the great things about a freeride is they are different every year. The 2022 WaveRave Freeride in New Era, Michigan, could be easily summed up as an event of change.

One of those changes started after last year's event when Chad Rankin, Crankin Customs and Adam Herrema, Water Slut Mafia took the lead, planning and steering this event into its brighter future. New and more sponsors were brought aboard in addition to existing sponsors. Hype through social media ramped up. As a result, reservations at the 68 site Claybanks Township campground quickly sold out. A buzz of excitement led up to this year's event!

Jet skis and campers rolled in resulting in a busy beachfront with 79 skis. Warm weather, sunny skies and warm water made for great riding, but change was looming! Lake Michigan showed why it's one of the 'Great Lakes' as the current flipped resulting in a 20° drop in water temperature! Sun gave way to clouds as wind kicked up off the lake generating nice waves. Changes continued with heavy storms and larger waves; Freeriders not chased away by the rain, were rewarded with big waves!

Cold water, cold weather, and rain didn't stop the Michigan crew from hitting the beach to take advantage of the waves. Campfires, stoves, and a makeshift beach hot tub were attempts to stay warm and stay on the beach to get in as much riding as possible!

The rain finally ended, and we wrapped up with a great raffle courtesy of generous sponsors!

This year's event brought jet skiers from the East and West Coasts, and many states in between. We look forward to the event's continued growth with Chad and Adam leading the way! **PR**



CHECK OUT ALL THE ACTION AND KEEP UP ON THE EVENT FOR 2023 AT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/966717318836128](https://www.facebook.com/groups/966717318836128)





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# OUR WHITSUNDAYS PLAYGROUND

Story and photos: Morné du Rand



June through November Humpback whales migrate up the east coast of Australia to tropical waters, giving birth then moving back down the coast to cooler southern waters. The waters come alive with spectacular displays of whales breaching and playing with their newborns. One of the best ways to experience the beautiful Whitsunday Islands is on a PWC.

While exploring the islands keep a watchful eye out for whales as they may be swimming silently with the occasional puff of a waterspout as they come up for air. Although it is tempting to go closer for a better view, regulations dictate watercraft keep a safe distance away to protect them.

Recently, we were lucky to experience whales coming close as we turned off our skis and sat quietly, patiently watching them swim. It was a little scary seeing them so close as their sheer size compared to our jetskis made us feel so small.

The Whitsunday Islands, between the northeast coast of Queensland, Australia, and the Great Barrier Reef, is our playground, with 74 islands to explore and the world-famous Hill Inlet on Whitehaven Beach, with crystal clear blue water and silica white sands. Hook Island, with high mountains on either side shelter the inlet creating glassed out riding conditions. **PR**





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**MODELS:** Jenelle Revelino and Maggie Jensen  
**PHOTO:** Kenny Wong

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# AQUABIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

IBIZA, SPAIN & EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP ELK, POLAND

**aquabike**  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

By: Dawn Dawson | Photos: Arek Rejs, Aquabike European Circuit Championship 2022, Simon Palfreder

In 654 BC, Phoenicians settled on a resource-rich island in the Balearic Sea, with crystal clear blue waters. They named it Ibohim, "dedicated to Bes" the Egyptian god of song and dance. In 2022, Bes' legacy is alive in the clubbing capital of the universe-Ibiza.

Eight years since Aquabike was in Spain, the stellar destination attracted 120 riders from 25 countries competing in 9 classes, 13-16 riders in each. It marked the start of the season, and important milestones for many drivers.

Runabout GP 1, Dane Marcus Jorgensen scored his first GP victory in Aquabike since 2016. Kuwaiti strategist, Yousef Abdulrazzaq and Swedish powerhouse, Samuel Johansson, were Jorgensen's chasers in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. These riders managed to trump Easy Rider champions, Francois Medori, Jeremy Perez and Gyorgy Kasza.

Nacho Armillas, fresh off winning the overall Aquabike World Championship in 2021, was hungry for a hometown win, and got it, joined on the podium by French rider, Axel Courtois.

Ski Ladies class was a celebration of some of the fastest ladies in racing which made Jasmiin Ypraus' triple ace sweep victory one of the most sensational on the tour. Armed with a faster ski, France's Jessica Chavanne is having her time in the sun, earning praise for her riding style, chased by fast and sharp Krista Uzare.

The Mattiases from Estonia dominated podiums in 4 categories. Mattias Reinaas nabbed Ski GP2 and GP3 while Mattias Siimann took Runabout GP2 and GP4. Nikola Dryjakova, Czech Republic took Runabout GP4 Ladies title.

Elk, Poland is one of Aquabike's favorite stops with beautiful weather, perfect water temperatures and a host of new and familiar talents. 106 riders attended.

In Runabout GP1 squad well-seasoned veterans held off young gun: namely the battle of Gyorgy Kasza, Andrzej Wisniewski and Francois Medori with Samuel Johansson. Samuel, at only 20, has come a long way, nabbing podiums at every Aquabike stop in the last 2 years. On the other side of the boat

are titanic contenders multi world champion and boat builder, Kasza, Polish powerhouse Wisniewski, and multiple European and national champion, Medori. Sam missed the podium by two points to GP of Poland champ, Gyorgy Kasza, followed by Wisniewski second and Francois Medori third.

A nod of acknowledgement to the fierce Runabout Veterans category with Nerjus Juodis and Tomas Gursksnys, from Lithuania, taking first and second followed by Atilla Ker, Hungary, third.

Finland's Severi Salonen took the Ski GP1 title and France's Virginie Morlaes took her first Aquabike Ski Ladies GP1 title.

During conversations with the Polish, you'll inevitably hear a string of 'dobry, dobry, dobry' (pronounced 'doh-bra') meaning good, good, good and sums up the lifestyle these Polish riders embody. They are passionate, flexible, and caring. No matter what happens, everything is dobry.

**Aquabike's party continues at the next stop in Olbia, Italy in mid-September, with record numbers of riders expected and a new category to debut! PR**







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**SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2022**



**JAVIER**

**JAVIER FALCON**

**Photos:** Charles Guinchard; Ria Brown

**AGE:** 13

**HOMETOWN:** Quinlan, Texas

**SKI:** 2021 4 stroke Superjet, borrowed 2 stroke Superjet Tigercraft

**RACE #:** 106

**RIDING:** Freestyle and racer

**LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS:** Staying ahead of the pack and moving up.

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER:** Learning how to do a back flip on my stepdad's Tigercraft, what a thrill!

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** Lake Tawakoni, Quinlan, Texas

**SPONSORS:** Binley Plumbing, Greener Grass Landscaping



**ANDREW**

**ANDREW VO**

**Photos:** Charles Guinchard

**AGE:** 13

**HOMETOWN:** Recently moved from Southern California to Sulphur Springs, Texas

**SKI:** 2021 Yamaha Superjet, 2014 Yamaha Superjet

**RACE #:** 160 (Larry Spector's #)

**RIDING:** Junior Racer, Rec Rider

**LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS:** Place 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the Jettribe Mid America Watercross Championship in Junior (13-15) 4 strokes lites. Placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall in Junior (13-15) 2 strokes lites at the Jettribe Mid America series.

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER:** I almost hit a friend during a race in the water, scary moment.

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** Anywhere there is water and some buoys.

**SPONSORS:** My parents, Jettribe, Deplorable Racing, Jet Shed and BNJ



**RONIN**

**RONIN DRAGON**

**Photos:** Kenny Wong

**AGE:** 13

**HOMETOWN:** Auburn, California

**SKI:** Kawasaki SXR 800

**RACE #:** 328 | **RIDING:** Racer

**LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS:** As of rounds 6-7 I lead in points for Full Throttle WaterX in my first racing season.

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT ON THE WATER:** In August my ski's steering cable broke the first lap of my 2<sup>nd</sup> moto. I thought I wouldn't be able to finish racing, but the next day Chris Wilson offered me a chance to race his Lites ski. With no experience and not being used to it, I secured first-place both motos.

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** Camp Far West, Wheatland, California

**SPONSORS:** Top End Unlimited, Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, Sacramento Jet Ski Club, 771 Industries, Pro Watercraft Racing, GoPro, Works H2O, EVS Sports, Scott Sports, Spy Eyewear





# DELAMINATION PLAGUES DRIVERS AT CAYMAN ISLANDS WATERCRAFT ASSOCIATION P1 AQUAX NATIONALS

By: Mike Young | Photos: Kelsey Rae-Smith



Cayman Islands Watercraft Assn. P1AquaX Nationals was held at South Sound. Special thanks to the Honorable Mr. Bernie Bush, Minister of Youth, Sports, Culture & Heritage, who inadvertently became a 'race spotter' and is a great supporter of CIWA! The beach was packed with eager fans as 4 classes took center stage under uncertain weather conditions. But the Caymans seem to make everything beautiful as rain subsided just prior to a Lap of Silence in remembrance of Eric "The Eagle" Francis. In Beginner Class, first time racer Aaliyah Ebanks, took all 3 motos over points leaders James "Bond" Munroe, Rene Ortega, and Jevon Dilbert. It was fun watching these youngsters battle it out. Novice Class racer, Leroy Whittaker collected 3 wins for the daily

overall, however, Joshua Watler put in great effort attaining 2<sup>nd</sup> with Brandon Elliot 3<sup>rd</sup>. Amateur Class was filled with drama. Dylan McLaughlin came out strong however his hull delaminated forcing him off the track, opening the door for Tony's Toys racer, Cline Glidden to take advantage and the win. McLaughlin took 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wes Tec's, Chris Bodden, racing consistently, remains the one to watch. Pro Class racer from the Panton St. Performance Racing team, Matthew Panton, unstoppable during the first CIWA Race, had issues off the start and Seth Watler, from Team Nuttin 2 Lose, found himself on top on his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday week. JJ McLean, former IJSBA World Champion, had a clutch problem, the lunch break was his benefactor, or so he thought. JJ holed out only to come off the

track, just before the end of the final moto, another victim of delamination! Panton, and Watler battled it out. Panton took the win, but both were Champs!

*Thanks to Mr. Rene Hyslop for use of the venue and sponsors: Cayman Islands Ministry of Youth, Sports Culture & Heritage, and the Cayman Islands Government, JNM Equipment, Health City Cayman Islands, Car City, National Logistics, Pepsi & CEL Distributors, FastSigns, Automotive Art, Paragon Builders, Flowers, Verdant Isle Farms, JUS Marine, Cayman Beach Solutions, Jak's Kitchen, Murph's Kitchen, The Bird, Kelsey Rae-Smith Photography, Tim Shady Photography and Friends and Frames. Thanks to our amazing CIWA Team who works tirelessly to ensure a great event. PR*







# THE FLEAS ARE OUT

## The BEAVER LAKE FLEAS that is!

By: Jordan Paul | Photos: Jeff Parker, Jordan Paul

Thirty-three-year-old Jordan Paul, an Army Vet, married to Christina with children Kydin and Kailee lives in the beautiful city of Bentonville, Arkansas. Jordan became interested in PWCs in high school but didn't get his first PWC until 2018, a 2008 Yamaha VX Deluxe. *"This machine helped me learn how to operate one safely. I spent a lot of time in the water learning and rebuilding upper body strength. After convincing my wife we needed new machines we ended up with a pair of 2013 Sea-Doo GTX 155s and this is when I was able to get the whole family involved!"* said Jordan.

The Beaver Lake Fleas came into existence in 2019 after group creator, Jeff Parker and a friend were puttering around, having a good ole time. They were approached by a fisherman complaining, 'Well, looks like the darn fleas are out already' thus, Beaver Lake Fleas was born!

The group was created to attract PWC owners, meet new people, teach each other tips and tricks for proper use and most importantly grow the community and erase the bad reputation of PWCs from other watercraft owners' eyes.

Our most recent 'Beaver Fleas Invade Table Rock Lake' was our longest ride. Starting at Eagle Rock, MO, we traveled eastward 62 miles in rough waters to Bass Pro Marina in Branson, MO. Before heading back, we rode to a small town, Beaver, AR, where we saw the local attraction, Little Golden Gate Bridge, in total 150 miles. We took on one of the roughest lakes in our area as we have an open ocean trip planned for 2023 and wanted to set speed / fuel consumption expectations.

Favorite ride location is the northern most part of Beaver Lake. Water is always 10° cooler than the south and has some of the best scenery on the lake, from waterfalls, to bluffs, and even a castle!

My best advice is always keep your head on a swivel. Don't assume everyone is going to watch out for you. Keep a safe distance between riders.

Plans for the rest of the year include Season Close meet and greet- we put on 3 BBQs per season north, middle, and south so all members have an opportunity to attend at least one, and Beaver Lake Fleas Halloween dress up and cruise.

For 2023 looking to invade Bull Shoals Lake, AR and Grand Lake, OK; our big trip is to load up, drive to Florida, and ride from Miami to Bimini Bahamas. **PR**







# Family Fun and Cash Prizes! PACIFIC NORTHWEST WATER X

Story and photos: Tanner Veillette, Positive Phocus



The 2022 PNW WaterX Apple Pie Jamboree in Pateros, Washington did not disappoint with more than 3,000 spectators! From the opening parade to the final races on the Columbia River, there were activities and games for the entire family including pie eating contests, vendors selling art, toys, and all kinds of food, and even a basketball tournament where streets were blocked off for the crowds to cheer everyone on just feet from the water's edge where you could smell the exhaust from jet skis racing by.

For racers, the event started early as everyone pitched in to help unload the trailer and set up the course. The 'jetski family' is no term to underestimate and it showed throughout the entire event. Racers and family members came together as always and made sure each ski was running properly and competition worthy regardless of who was riding it. Having five brand new racers to the sport during this event was exciting to see, but what made it even better was how everyone unanimously agreed to take the extra time to show them the course layout and give pointers with a few practice laps.

### Winners of cash prizes sponsored by IMPROS:

- 1<sup>ST</sup>: CURTIS PITMAN, #23,**  
Lake Stevens, WA
- 2<sup>ND</sup>: EMERY KNOTTS,**  
Yakima, WA
- 3<sup>RD</sup>: JAKE STARBARD, #65,**  
Lynnwood, WA
- 4<sup>TH</sup>: NATHAN LESH, #4,**  
Stanwood, WA

Pitman also crushed the Ski GP Open class.

Special thank you to Lance Klecker, Michael McIntyre, and Seth McNeil for hosting the event as well as IMPROS and Pro Caliber Motorsport of Vancouver for their sponsorship. **PR**



Photo: Rachel Joy Skittrall Photography





# TO WEAR OR NOT TO WEAR A HELMET

By: Kay McKay, Water Safety Instructor



How many times have you loaded your ski, and thought, "there's so much gear to pack, gas cans, scissor stand, anchor, wetsuit, gloves, boots, cooler the list goes on," the thought crosses your mind, "should I grab a helmet?" While you will not come across a racer that doesn't pack a helmet, (required to pass tech), as a rec-rider, this trend seems to be growing thankfully.

It's shown in other sports, particularly football, that the brain and concussions have been on the forefront in studies for quite some time. In a Harvard Medical School article titled, "Concussion Repercussion" by Ekaterina Pesheva, shea reports, "For the study, former players, average age 53, were asked about the number of seasons played in the NFL, their positions and history of blows to the head or neck followed by symptoms of concussion such as dizziness, confusion, vision problems, loss of consciousness, nausea, headaches, and seizures,

among other symptoms. Based on the number and severity of symptoms, players were given a concussion score. Overall, one in eight players (12%) reported signs of serious cognitive problems."

Most of us know a few people that have raced or been riding, took that wave wrong, and presented one or more of the symptoms above. Our sport tends to offer additional hazards that present unique opportunities for the brain to be shaken if a rider comes off a wave just right. Industry experts who have ridden for many years, recommend some form of helmet. For racing, always check with your promoter or sanctioning body's rules for helmets; most of the time you will see a recommendation for a DOT approved, open-face motocross style helmet, however, on occasion riders wear full-faced helmets for more protection. Freestylers tend to wear a lighter helmet like a mountain biking helmet. Wear a helmet, your brain will thank you! **PR**

*\*Reference: Harvard Medical School News Article, "Concussion Repercussion" by: Ekaterina Pesheva August 30, 2019*

Kenny Wong >>>  
KDW Photos



**FRONT AND BACK CORNER SUPPORTS INSTALLED**



**FRONT SUPPORTS**

**REAR SUPPORTS**



**REAR SUPPORTS INSTALLED**

## UNDER HOOD FRONT CORNER SUPPORTS



GPO Jet Ski has been making a splash producing innovative, durable, eye-catching parts for protecting vintage jet skis. Even the company's name (GPO stands for Go Play Outside) is something we can all get on board with! Here's a look behind the scenes at how one of their newest products came to life.

It all starts with that first chip you find on the under-hood corner of your 440 or 550, more damage is inevitable due to a loose-fitting hood or just normal hood installation and movement. GPO saw this as an opportunity to enhance the part offering by creating front under-hood supports in addition to the rear.

While rear supports have been in the marketplace for years, front supports have been too challenging to design due to multiple angles on the face of the product. Even though rear supports provided some

protection, it wasn't enough to fully protect this area from damage. After experimenting with many designs, GPO found a solution for engineering front supports, providing the ability to protect all four corners for the first time ever! The work was well worth the effort, as these supports create a secure fit that protects both under-hood corners and the hood.

Due to the exceptional protection they provide, under-hood corner supports have quickly become a staple for professional builds. Installation is quick and easy enough to complete at your home shop; the supports fit tightly under the hood seal with just a couple of screws and a touch of silicone in each drilled hole. Less than 30 minutes of installation time provides a lifetime of protection for your engine bay corners as well as the hood. **PR**

Hit GPO up on social media @gpo.jetki to see these supports in action or purchase your own at [www.gpojetski.com](http://www.gpojetski.com) or from any GPO dealer. **Mention this article in your order notes, and they'll throw in some extra swag for our Pro Rider readers!**







# TigerCraft V3 BUILD

Presented by: Adam Herrema, Water Slut Mafia



**F**rom bare hull to a watercraft work of art, this 2022 TigerCraft V3 build was completed in one month!

### PRINT AND GRAPHICS:

- Gel coat by Tigercraft
- Graphics designed by New England Graphic; installed by Famous Wraps

### MODIFICATIONS:

- 61x/61x ported by Travis Shoemaker
- MSD enhancer
- Powerfactor exhaust system
- 144 mag pump
- RRP trim
- Aura pole
- MSD enhancer

### BIGGEST CHALLENGE:

The deadline! I ordered this hull from Tony Pacheco of Tigercraft in the middle of riding season very spur of the moment and told him I needed it running before my local freeride in August, WaveRave Lake Michigan. He finished right before 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. I quickly got to installing the Hydro-Turf with pointers from Glyn, Donzi, Jon Eastes, and Chris McCarthy. The following weekend BDB and Diabolical helped me install my pump shoe and get my pump aligned. Once that was done it was smooth sailing, Tony's skis go together very easily!

### MOST REWARDING PART OF THE BUILD:

Memories made and knowledge gained. Just picking the hull up was a trip I'll never forget! Ross Dickman and I drove from Michigan to New Jersey to get our hulls and ended up staying at Tony's house for 5 days hanging out and riding the Mullica River. It's super rewarding to hear a ski fire up for the first time after building it from a bare hull! **PR**





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# PR PHOTO CONTEST

Pro Rider Sep / Oct 2022

## Gear Giveaway

# WIN THIS GEAR!

This issue's photo contest winner will receive a 12" Aqua Strap and a GPO Trucker Cap compliments of our good friends at GPO 'Go Play Outside' Jet Ski! The Aqua Strap was designed to allow for quick install and removal of your ski. The strap is made of marine grade soft nylon with an 800 lb. failure capacity, with a built-in stop loop to keep it secure to the ski while riding. The 12" Aqua Strap is great for a front cleat or rear bow eye.

Check out the full range of quality products at [www.gpojetski.com](http://www.gpojetski.com).



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\*Individual results may vary

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Submit your best high resolution PWC related photos to [contest@proridermag.com](mailto:contest@proridermag.com) with "Pro Rider Entry" in the subject line. Photos that have not yet been posted to any social media sites will have greater chances of winning. Open to amateur photographers only. Good luck!

\*Products and sizes may vary.

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## CHRISTOPHER STEENBOCK'S WELL OILED MACHINE

### C57 RACING

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It all started when longtime friend Ryan Schiebe took Christopher Steenbock for a ride on his JS550. Shared Christopher, "The ski ran for a glorious 30 seconds, but that didn't matter, I was hooked!" C57 officially started in 2012 when they brought their first product to market, an aluminum nose brace for the Gen 1 Kawasaki X2, with help from the late Gary Hart of Jettrim. With overwhelming support from family, friends, industry giants like Tom Perry of Hot Products USA, and the PWC community as a whole, C57 has come a very long way from that first 30 second ride!

**PRO RIDER:** Please describe C57's focus.

**CHRISTOPHER STEENBOCK:** We are primarily a performance machine shop, specializing in 2 stroke PWC engines and components. What sets us apart is the high level of quality control we achieve by doing 99% of the work in house, including our own crankshaft rebuilding program. Our primary focus is keeping 2 strokes great! We have been fortunate to be mentored by industry legends Tom Domek of Precision Crankshaft and Machine, Lowell Horning of 2-Strokeporting.com, and countless others over the years.

**PR:** What are you most proud of regarding your business?

**CS:** The proudest moments are in watching others succeed. We've had the pleasure of being there to see our former Junior Rider Stevie Bascom become a full-fledged Pro World Title holding athlete! Knowing we had a small part in helping them achieve their goals is incredibly rewarding.

**PR:** Please share any words of wisdom for jet ski owners/riders/racers.

**CS:** Respect your equipment and do it right the first time. You'll save a lot of hassle and money in the long run. Also, never be afraid to ask for help. There are tons of veterans of the PWC community more than happy to help so you can ride more and wrench less!

**PR:** What are riding these days? What do you do when you're not working?

**CS:** I got my start racing a Gen 1 Kawasaki X2, which I still have. My current ride is a Kommander GP1. My fiancé Emily

rides a classic JS550SX, as does my sister Cassidy. Dad rides an STX1100. We've spent many years tearing it up at the World-Famous Body Beach but are currently exploring new ride spots here in the Austin, Texas area. We love to mountain bike, off-road, hike, anything outdoors that gets our blood pumping.

**PR:** Do you have any special plans for the remainder of 2022 and 2023?

**CS:** 2022 has been a huge year for us! We are wrapping up the move to our new shop in Bastrop, Texas! It's been an incredible amount of work to get here, but we couldn't be more excited for the future! Our goal is to turn this new location into a well-oiled machine that continues to provide the highest quality for customers, both new and existing. Given our new location, another goal for 2023 is to support the growing PWC racing community in this part of the country. There are great promoters putting on great events out here; we can't wait to meet them and provide as much support as we can!







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By: Jaymi Bohat  
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# AquaCross

# GREAT LAKES WATERCROSS

**J**uly 2022 was a month to remember for PWC racing! Great Lakes Watercross partnered with P1 AquaX for two epic events in Indiana where GLW hosted closed course racing and P1 AquaX had endurance racing for Amateurs and Pros.

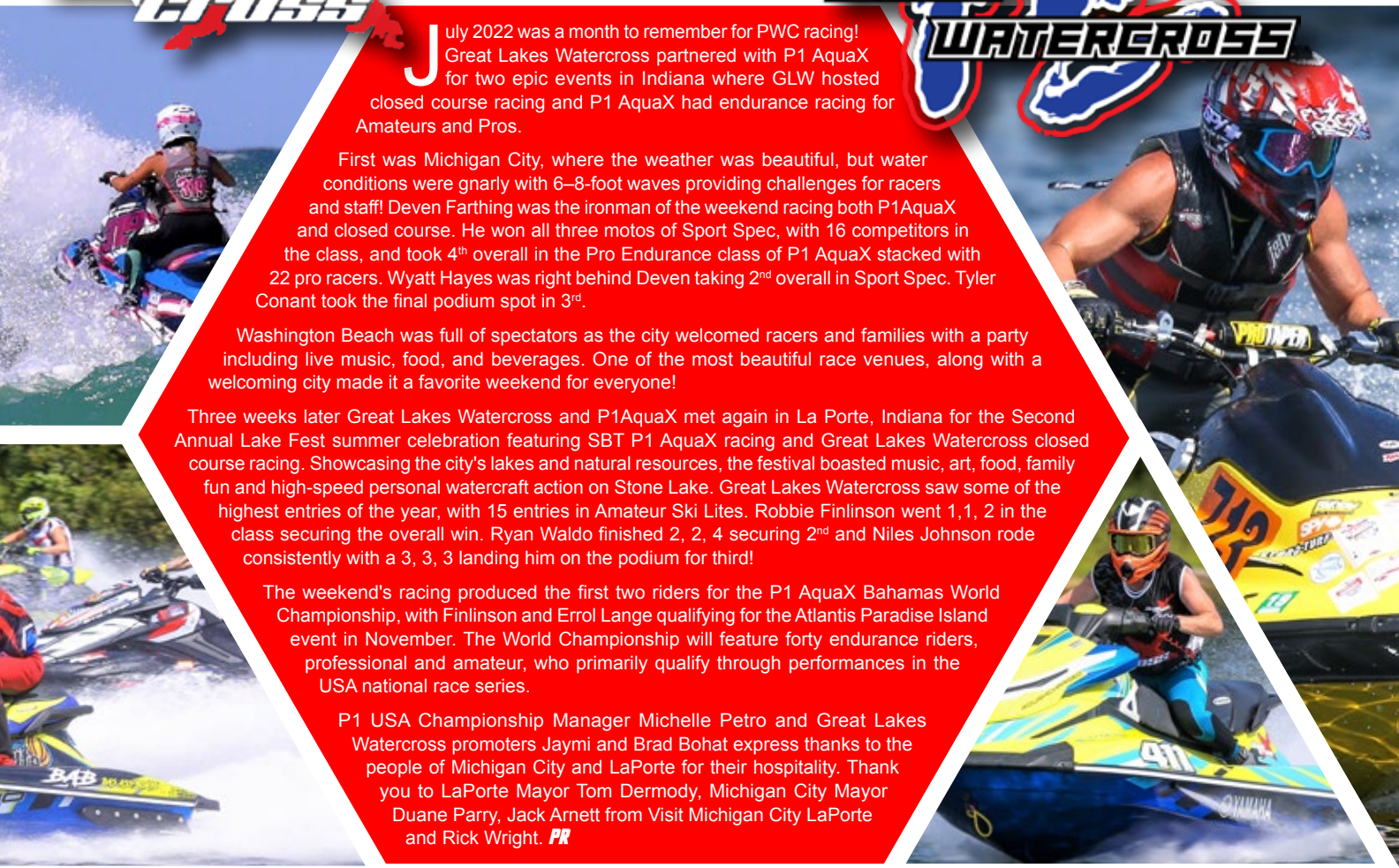
First was Michigan City, where the weather was beautiful, but water conditions were gnarly with 6–8-foot waves providing challenges for racers and staff! Deven Farthing was the ironman of the weekend racing both P1 AquaX and closed course. He won all three motos of Sport Spec, with 16 competitors in the class, and took 4<sup>th</sup> overall in the Pro Endurance class of P1 AquaX stacked with 22 pro racers. Wyatt Hayes was right behind Deven taking 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in Sport Spec. Tyler Conant took the final podium spot in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Washington Beach was full of spectators as the city welcomed racers and families with a party including live music, food, and beverages. One of the most beautiful race venues, along with a welcoming city made it a favorite weekend for everyone!

Three weeks later Great Lakes Watercross and P1 AquaX met again in La Porte, Indiana for the Second Annual Lake Fest summer celebration featuring SBT P1 AquaX racing and Great Lakes Watercross closed course racing. Showcasing the city's lakes and natural resources, the festival boasted music, art, food, family fun and high-speed personal watercraft action on Stone Lake. Great Lakes Watercross saw some of the highest entries of the year, with 15 entries in Amateur Ski Lites. Robbie Finlinson went 1, 1, 2 in the class securing the overall win. Ryan Waldo finished 2, 2, 4 securing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Niles Johnson rode consistently with a 3, 3, 3 landing him on the podium for third!

The weekend's racing produced the first two riders for the P1 AquaX Bahamas World Championship, with Finlinson and Errol Lange qualifying for the Atlantis Paradise Island event in November. The World Championship will feature forty endurance riders, professional and amateur, who primarily qualify through performances in the USA national race series.

P1 USA Championship Manager Michelle Petro and Great Lakes Watercross promoters Jaymi and Brad Bohat express thanks to the people of Michigan City and LaPorte for their hospitality. Thank you to LaPorte Mayor Tom Dermody, Michigan City Mayor Duane Parry, Jack Arnett from Visit Michigan City LaPorte and Rick Wright. **PR**







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