



EASTERN NC SKI RIDERS



**EUROPEAN** FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIP FRANCE



WORLD CHAMPION Pro Ski Women's GP

IJSBA WORLD FINALS

JETTRIBE JUNIOR

NATIONALS

EXPLORING NORRIS LAKE

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**OFFSHORE** 

MOSSDALE RIVER RIPPERS

P1AQUAX

SOUTHERN FRIED FREERIDE

**US FREESTYLE** 

PRO WATERCROSS

INTERNATIONAL CUP

JET JAM RACING

UK AQUA ADRENALINE

NOJA MOTOSURF

RPM BEST OF THE WEST

PETS N PWCS

NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

BACKFLIP EXHIBITION



CONVERSATION WITH AKI ITO • BUILD: BLACK MAMBA • BUSINESS PROFILE: TORRENT TPE



| www.proridermag.com |



# ありがとう

"arigatou" Japanese word means "Thank you"

## JET STAR





PWC Chain Gang Annual Loop the Lakes Fund Raiser Photo: Hansen Aerial Photography















## DEPARTMENTS

Social Media	
Publisher Letter	<i>8</i>
Starting Line	18
Letters	
Str8Up	14
Business Profile	. 18 + 48
Build	30
Tech	42
Future Threats	54
Products	<i>58</i>
Pets n PWCs	
Fitness	<i>68</i>
Goar Givoaway	

X 2023 season ended with a renewed sense of growth	
and development.	

- JET JAM DELIVERS SPECTACULAR SEASON ENDER
  What a way to end the season!

  ADVENTURE KEEPS THEM COMING BACK EASTERN NC SKI RIDERS
  7
- 'Don't Go Broke Ride' is an exciting jet-ski adventure with all the elements of a great ride.
  - The first International Drag competition was held in 2017 in the Dominican Republic.
- The International Cup marked an important milestone in the world of watercross racing.

## **UNITING WATER ENTHUSIASTS: PWC CHAIN GANG** 6th Annual PWC Loop the Lakes Ride drew nearly 300 PWC enthusiasts.

- **HURRICANE HILLARY US BEST OF THE WEST**From start to checkered flag, racing was intense on the Colorado River.
  - **WE. ARE. FAMILY. THE IJSBA WORLD FIRALS 2023**Our shared love for racing brings us together every year.
- **EXPLORING NORRIS LAKE: ADVENTURE IN THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS**Kentucky PWC Riders explore hidden gem and the cleanest water in Tennessee.
  - **BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP AT BRIXHAM: OGROR SEASON WRAP-UP**Venues are about as perfect as they can be.
- JETTRIBE JUNIOR NATIONALS US OLYMPIC + 46
  PARALYMPIC TRAINING SITE
  Exclusively for juniors, the event included the debut of the Youth Elite Class.
- MOTORIZED SURFBOARD RACING BIGGEST MOTOSURF EVENT OF 2023

  Racers competed for the title of America's fastest racer; event included Seabob race.
- **MONKEYS, SPRINGS, AND JET SKIS: A FLORIDA ADVENTURE**Scenic 85-mile ride to Silver Springs through multiple rivers and locks.
- PRIDE OF THE NORTH 2823 NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIPS
  In Stenungsund, Sweden, the championship coincided with the 60th
  anniversary of Baltic Week.
- The Camp Far West Mud Pit Crew met the Mossdale River Rippers at their riding spot.
- FIRST EVER JETSKI BRCKFLIP EXHIBITION AT A SPRINT BOAT RACE!

  Track water depth is 2 feet deep by 14 ft wide, small when sending backflips on a jetski.
  - **SOUTHERN FRIED FREERIDE WHERE SUMMER WIBES NEVER END**Rowdy boys of the dirty South have jet skiing on their minds.
    - **US AND EUROPEAN FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIPS**Competitions separate freestyle from high-speed racing.



## *NOUEMBER / DECEMBER*



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AllyJPhoto



**Arek Rejs** 

Arek Rejs Photography



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Charles Guinchard Photography



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Chris Liu Photography



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Cassel Creation



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Cory Eads Photography



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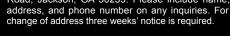
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Much of the action depicted in this publication is potentially dangerous. Virtually all the riders seen in our photos are experienced experts or professionals. Do not attempt to duplicate any stunts that are beyond your own capabilities. Always wear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

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## PR SOCIAL MEDIA











## *WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PRORIDERMAG*

- 1. First Coast Flo Riders Prostate Cancer Awareness Ride
- 2. That new shop feeling at Showtime Freestyle
- 3. Getting busy at the factory @evojet @americanjetconcept
- 4. Future Threat Taylor Smith pointing to the future! **Photo: KDW Sports Photos**
- 5. Photojournalist Charles Guinchard representing at the 2023 Sea-Doo Media Event

## PRORIDERGRAMS



- 2. @cory\_kypwcriders @kaleymcnaygomez #peach @mark\_gomez #mario #superchicken
- 4. @motooption
- 5. @mvp production

1. @3rperformance

- 6. @rain porter
- 7. Congratulations @iceman\_images
- 8. Practicing starts with @zodawg\_41 @ bjsperformance
- 9. Sunrise tour @sakpasrental
- 18. Swordfish on a Sea-Doo @emmanuelw
- 11. TB to one of a kind @h2oaddicts
- 12. "You really about that life if you don't have a standup tattoo?"
- @standup\_nation

THE MONEY \$HOT

The 2023 November-December cover shot was captured by the expert lens of Dieter Quaghebeur Braap Shots of Sweden's Emma-Nellie Örtendahl taking the Pro Ski Women's Ski GP title during the 2023 IJSBA World Finals. Highly skilled, Örtendahl, 25, began racing at age 12 and has accumulated quite a collection of hardware including Winner 2022 World

Series, Pro-Am Ski Women's Stock, 2020 and 2021 World Champion Parallel Slalom, Ski Ladies GP1and many more.











- POWER FLIPS
- THREE DUNES
- LITHIUM
- TAPPING
- MICROFIBERS
- PAUERS
- 48 DUNCES



- PIT BIKES
- SLIDES
- COPING
- LIGHT BARS
- SIDE JOBS
- WHITE HOUSES
- *5X55*



PRORIDERMAG.COM - NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023



## RETRACTABLE RATCHET STRAP

## HAULING HAS NEVER BEEN THIS EASY

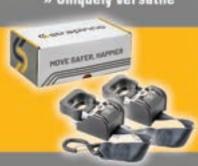
WITH STRAPINNO RETRACTABLE RATCHET STRAPS, TIE DOWN ANYTHING IN MINUTES!

- » Safe & secure ratchet straps for all your hauling needs
- » No more tying no more knots
- » Effortless strapping and release
- » Affordable
- » Ready to use
- » Uniquely versatile

- » Sturdy hardware
- » Auto retract without tangling
- » All ratchet straps made of high quality, industrial grade webbing
- » Options designed especially for water activity enthusiasts









TIME SAVER

Strapping & unloading done in a snap!













elcome to the 75th edition of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! As we close out the year, we take this opportunity to reflect on what an incredible year it has been for the watercraft community. We've witnessed triumphs, breakthroughs, and unforgettable moments.

Inside, you'll discover the amazing talents of our writers and photographers. This issue is packed with racing, racing, and more racing from all over the world, along with exciting and breathtaking recreational rides, tech, freestyle, build stories and more.

We look ahead with anticipation to the new year, filled with new adventures and challenges in the world of watercraft.

To our advertisers and readers, thank you for your continued immeasurable support; we look forward to sharing many more adventures in the issues to come. As we embrace the holiday season, we extend our warmest wishes for joy and peace to all. **PR** 

Michael Ratti and the Pro Rider Team

Instagram:
@michael\_ratti













## Jack DuBois FREESTYLE ATHLETE

"Jet skiing is tough on your body especially when you aren't taking your nutrition seriously. I have relied on the POSSIBLE protein powder to aid in my recovery all season long, to keep my body performing for World Finals.

Nutrition is something motorsports athletes take for granted. When I began fueling my body with the right whole food-based products, I saw a huge change in my performance as a rider. POSSIBLE is pushing the limits of clean label nutritional products, offering organic, non-GMO, gluten free products, free from fillers and poor-quality ingredients. I start every day with a smoothie consisting of POSSIBLE Protein and POSSIBLE SuperGreens. POSSIBLE Snack Bars fuel me throughout the day and the POSSIBLE Beet Pre-Workout has become a part of my pre-ride ritual. I envision a future where professional motorsports athletes prioritize their nutrition with the same level of dedication as professional athletes in sports.





"Try my favorite shake: blend 1 serving of POSSIBLE Chocolate Cacao Protein Powder, 1 banana, and ice."

like soccer, football, and baseball."

LIFE'S A SPORT. FUEL UP.



Nutrition that empowers extraordinary achievement and still tastes good!

20 grams of plant-based protein per serving to fuel your post-ride recovery!

POSSIBLE

POWERED BY STANDARD PROCESS

## PR STARTING LINE

### PHOTO CONTEST

ongratulations to Barbie Price and fiancé Pro Freestyler Johnny Leftly, Altamonte Springs, Florida for their winning photo submissions of 4-year-old Aubree. Shared Johnny, "She's an amazing little helper with no fear to try new things." Barbie and Johnny will receive a pair of 70's Gloves from Saints of Speed Rad Glove Collection.









### HEROIC ACT ON RACECOURSE

By: Dawn Dawson | Photo: Arek Rejs

arlier this year, Australian racer Bailey Cunningham and Christian Cagnard, the Swede with a flourishing career as racer and trainer, competed together in Korea. At the start of the race, Christian was thrown off his boat into the water, face first, in a very precarious position. Unfortunately, language barriers prevented course marshals from fully understanding what was happening, but Bailey knew if he did not get into the water to pull Christian out, it could be too late. Putting aside your position on the racecourse to save someone's life is no small feat for

a racer, and to have both Christian and Bailey racing side by side recently in the Nordic Championship in Sweden was providential and symbolic. The Orusk Jetskiclub in Sweden awarded Bailey Hero of the Year 2023.





7NEWS AUSTRALIA INTERVIEW AND RESCUE FOOTAGE

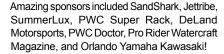




### TRICKS, TREATS, AND JET SKIS!

**Submitted by:** Renee Hill, *Founder, Nauti Girl Crew* | **Photos:** Zee Picture Perfect

ostumed riders hit Tampa
for Nauti Girl Crew's 2nd
Annual Halloween Fun Run.
Riders competed for best
costume and best decorated
ski. Participants launched from
Davis Island in Tampa Bay
parading down Hillsborough
River along the Tampa
Riverwalk as homeowners and
passersby cheered the group
of disguised jet ski ghouls. At
Beer Can Island DJ Vic Santana
played the beats as riders danced the



afternoon away with impressive moves.

Nauti Girl Crew organizes fun themed events for both men and women throughout the year.

Join the crew for their next event, see Facebook at Nauti Girl Crew.























### "TO SOME IT'S JUST WATER. TO ME IT'S WHERE I REGAIN MY SANITY." MEET JET SKI RACE SCORER CHELSIE MATTHIAS

Photos: Ken Gallagher

Chelsie Matthias, Williams, Arizona, began her scoring role two years ago. Her journey with jet skis started 14 years ago when her cousins bought two 650s. A year later she bought a 750sx which she still has today. After meeting the San Diego Salty Crew, she raced an SXR 800 in 2019. "I only competed 1 year on my SXR 800. I rebuilt my 750 to race it and bought a 1500 to race. As I started working the races, I realized the enjoyment I get out of that is almost as good as racing," said Chelsie.

The last few years, Chelsie scored every race for RPM Best of the West/Jet Jam and scored for the Southern California Speedboat Club. Shared Chelsie, "This was the first year I worked World Finals which was absolutely amazing!"

"Our primary duty is scoring, with a team of three scorers, each with specific tasks. One scorer times the race, signaling key points to the flagger. Another collects race papers for later scoring. I handle race starts and marshal calls, noting infractions like missed buoys, lap numbers, boat IDs, etc. At World Finals, we experimented with a tablet scoring system, Just a Race Timing System, which proved efficient. Results were swiftly posted after scoring. The most rewarding aspect of our work is the teamwork, from scorers to course marshals, tech, and the race director. A strong team leads to success. You need a passion to spend over 8 hours in the tower, but I wouldn't trade it for anything! I'm grateful for the staff, who are now my close friends, and the racers who make it all worthwhile."









## IT TAKES A VILLAGE: PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS RIDE

Submitted by: Annette Hansen | Photos: Victoria Fuentes

rist Coast Flo Rider's held a prostate cancer awareness ride for Scott Hansen, an OG in the ski community, following Scott's stage 4 diagnosis to bring awareness to fellow riders. Launching in Sanford, Florida 41 PWCs rode 60 miles of beautiful Florida waterways to Lake Harney between Volusia and Seminole Counties, referred to as 'mini Lake George' due to its rugged waters.

Early detection is key. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of death in American men and bringing awareness is important to Scott; we feel the ride accomplished that.

All money raised at https://gofund.me/ af493d87 goes directly to medical care. We thank all the sponsors who generously donated and supported this awareness ride, giving meaning to "It takes a Village."









### JET SKI TRIBUTE OF A SISTER'S LOVE AND RESILIENCE

In 2022, Kayti Graham's younger sister Laura passed away unexpectedly, a shock to her family and her two young daughters (6 & 9). Kayti, who works at Blowsion, lost her dad soon after. Shared Kayti, "I had just gotten my new SuperJet the Fall before and planned to race it that spring/summer. I dove into everything I could to keep my mind busy. My sister and I were very close, I wanted to dedicate my ski to her. I chose the number 89 for her birth year and her favorite color, purple. My sister was shy and I'm a bit loud, so I wanted this ski to demand attention on and off the water. We accomplished that.

The eye on the front came from a dream where Laura pulled up in her car next to mine, smiled, did the shhh thing with her finger and drove off, her way of telling me she was still around, and I'd be seeing her. She's always watching, along with my dad, to make sure we are safe, and her girls are taken care of.

The dash of the ski has a cross with her name and birth year. Before I race, I look at it and remember her. When people inquire about my ski, I seize the opportunity to share this cherished detail, and, in a way, it's become my therapy and the driving force behind my determination to give my absolute best, in her honor."

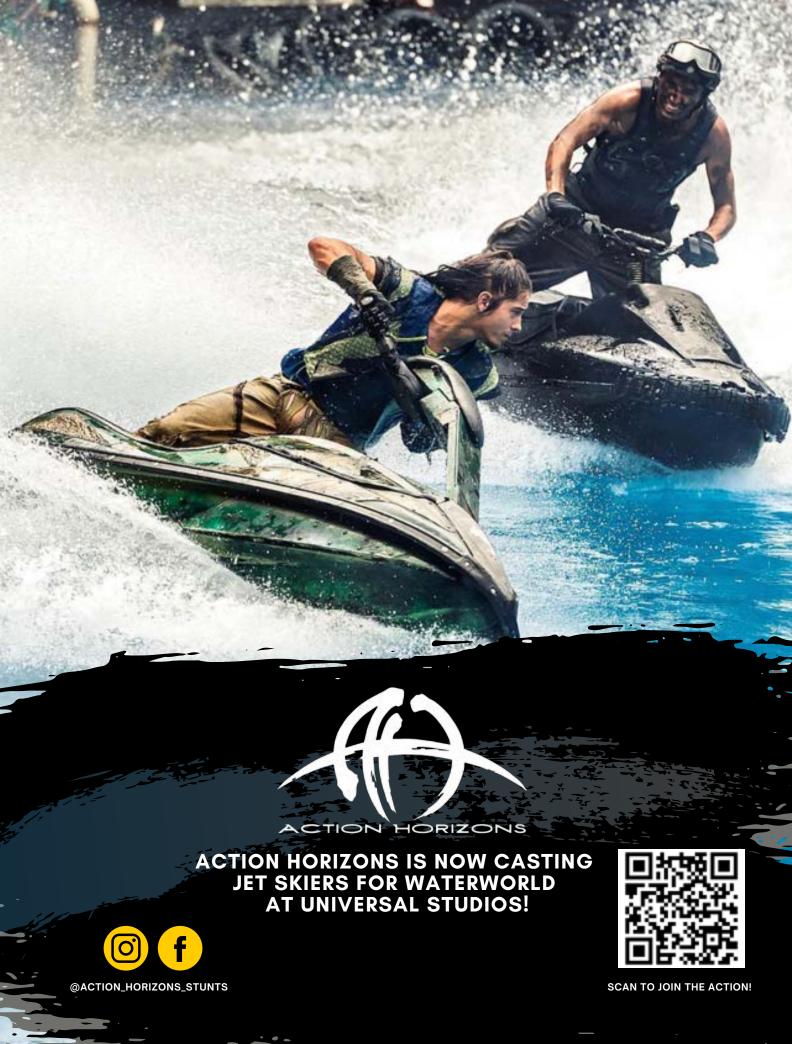
















## ANTHONY BURGESS (UK)

FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPION, THIRD PLACE NOJA MOTOSURF 2023 AND FIRST PLACE FLIP CONTEST



## BRUNO 'BRAZILIAN STORM' JACOB (BRAZIL)

FREESTYLE WORLD CHAMPION, FIRST PLACE NOJA MOTOSURF 2023

LOCATION: NOJA, RIS BEACH, SPAIN | PHOTO: DAVID ANTISTUART







Dalli 917 finished his first season third overall against a fleet of riders who don't play around. Eric Diaz 123 tied in points with Tim Hickman 161 who broke the tie by clocking more race wins over the season, a nail-biting end to the 300 AM Enduro season.

The 200 AM Enduro had ups and downs, but Melvin Canals 80 from Puerto Rico walked away with the overall win. Andrew Ray 471 and Jeff Caco 173 put on an epic show rounding out the overall respectively.

PRO Enduro offered the cream of the crop with Chris MacClugage 30, Dustin Farthing 79, Dennis Mack 243, Eric Lagopoulos 361, Jay Edworthy 477, and other pro veterans. But it was the young, up and coming riders following in their footsteps that truly shined. Tory Snyder 110 and Camden Powell 44 fought tooth and nail for their overall positions, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Dustin Farthing. Deven Farthing 6, plagued by mechanical issues, pulled 4th overall.

Of the top 6 PRO Enduro overall finishers for the season, 3 are the next generation of superstars! The future of our sport and the P1 AquaX series is bright.

We recognize and thank our sponsors for their support: SBT Title Sponsor for the 2nd year, Monster Energy, Yamaha, Hydro-Turf, Fly Racing, Icom America, RIVA Racing, Jet Pilot, and MYCO Trailers.

See you next season! PR







## BRIAN SIZEMORE:

FROM FREERIDE PASSION TO INDUSTRY POWERHOUSE

rian Sizemore rode standups in his teenage years, but never owned one, spending more time wrenching than riding in the JS400 days on a junk ski his buddy owned. Freeride jetskis were introduced to him at a local ride spot on Lake Erie, New York. While riding his race style jetski a crew from Team Xtreme entered the beach "as a pack of misfits," said Brian. He bought his first standup the following day. Little did he know that July afternoon, friendships would be forged that would last decades, and spawn Torrent Pumps and TPE engines.

Please share highlights from your experiences with EME shows and Typhoon Tommy competitions.

ERIAN SIZEMORE: Eric Malone (Multi World Freestyle Champion) organized Freestyle clinics in a "run what you brung" atmosphere in his hometown, Altoona, PA. The event was great, like a freeride now, but with in depth training. My main goal that day was set up wakes. We accomplished that and from there built on not only my riding, but my ski as well.

Typhoon' Tommy Nuttall was present, and we spoke over a race gas fueled campfire. Tommy and Eric were doing shows and competitions all over the country. I was Ryan Doberstein's wrench for his Superjets. Ryan's passion for freestyle allowed us to travel together hitting events splitting costs. We did many events with Tommy, meeting a lot of great riders, now longtime friends. At an EME show you can see one of my first back flip attempts at a kid's camp off a double boat wake. We rode stock Superjets with tweaked motors. Malone cultivated our passion that day by letting us slide out BF, his 1200 EME Q8.

What is the back story of Torrent and TPE? How was the name 'Torrent' conceived?

ERIFID: Working on a pump tailored to our sport, the aim was enhanced grip and durability. Initially, I bought a pump from a standard supplier, but it cracked twice, leaving me without a reliable one for a year. A foreign pump I sourced had weld issues. It was clear there had to be a better solution.

Working in the gas and oil industry, I collaborated with engineers and over 500 employees to design the first 148 mm series pump for testing by our locals. Our ace rider, Frosty, generously offered his shortened SJ with the largest motor for trials. He was nearly nailing backflips but not quite. When we replaced his pump with the final prototype, he effortlessly executed three perfect backflips. Amazed by the difference, we switched back to his old pump, but I couldn't bear to part with the prototype. So, I made another. That was a dozen years ago, and he's still using that prototype pump.

As for Torrent, a friend suggested it while we were searching for a single word to signify fast-moving water. 'Torrent' fit the bill, signifying a violent, fast-moving water stream. To concentrate on production, we partnered with other suppliers. Our technical expertise led us to sell pumps directly via our website, and later, we collaborated with Mark Gomez to create our current logo.

TPE, or Torrent Performance Engines, stemmed from our friendship with Erik Brigham and Alec (aka The Professor) in the shop. We assisted Erik in selling to DASA, allowing us to become dealers, firm believers in TPE's exceptional motors. After Kyle Kennedy left to start WORX USA and took the TPE line, we decided to acquire TPE ourselves. It's been a labor of love, revitalizing TPE and working on two-stroke porting. Alec earned a real master's, experiencing business from the ground up. TPE was too good to let go, and now we're developing new motors for 2024 and beyond, a journey I never foresaw from my 4-stroke racing days in the early 1990s. Today, through our global dealer network, we're privileged to support the world's top riders.

**PR**: You've played a huge role in supporting and rejuvenating events like the Daytona Freeride. What motivated you to take on the Daytona Freeride?

friend: I've attended the Daytona freeride for years. Nick Foederer and our NY crew are tight and always had a huge presence in Daytona. Discussing title sponsorship for the following year I said, "How about I assist you with the ride?" We collectively decided to proceed as this event is the largest of its kind in the world. We have grown closer over the 5 years we've been involved and now the events are totally for charity, thanks to the kindness of Nick and the sponsors who help pay for this event.

Having successfully battled cancer, your story is one of resilience and inspiration. How has your journey as a cancer survivor influenced your outlook on life and your involvement in the jet ski community?

ERIFII: Cancer has changed my life. It's the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with and has the highest consequences. I would never have thought about taking on the amount of work I do today without seeing a time limit on life. I wanted to come back and make a change for the better. This sport, our friends and sponsors deserve the best products, best venue, and I feel if Nick and I can do a small part by involving others the sport will grow and hopefully help cure someone's cancer through our small donations and giving back.











As a prominent figure in the industry, what advice can you offer to aspiring freestyle jet skiers who dream of achieving the level of success you've helped others attain in the sport both amateurs and pros?

**BRIRM:** Success is relative, Torrent and TPE have had influence from riders and that's what makes it successful. It's a lot more work than reward. What makes it worthwhile is hearing the success stories, and seeing others succeed. If you look back on the highlights of our short lifespan, there are friends that love the sport, and may or may not win at the events or do well at shows. But the memories we make are priceless, and relationships last decades. We have some of the best riders in the world on our products, including you, but to us it's the riders' friendships, character, and accomplishing goals that make the difference. Money cannot buy that, for that we are extremely successful.

FR: What do you do in your spare time?

**EXIMI:** Spare time, that's a good joke, ask my wife, we work on jetskis.



## Ultimate Watercraft Extravaganza:

t's that time! Daytona Torrent Pumps Freeride 2024, the largest jetski freeride in the world with hundreds of riders and thousands of attendees, is just around the corner! This hard charging exciting event now in its 19th year will again take place behind the Daytona Beach Hard Rock Hotel on the beautiful sandy beaches of Daytona!

Riders, families, vendors, spectators will take over the mile stretch of beach for 4 days January 11-14, 2024.

This year 100% of the registration fee and all donations will support cancer research at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. Last year over \$35,000 was raised with a goal of \$50.000 for 2024.

## DAYTONA FREERIDE 2024

PRESENTED BY: Hydro-Turf



## 98/1401144

### THURSDAY -

**7**АМ Beach opens for vehicles

Open ride time 9ам - 5рм

### FRIDAY -

Beach opens for vehicles **7**АМ

Open ride time 9AM - 5PM

Gathering of Freeriders 8<sub>РМ</sub> - 11<sub>РМ</sub>

@ Ormond Brewing

#### SATURDAY -

Beach opens for vehicles

9AM - 5PM Open ride time

12<sub>PM</sub> - 2<sub>PM</sub> Surf Events (tentative) Cherry

Buster/Sickest Air Competitions

6<sub>РМ</sub> - 7<sub>РМ</sub> Charity Raffle Avalon Ballroom

8<sub>РМ</sub> - 10<sub>РМ</sub> Freeride Party Hard Rock

Avalon Ballroom, skis displayed

inside, DJ, drinks, food

### SUNDAY

Beach opens for vehicles

9AM - 5PM Open ride time



For discounted pricing at Hard Rock Hotel see link below or call the front desk 386-947-7364; use Group code: TPFR1062024 or Torrent Pumps Freeride.

Link: https://be.synxis.com/

?adult=1&arrive=2024-01-05&chain=1 3924&child=0¤cy=USD&depart=2024-

01-15&dest=HRH&fbclid=IwAR3F8hJT\_GsQFiOee-TIOTe8sPyFBLZN73D1xkTt6\_lm7w3HrzSCp3kmHo&group=TPFR1062024 &hotel=78302&level=hotel&locale=en-US&rooms=1&shell=RBE&f emplate=RBEDB

Use the QR code or link to register for the ride: https://give.roswellpark.org/ site/TRR/CommunityEvent/ General/1140247925?pg=utype&fr\_id=1910



See you in Daytona! PR





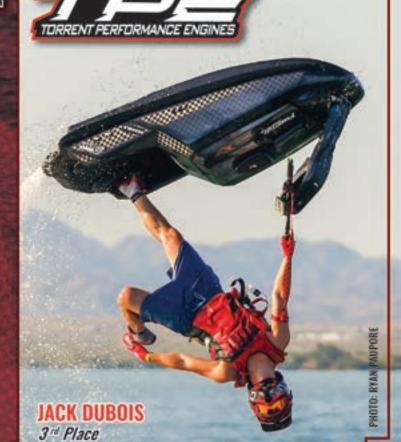
ANTHONY VITNELL 4th Place

CONTACT TORRENTPUMPSINFO@GMAIL.COM

FOR DETAILS AND MORE INFORMATION

JOHNNY LEFTLY

5th Place



## BOUNDAYS SELECT OF THE COMING BACK FOR MORE:

"I found Eastern NC Ski Riders

aroup on facebook and decid-

ed to make a post to see who

wanted to ride a 160 miles

roundtrip from Morekead Citu

to Wrightsville. The response

was amazing and that first

day, our "crew" was formed

with friendships that will

last a lifetime. Our favorite

spot is now deemed "the Crew

Spot" on Lea Island sandbar.

The Crew rides an average 100

miles per ride to 'cure the vein',

the ski addiction we all share.

For 2024 WE plan to ride as

many times as we can before

we go broke!"

JAVIER ORTERO

Holly Ridge, North Carolina

## EASTERN NC SKI RIDERS DON'T GO BROKE

By: Joseph Legacy, Co-Founder Eastern NC Ski Riders Photos: Joseph Legacy, Javier Otero, Jamie Alexander Jordan

oseph Legacy's jet skiing journey began in 2020 during the Covid pandemic. It was a time when seeking outdoor adventures became a lifeline, and jet skiing quickly became his passion. He crossed paths with Scott Mansfield as they pulled up at the same ramp on the Tar River, Greenville, NC. Shared Jospeh, "From that moment, we just clicked. At the time, we hadn't even considered the idea of forming a group, little did we know it was the beginning of something remarkable."

Scott had a Sea-Doo Spark, and I was riding an older 2003 FX140. We spent spend nearly every weekend on the water, with multiple weekday rides.

As our confidence and skills grew, we ventured to other areas, the Pamlico Sound, Cape Lookout, Trent River in Pollocksville, Neuse River at Dawson Creek, and the Chowan River in Edenton. Our thirst for adventure knew no bounds, and we simply needed a reason to ride.

Today, Scott and I ride Kawasakis, a choice driven by the unpredictable nature of Eastern NC waters, calm one moment, rough the next, having reliable, versatile jet skis is essential. We do our best

to plan group rides in areas that offer a mix of conditions to optimize thrills, camaraderie, and the unlimited sense of adventure that keeps us coming back for more.

Our journey commenced with inspiration from Adam Buckler and the South Carolina Ski Riders. In 2021, we had the privilege of joining them on thrilling rides that left a lasting impact. We were not only impressed but profoundly moved by the sense of community and adventure.

Captivated by these rides we eagerly made 4-hour journeys to South Carolina whenever we could. One ride, the Back Water/Waccamaw, stands out as our first group adventure.

Our journey continued with unforgettable experiences, including the epic Georgetown to Charleston ride along South Carolina's Intracoastal Waterway (ICW).

However, fate took a somber turn when Adam was diagnosed with Lymphoma, leading to the cancellation of South Carolina Rides for 2022. We felt a profound sense of loss, not only for jet skiing but for the incredible people we had met and the sense

of adventure that made those rides special.

During this reflective period, we took action, wanting to honor Adam's spirit and the cherished memories we shared. Thus, Eastern NC Ski Riders (ENCSR) was born. It's a tribute to the enduring power of our love for jet skiing and desire to create a vibrant community in Eastern North Carolina.

Our 'Don't Go Broke Ride' is an exciting jet-ski adventure that encompasses all the essential elements of a great ride. The name draws inspiration from our friend Javier Otero,

whose passion for jet skiing is remarkable.

Jet skiing isn't just a hobby; it's a lifestyle we fully embrace. We're committed to investing in memorable experiences.

The ride spans 150 miles, starting at Holly Shelter in Burgaw, NC, down the beautiful Cape Fear River, past Wilmington, onwards to Snows Cut. You'll encounter a mix of fresh and saltwater, from the peaceful river to the invigorating Intracoastal Waterway. offering diverse water conditions.

In 2024, we're eager to expand our horizons and forge connections with other jet ski groups such as Jet Rider Nation and North Florida Ski Riders. We have a strong desire to travel and collaborate with fellow enthusiasts. PR















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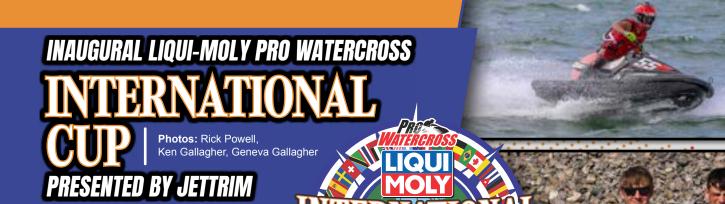
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International Cup was a groundbreaking the sport of personal watercraft racing. This exciting riders in various categories, making it a truly international spectacle. With thrilling races, high-stakes battles, and collaboration in the years to come!

"We are very pleased with the outcome of the Liqui-Moly Pro Watercross International Cup presented by Jettrim and it was a pleasure to work with Go Lake Havasu and the Havasu Riviera Marina on this inaugural event. We received a lot of positive feedback from the racers and fans, who were genuinely impressed with the new venue. We extend our gratitude to all who joined us at the International Cup; it was our honor to represent the watercross community."

- Jennifer Handler Pro Watercross

Pro Watercross thanks the sponsors, this would not be possible.

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## UNITING WATER ENTRUSIASTS: **6 Years of Thrilling Rides** and Giving Back at the **PWC Chain Gang**

By: Mike Missak, Co-Founder PWC Chain Gang Photos and video: Hansen Aerial Photography





he sun glistens off the waters of the Chain of Lakes waterway in northern Illinois, as the sound of revving engines fills the air. For six years, a group of passionate water sport enthusiasts has been making waves in the region, bringing together like-minded individuals for exhilarating rides and a strong sense of community. The PWC Chain Gang, founded by Steve Nielsen and me, has not only ignited a passion for personal watercraft but has made a significant impact on the local waterway, all while paying homage to their fellow riders and giving back to their community.

CHAIN GANG

The PWC Chain Gang was born as a simple idea, to gather individuals who share a love for watersports and PWCs. Steve (unrelated to Nielsen Enterprises) and I envisioned a space where water enthusiasts could bond over shared interests on the waters of the Chain of Lakes. What started as a small group of friends quickly grew into a vibrant community, drawing in riders from many states.

A pivotal moment came when Nielsen Enterprises, a respected name in the watercraft industry, lent their support to the PWC Chain Gang. The sponsorship injected new energy into the group, allowing them to expand their reach and make a larger impact. The Chain of Lakes, a popular destination for boaters, saw the influence of the PWC Chain Gang grow, becoming a force to be reckoned with in the water sports scene.

This year the PWC Chain Gang hosted their 6th Annual PWC Loop the Lakes Ride, drawing nearly 300 PWC enthusiasts, a testament to the community's growth. The ride was led by a Yamaha 255 Jetboat courtesy of Nielsen Enterprises, setting the tone for an exhilarating 2.5-hour journey along the interconnected lakes.

Laughter, excitement. and the thrill of the ride resonated throughout the event.

But it wasn't just about the ride. The PWC Chain Gang demonstrated their deep sense of camaraderie and respect for their fellow riders. On Lake Marie, a special "No Wake" tribute was held in memory of a watersport enthusiast and group member who tragically lost his life the week prior. As PWCs formed a solemn procession, a helicopter flew overhead, a gesture to honor the fallen rider and show support for his grieving family.

The event, an opportunity for high-octane fun served as a platform for giving back to the community. Raffles donated by Nielsen Enterprises and SandShark Anchor added an element of excitement, while Yamaha's sponsorship ensured every participant left with an exclusive PWC Chain Gang shirt, a tangible memory of the event.

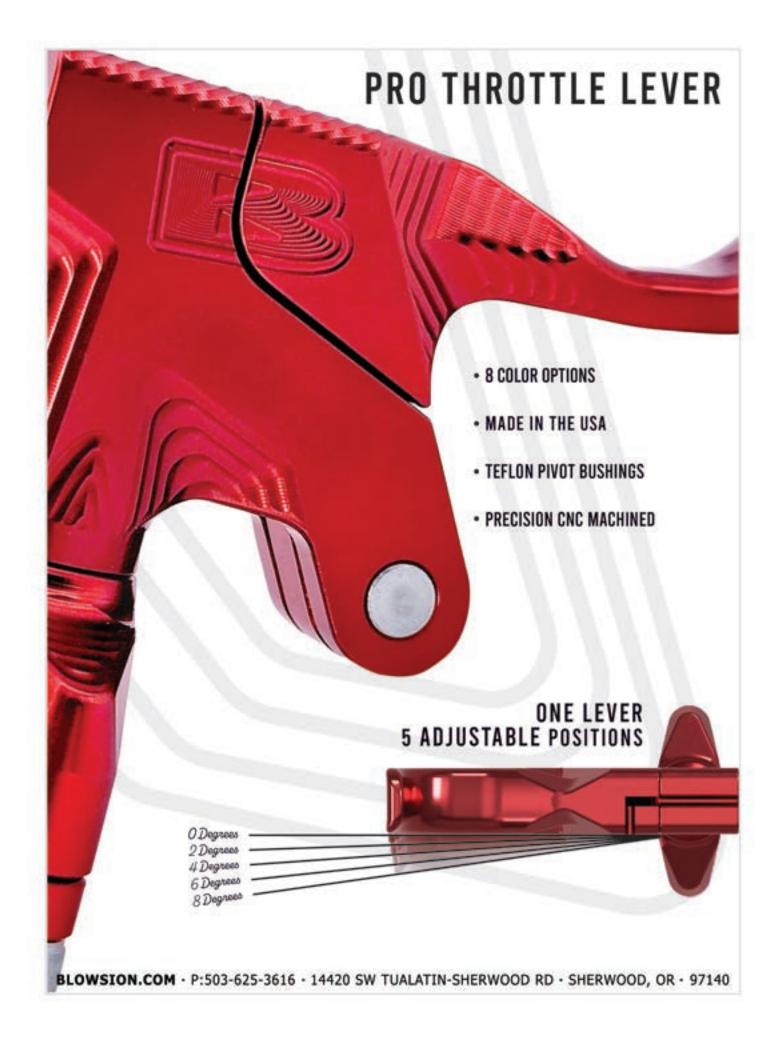
With a strong commitment to the local waterway's well-being, the PWC Chain Gang goes above and beyond. The group plans to donate \$5,000 to the Fox Waterway Agency, the governing body responsible for maintaining the waterway they hold so dear.



It's a reminder their passion for water sports is complemented by a deep appreciation for the environment that allows their adventures to unfold.

For those who want to experience the thrill and camaraderie firsthand, join the PWC Chain Gang's Facebook page for more information and updates. And don't forget to watch the video capturing the highlights of this year's event.

The PWC Chain Gang stands as a beacon of community, fun, and giving back. As members continue to ride the waves, they leave a positive mark on the waterway and the hearts of fellow enthusiasts. PR





**Story and photos:** Damon Lee, St. Augustine, Florida

## FROM STOCK TO STUNNER IN 5 MONTHS: The Black Slambo 2023 YAMAHA FX SVHO CRUISER

hen does a hobby become an addiction? For me, it started with two personal watercrafts, a 2018 Sea-Doo RXP X 300 and a 2020 Yamaha FX SVHO Cruiser, then a third, 2021 Yamaha FX SVHO.

This may be the point one could say it's no longer a hobby and now an addiction because it doesn't stop there. In 2022, I purchased a fourth ski, 2023 Yamaha FX SVHO Cruiser.

As soon as the manufacturer's recommended break-in period ended, the upgrades started. It began with a custom 3" intake with a K&N RU-3580 filter, custom 89mm aluminum free flow exhaust, Riva crankcase breather, Riva Billet fuel rail, JL Performance dual springs with Titanium Retainers, Riva top-loader intake grate, pump seal kit, Worx Racing cooling kit with pump strainer, Riva ribbon delete kit, Fizzle Y1000 intercooler with 50mm Tial blowoff valve, Riva waterbox, Real Street Performance 1200cc Injector Kit, Riva High Volume Fuel Pump kit, Innovate Motorsports MTX-L Wide Band kit for data logging, Riva fuel regulator kit, Fizzle Z1 Supercharger Wheel, Riva Supercharger Shaft upgrade kit and a Riva custom tune.

Then tragedy struck while on a First Coast Flo Riders group ride. The number one injector shorted a ground. This injector got stuck open, washing down the cylinder with fuel. Before the ski could be shut down, it scorched the number two and three cylinders. Ultimately the engine had to be pulled and the block was bored over .5mm by Don at Precision Cycle, Inc. in Orlando.

Eric Cheeks at Gearhead Motorsports in Middleburg, Florida installed four new CP 86.5mm pistons along with Carrillo rod set, ARP cylinder head stud kit, Cometic 86.5mm cylinder head gasket, Riva crankcase main stud kit, and Riva 3 Bar MAP Sensor Kit. Eric removed the dual springs and installed PV Springs with titanium retainers.

I replaced the 1200cc injectors with Dean's Team High-Performance 1000cc Injector Kit with hat adapters and replaced the Z1 supercharger wheel with a Riva R3 Supercharger Wheel and added a Dean's team custom pitched 13/18 impeller. Jesus at Riva wrote a custom tune. Eric at Gearhead did all the engine work, reassembly, tuning and data logging.

I would like to thank Brian Riva, Jesus and Brian Rosencrantz at Riva, Dean Charrier, his son Dustin and Trevor at Dean's Team, Don at Precision Cycle and Eric Cheeks at Gearhead Motorsports. PR









## HURRICANIE HILLARY VS ROUNDS 8 29

BLUE WATER RESORT & CASINO HOT PRODUCTS & ANDERSON POWERSPORTS BEST OF THE WEST

By: Ross Wallach, President RPM Racing Enterprises Photos: Ally Giles, AllyJPhoto

Series presented by: Jettrim, Impros Cometic, Klotz, RB Components, Bomber Eyewear, Sandhopper Industries, All River Rental, Jettribe, Works H20, 95.7 River Rat Radio, DNA Powersports, Oakley, Kawasaki, JC Racing, 3D Design Concepts. Ultimate Watercraft, Worx Racing Components, K River Investments, Yamaha WaveRunners, Go Lake Havasu, Riden Vibez, Blowsion, Concierge Health, Mohave Mortgage, MotoOption, 1-800 Water Damage, Throttle Junkie News, Watercraft Journal, West Coast Watercraft Club & Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine

nce again, the calm waters of the Colorado River were transformed to host some of the fastest and tightest closed course personal watercraft racing in the nation. The IJSBA World Finals qualifier event saw some of the best racers and a fleet of up and comers. The challenging waters of the Colorado River give even seasoned veterans a run for their money and this time was no different as Hurricane Hillary, the first hurricane to hit the Western US in 40 years headed for a direct impact with the desert of the Southwest! Saturday's Round #8 started with thunder and lightning causing delay. Once the squall passed the rain continued and racing commenced. The storm reduced the temperature to a balmy 85, just one day prior it was over 112 degrees.

From start to checkered flag, racing was intense. Gone are the days of the snap band, replaced by the light/horn system designed and built by Joe Cecere of Sandhopper Industries. Zero jump starts made the delayed race day move along nicely. With no storm, Sunday racing began and finished on time. Great battles ensued from Juniors to Pro & Expert Ski GP. The premier race location was appreciated by all 150+ entrants and a hearty well deserved congratulation to all podium finishers was in order.

Many thanks to the dedicated RPM staff for their hard work during this year's event. Despite Mother Nature's challenges, their commitment ensured a smooth and successful event PR

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Blue Water BE























# WE, ARE,

**World Finals 2023** 

By: Dawn Dawson

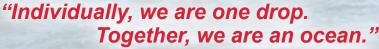
Photos: Dieter Quaghebeur, Ken Gallagher, Craig Milne, Charles Guinchard, Geneva Gallagher, Rachel Hankins, Chris Liu, Cliff Cassel, Harley Fisher





WATER JET WORLD GRAND PRIX





- Ryunosuke Satoro

e don't emphasize it enough, but our shared love for racing brings us together. Every year in Havasu, we brave insane heat, basic accommodation. makeshift meals, stony starts in the water. Nothing is more fun than being at World Finals, a big family reunion disguised as a competition. We'd do anything for each other, even for those who stand between us and a podium. Why? Because we are a family. So, get up everybody and ski! (or sit down, up to you)

There are many highlights this year, but these stood out for me. Quinten Bossche got that four-for-four moto streak he'd been hunting. Kole Cramer wanted to replicate his previous win at Havasu with such gusto he finished just two points behind World Series points leader, Jeremy Poret. Emma-Nellie Örtendahl, Simon Belcher and Suphathat Footrakul hat tricked their motos to win in Pro categories. Skinny Mo Burbayea won his second stop of the year. Dustin Farthing proved redemption is worth holeshoting and winning the final moto, although not in the podium race, just to show the crew you are still the boss.

Tied points were in fashion this year. Amateur Veterans Ski GP, JB Gasperone and Paul Del Rosario tied in points, JB winning the overall, a great win for Del Rosario, who has been riding the Philippine wave of excellence all year. Jasmiin Ypraus and River Varner tied in points for second and third respectively in Pro Ski Women GP. Coy Curtis and Harley Ritchie gave us the best fight we've seen in a minute in Expert Ski GP, with Harley giving us a bonus viral moment from a log jump that had him 'scare crowing' in a non-Freestyle category. Races were extremely close after Moto 2, with Moto 3 being the ultimate decider of fates.

This year we saw the least number of breaks. Whatever engineers, mechanics and teams did to keep those boats together, I salute you. This is precisely what made racing more competitive; a testament to the skill of the racers themselves.

Pro Freestyle saw an epic turnout, especially the night show. This year belonged to the renowned Jukish brothers. Nolan Jukish clinched the Pro Freestyle title after a close call last year, brother Gabe secured third, with flipping juggernaut Mark Gomez second. The Jukish tribe exemplifies the strong sense of family support with their dedicated cheering section. The Pro Freestyle category bid a bittersweet farewell to ten-time world champion and iconic figure, Lee Stone, who announced his retirement. While his absence will be felt, the freestyle community stands united in supporting and wishing Lee the best in his next chapter.

I feel deep gratitude over this community we've woven into family, unlike any other. We should continue celebrating each other, looking forward to every opportunity to race together and leave it all out on the water. We've only scratched the surface of the talent we have. I'll leave you with these deep words from Sister Sledge:

No (we), we don't get depressed, 'Cause here's what we call our golden rule, Have faith in you and the things you do, You won't go wrong, oh no, This is our family jewel.







rentucky PWC Riders hosted a ride at one of the most beautiful lakes we've ever seen, Norris Lake in Eastern Tennessee, a hidden gem buried in the Appalachian Mountains featuring caves, tall mountain peaks and the cleanest water in Tennessee.

The group rendezvoused in LaFollette, Tn, joining forces with the Water Dawgs PWC. Led by Michelle Cornett, Stephen Kresko, and Mark Ratliff, we embarked on an exciting journey, starting with our first destination, Zekes Goat Cave. This remarkable cave allowed us to walk and crawl through it, covering 200-300 yards.







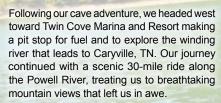
## EXPLORING NORRIS LAKE:

An Epic PWC Adventure in the Appalachian Mountains

Story and photos: Cory Eads







Amidst conversations and camaraderie, we concluded our first day with an impressive

Day 2, we set off from the same ramp meeting up with the Water Dawgs at a marina 20 miles away. The two groups embarked on a leisurely cruise, making a stop at a beautiful beach for incredible drone shots before heading to Bubba Brews for lunch. Following lunch, the groups went their separate ways. The Ky PWC Riders embarked on another 30-mile adventure up the Clinch River. The sights along the Clinch River were even more astonishing than those from Day 1! After immersing ourselves in the natural beauty of the mountain river, we made a memorable stop at the jumping bridge. Fearless daredevils took turns jumping from the bridge, thrilling the crowd gathered below.

One of the most exciting highlights was saved for last, thanks to Zachary Nickels, one of our local riders. He led us to the Swimming Cave, a fascinating cavern barely above the water, which you had to swim into to reach the cool interior. As we made our way back to the ramp, a heavy storm forced us to pause. Day 2 concluded with an unforgettable 142 miles of adventure!

Kentucky PWC Riders would like to give a shout out to Ohio group Water Dawgs PWC and Zachary Nickels for all the guidance and creating a wonderful weekend of memories! PR









(Y PWC-RIDERS



88.531

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## 2023 PI AQUA X CHAMPION - PRO ENDURO 300

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## **MODIFIED SEA-DOO PWC**

## Unable to Achieve Expected Top Speed

any factors influence top speed. Before modifying your watercraft, establish an accurate baseline for post-modification comparisons. A watercraft with pre-existing issues won't deliver the expected results after modification. If your top speed doesn't meet expectations postmodification, check the following:

#### 1. HOSE CLAMPS:

Check all intake system and exhaust system couplers, tubes, and clamps to ensure they are installed properly and secure.

#### 2. JET PUMP COMPONENTS:

Wear Ring: A worn or damaged wear ring will cause increased cavitation resulting in poor acceleration and slower top speed. Any signs of damage the wear ring must be replaced. We offer OEM plastic wear rings and upgraded stainless steel wear rings for improved performance.

Pump Stator: Damaged stator vanes will reduce pump efficiency limiting top speed.

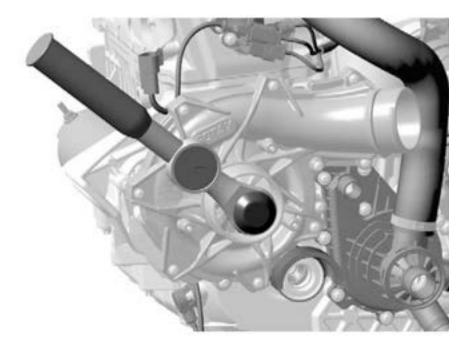
Pump Seal: If installed incorrectly will cause excess cavitation resulting in poor performance.

Pump Impeller: Damage from debris or cavitation (pitting) will reduce efficiency. A new pump impeller may need to be repitched to optimize performance for your operating conditions.

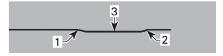
#### 3. SUPERCHARGER:

Supercharger slip moment must be adjusted to our recommended torque setting for optimal performance. The slip moment setting directly affects the boost performance of your supercharger.

Slip Moment for STOCK Supercharger	15 lbf•ft
Slip Moment for MODIFIED Supercharger	17~18 lbf•ft
Locking Nut (Clutch Side)	24 lbf•ft
Impeller Nut	22 lbf•ft



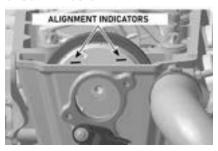
#### 4. OIL LEVEL:



1. TOO FULL 3. IDEAL **2.** ADD

For optimum performance engine oil level should be no higher than midway on the dipstick. Follow warm up procedure outlined in owner's manual prior to checking oil level.

#### 5. COMPRESSION:

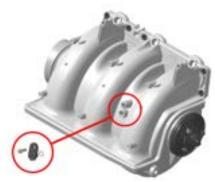


Compression should be 150psi ideally. Higher compression (>5psi) is a sign the camshaft gear is not aligned properly and should be checked.

#### **6. CAM GEAR POSITION:**

Verify cam gear is secure not out of position. Alignment marks should favor exhaust side over intake side. Advancing or retarding further can result in loss of top speed. See reference image.

#### 7. INTAKE MANIFOLD:



If you chose to utilize the "blank" plastic cover on the intake manifold for a vacuum port fitting, check to make sure it is not cracked, and the O-ring is not dislodged or missing. We recommend a billet aluminum replacement designed to reliably accept vacuum line fittings. RS12050-VPA

#### 8. INTERCOOLER:

Due to its efficiency in cooling the superhot air from the supercharger, it's common to see condensation exiting the air outlet side of the intercooler. However, excessive moisture could indicate a leak in the cooling element resulting in reduced performance. A simple pressure test can be performed to verify. Do not exceed 10psi when pressure testing. Additionally, a "dirty" intercooler will reduce thermal efficiency resulting in lower performance. Inspect the air inlet side for sludge or corrosion. If found, soak intercooler overnight in Simple Green or CLR. Rinse thoroughly and allow to dry completely before replacing. It may be necessary to repeat this process several times. We offer both OEM replacement intercoolers and upgraded 'GEN-4' Power Coolers.

#### 9. IBR/ECU/CLUSTER PAIRING:

If there is a break in communication between the iBR, ECU or Cluster (dash display) you will need to "pair" them again using the Maptuner X Dealer Service Application or by taking your craft to an authorized Sea-Doo dealer who can use the OEM Diagnostic System (B.U.D.S.).

#### **10. RIDE PLATE:**



Through extensive testing we have determined there is a manufacturing variance between OEM ride plates on 2022 & newer Sea-Doo watercraft that can inhibit top speed gains on affected units. This variance is not a manufacturing defect as the watercraft reach factory specified performance levels and only exhibit reduced speed gains when modified.

#### Fast Ride Plate Identification (No Top Speed Loss)

On ride plates with a favorable planing surface for top speed, the change in planing surface angle begins approximately 6 inches after the intake grate mounting point, progressively rising until the end of the ride plate. This contributes to dynamic lift enabling the bow to rise for reducing drag and allowing top speed gains on modified craft.

#### OEM RIDE PLATE WITH FAVORABLE PLANING ANGLE FOR TOP SPEED.



Planing surface angle change begins 6" after intake grate mount

#### Slow Ride Plate Identification (Reduced Top Speed)

On ride plates with an unfavorable planing surface for top speed, the change in planing surface angle begins further back after the intake grate mounting point (7 inches or more) resulting in less dynamic lift. This causes additional drag that prevents modified craft from achieving expected top speed gains.

#### OEM RIDE PLATE WITH UNFAVORABLE PLANING ANGLE FOR TOP SPEED.



Planing surface angle change begins more than 9" after intake grate

#### SOLUTION

By modifying affected ride plates to match the more favorable specification, we can achieve expected top speeds on modified craft. Gains of 5+ MPH are common with this modification to affected ride plates.

### OEM RIDE PLATE MODIFICATION SERVICE

RIVA Racing offers an 'OEM Sea-Doo Ride Plate Modification Service' (Part#: RSS21120-RPM) for 2022+ Sea-Doo models with 1630cc engine. The service involves machining your affected ride plate to the faster specification utilizing an accurate and repeatable process. Please contact RIVA Technical Support for details prior to sending us your ride plate. Ride plates will be inspected when received to determine condition. Any that appear damaged or warped will not be modified and returned. PR

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THIS TECHNICAL BULLETIN CONTACT:

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# British Championship Winners at Brixham: OCRDA Season Wrap-up

By: Sarah Donohue | Photos: Anthony Hadaway



















he 7th and final round of OCRDA's Aqua Adrenaline Tour hit the shores of Brixham, UK resulting in three clear British Championship winners.

For those not acquainted with the UK shores, many of the venues reserved for circuit events such as Aqua Adrenaline are about as perfect as they can be for spectators, riders, and officials. Brixham was no different with its lengthy breakwater at the top end of the course overlooking two turn marks directly in front, to its inshore leg running up the small, pebbled bay teaming with swimmers and spectators.

The BBC turned out to film the event as well as mainstream TV channel ITV, and a whole host of radio shows were broadcasting making this finale one to watch as fans and spectators flocked to this picturesque venue.

Darren Lodge (69) took the J1 British offshore championship on his Yamaha FX SVHO in the Unlimited Supercharged class.

Callum Davidson-Guild (33) claimed the J2 British Offshore Championship in the Stock Supercharged class for MES Racing riding Yamaha.

Michael Leeming (330) claimed the British title in the Non-supercharged class for MES Racing riding Yamaha.

University student Callum took the tough decision for round 7, to not even get his ski wet. With the current points system Callum was already a clear winner after round 6, but any collision resulting in a DQ could have changed everything.

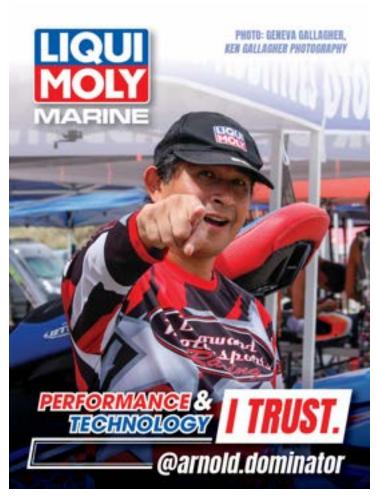
After suffering a knee injury and being taken to hospital after round 5 in Liverpool, the young racer couldn't risk losing his standing so his talents shifted to the microphone as commentator.

With racing in the UK being heavily male-dominated, it was great to see Sammie Covington back out again for her second event of the season on her Sea-Doo in the J3 class. Pulling in a strong result taking a 3<sup>rd</sup> overall over the entire weekend, unfortunately she hadn't qualified for the British as she had only raced two events.

With no incidents on or off the water, OCRDA put on yet another slick event on the UK shores! **PR** 









### AMAZING DISPLAY OF YOUTH TALENT IN JET SKI RACING

IJSBA JETTRIBE JUNIOR NATIONALS SPOSNORED BY LEE SURE POOLS: **US OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC TRAINING SITE** 

#### YOUTH ELITE CLASS INTRODUCED

Story and photos: Charles Guinchard

he US Olympic & Paralympic Training Site in Oklahoma City on the Oklahoma River served as the venue for the 2023 Inaugural IJSBA Jettribe Junior National Championship sponsored by Lee Sure Pools.

Shared Race Director Justin Smith, "The Junior National Championship was the culmination of efforts by many great jet ski minds to promote youth talent eight to seventeen, from pro riders to beginner. The event exceeded our expectations on every level, and we look forward to an even better event next year with improvements to the race site. We had over 70 entries and expect numbers to increase."

Exclusively for juniors, the event included the

debut of the Youth Elite Class, created to allow already-proficient young jet ski racing athletes to compete on high-powered machines. These are skis used in competition by trained, professional riders, therefore, only youth with a demonstrated track record of competence, safety and professionalism were approved to race in the Youth Ski Elite Class.

Gavin Berglund, Omaha, Nebraska said, "I really liked the RiverSport venue and all the side activities. It was cool, fun, and a friendly atmosphere with just juniors."











"It was worth the drive from Lake Havasu! It was a very professional event and nice to switch it up to do something different," said Reese Giese, Scottsdale, Arizona.

> Caris Webster, Phoenix, Arizona shared, "The event was awesome! Solely focused on the kids, it gives you a chance to feel special. I loved the joker buoy.'

Jimmy Giese, Scottsdale, Arizona stated, "If you stay in your own bathtub, Lake Havasu, you only get to play with your toys. Travel and change it up!

> From Albuquerque, New Mexico, Jeremy Poper of Lee Sure Pools said, "It was a unique way to focus on up-and-coming talent. Pro riders are glad these kids are still juniors! It's amazing when a kid starts racing, their family and friends come with them to the sport. We love to sponsor the event, encourage other riders and keep my son Ryan active and out of trouble. He loves to compete with his friends."

Owner/ Founder Kommander Industries' Steve Webster shared, "That was the best live feed ever in the history of PWC racing, we would like to do that more than once a year."

> The three-day event will return in July 2024, on back-to-back weekends with the IJSBA Central Nationals in Texas. PR



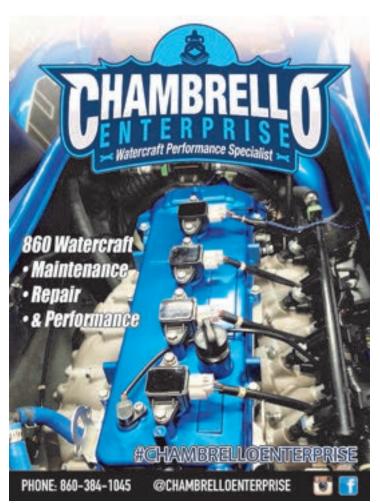






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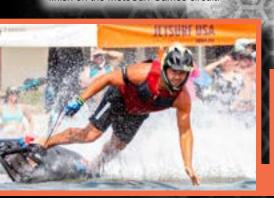


By: Matt Surkos | Photos: Lukáš Fidrmuc; David Rosenfield

or the third year in a row, the best MotoSurf racers from across America moved to Sebring, Florida to compete for the title of America's fastest racer. On Lake Jackson, one of the biggest on the circuit, this year's event welcomed 45 racers from 10 countries including the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Colombia, Israel, Belgium and South Africa.

Additionally, the first ever Seabob race took place with 28 racers. Crowd favorite young Dawson Chenault, Destin, Florida dominated qualifying by over 14 seconds with a time of 1:30:18 but finished 5th in the semi-finals. In the final Ryder Sawangwan put in a flawless ride, leaving Faith McKay (2nd), Austin Davenport (3rd) and Austin Innis (4th) all from the United States.

The motorized surf race featured four categories - Juniors, Women and two men's categories, Hobby and Pro. In Juniors, featuring aspiring stars under age 15, eight competitors contended. Spectators were treated to an exhilarating race until the final lap. A mere 8 points separated the top three. Sawangwan clinched his second victory outperforming the talented Lukas Violette by 6 points. Taking third was Anna Burk, her inaugural podium finish on the MotoSurf Games circuit.





"I was so excited to podium at Sebring that I fell asleep with my trophy in my arms that night! It truly made all the hard work practicing over the summer worth it. Making podium has inspired me to continue pushing myself to get better in hopes of winning first someday.

- Anna Burk

In Women's, participants represented USA, Mexico, Canada, and Belgium. Alaia Flores from Mexico and Laureen Thellin from Belgium engaged in a fierce battle for the top spot. Ultimately, first was secured by Flores. Arantxa Flores, the second of the Flores sisters, clinched third.

In the Hobby category Ted Burk easily took his first career win. Second went to Scott Freethy and third to Sebastian Squire.

The spotlight was on the premier category. Men's Pro, with 12 participants from five countries. Reigning champion Antony Squire secured another victory, challenged by Canadian speedster Mark Andrews, who won the first final but ultimately settled for second place. Juan Pablo de Urquidi from Mexico completed the podium.

"It was an honor to race with such talented riders at a beautiful venue, and I was so excited to win my fourth consecutive Motosurf America cup win. I hope the sport continues to grow and urge more riders to come out and give it a try to see how amazing our community really is!"

- Antony Squire













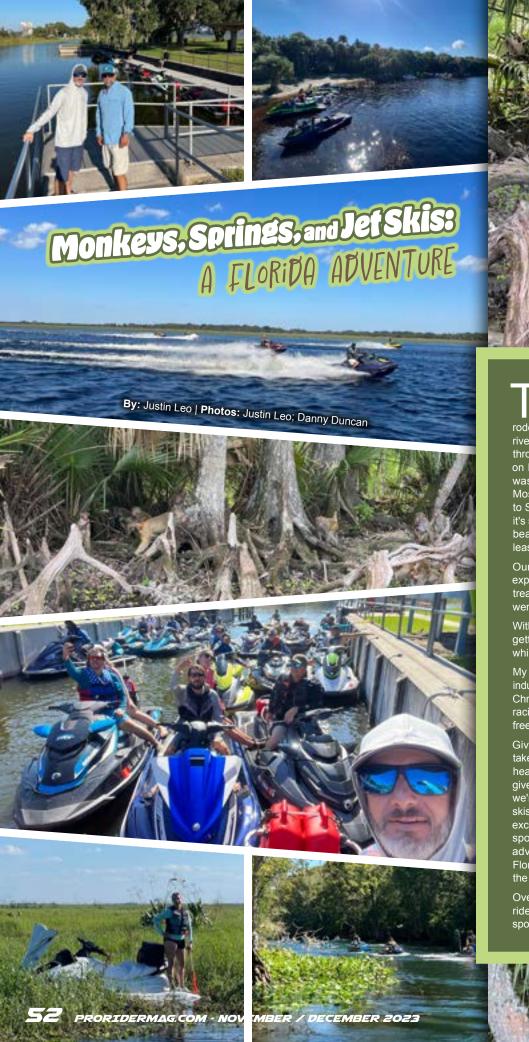




Despite challenging weather conditions including the impact of a hurricane, the MotoSurf Games in Sebring was an exceptional event. Sincere gratitude is extended to our partners: Visit Sebring, Sebring — the city on the circle, JETSURF USA, Epic Ride USA, Seabob America, and Airstream Ventures. Their support was indispensable. See you next year! PR







his scenic 85-mile 5-hour ride led by me and Danny Duncan, started at Tavares Recreation Park in Tavares, Florida and rode to Silver Springs going through multiple rivers and locks. We started on Lake Eustis, through Haines Creek Lock, and popped out on Lake Griffin. The final stretch of the ride was on the Ocklawaha River through the Moss Bluff Lock through the Ocala Forest to Silver River Spring. At the spring's mouth it's 5 miles of no-wake zones cutting through beautiful crystal-clear water; we spotted at least 50 monkeys about 3 miles in!

Our group of family and friends loves to explore rivers and springs and it's always a treat to encounter the Rhesus monkeys that were set free in the 1930's.

With 25 riders on the trip, the highlight was getting everyone to our destination safely while enjoying the adventure.

My brother Chris and I have been in the jet ski industry since the 90's and Danny before then. Chris was previously involved in the Aqua X racing circuit while I was a participant in the freestyle side, riding Rockered Waveblasters.

Given the intense nature of freestyle, I've taken a break from the waves to let my injuries heal and explore the sport more. It's hard to give up riding, the sport is addictive. Since we're not jumping waves or topping out our skis on the water, we've found long-distance excursions are the perfect way to enjoy the sport. Danny is always ready for the next adventure and is very knowledgeable on Florida Waterways. We plan more rides for the future including a run to Bimini.

Overall, we're excited to create a group of riders that can come together to enjoy the sport and adventure! **PR** 





## PR FUTURE THREATS



## RIVER JAMES CRAWFORD

Photos: MrZomB.Photo

**AGE: 14 HOMETOWN:** 

Lake Havasu City, Arizona

**SKI:** Yamaha Superjet

RIDING: Race **RACE #: 177** 

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** Body Beach, Lake Havasu City

SPONSORS: TC Freeride

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> place at most recent jet ski race in Lake Havasu and recently sponsored by LUCKY, one of the biggest names in the scooter world.

**MOST MEMORABLE TIME ON** THE WATER: This last race (my second race) was pretty rad being able to finish all my races on the podium after getting last pretty

much all motos my first race.



## KASHE ARVID CRAWFORD

Photos: MrZomB.Photo

**AGE: 12 HOMETOWN:** 

Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Yamaha Superjet and a Rickter

RIDING: Race and Freestyle

**RACE #: 928** 

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** 

Body Beach, Lake Havasu

**SPONSORS:** TC Freeride

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: 2nd and a 3rd on my first two races.

**MOST MEMORABLE TIME ON** THE WATER: When I landed my backflip for the first time and placing 3rd on the podium for my first jet ski race in Parker, Arizona.



## **LUKE LOVELY**

Photos: Jaime Lovely

**AGE:** 17

HOMETOWN: Oxford, Michigan

**SKI:** 1987 Kawasaki JS 550

RIDING: Race RACE #: pending

**FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION:** Torch Lake in northern Michigan

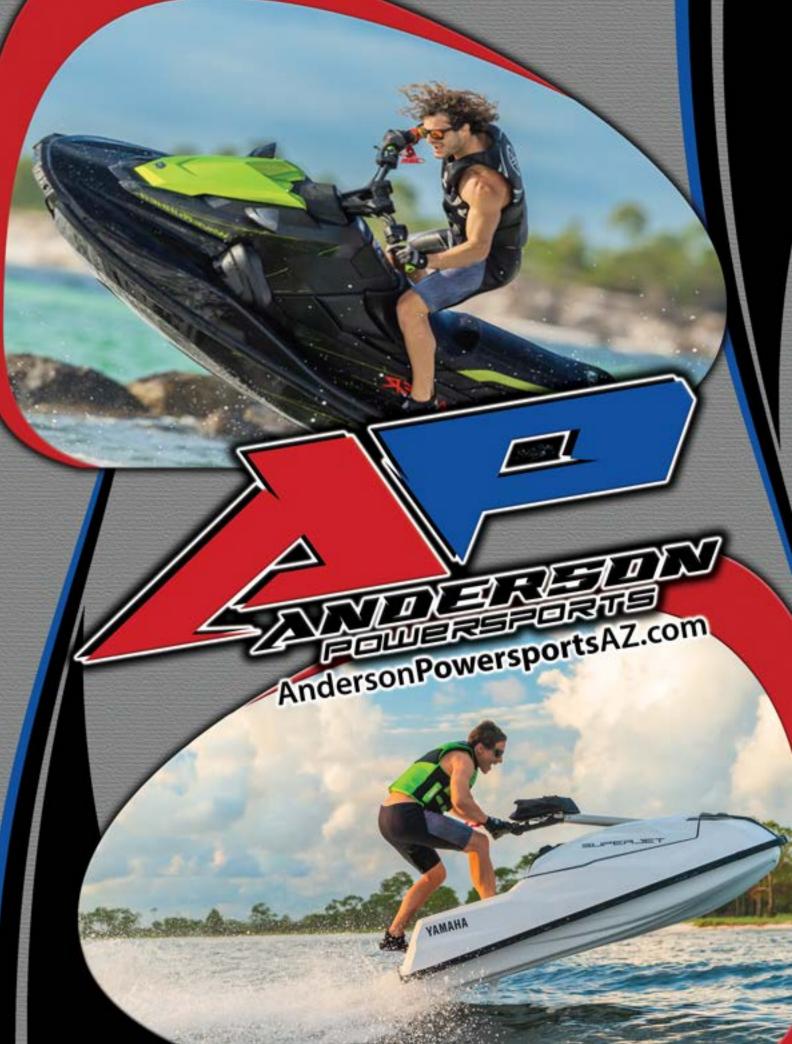
SPONSORS: Mom and Dad

MOST MEMORABLE TIME ON THE WATER: On March 30th in Michigan, the ice is barely off the lake, and I rode my ski this

past winter.

#### LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: 1

raced my first official race at Brave the Wave in Lake Orion, Mi where I entered as a stock 550. No one from the 550 class showed up that day, so they me the choice to get my registration money back or ride with the modified 550 class. I wasn't about to go home without racing, so I raced my stock machine in the modified class and finished 4th out of 8! I am building a Rickter with hopes to get it in the water next summer. I am a junior at Oxford High School with a 3.7 GPA. I am a mentor for the 42 Strong mentorship program.



# PRIDE OF THE

## THE 2023 NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

By: Dawn Dawson | Photos: Arek Rejs

n life's vast ocean diversely we sail. Reasons the card, but passion the gale." Alexander Pope summarizes the intensity and beauty of the Nordic Championships, a regional race that turned out to be international with eleven participating countries.

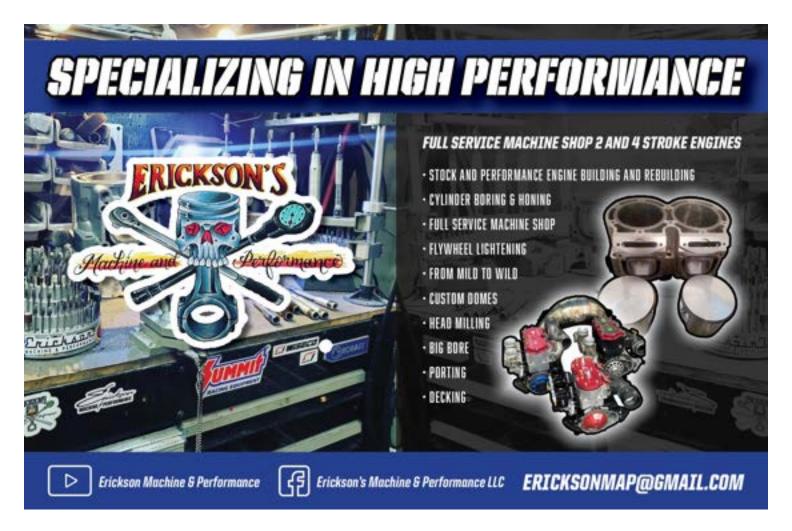
In its second year in Stenungsund, Sweden, the championship coincided with the 60th anniversary of Baltic Week, celebrated on land and water. A towering sound system, suspended like a Christmas tree of speakers from a crane, took the racing experience to the next level.

We must talk about the women of the North, in particular; Emma-Nellie Ortendahl, Sofie Borgstrom, Janina Johansson and Benedicte Drange. It's interesting how the landscape of this quiet and stark region informs their racing style. For Emma-Nellie, this was her test run, playing without pressure, taking second in Ski GP 1 Ladies. The Borgstrom sisters played tag in 2022 and 2023, with Jonna sustaining an injury this year and Sofie sustaining one last year. This was Sofie's first big race back on the circuit. She surprised all with an immediate win in moto 1. She is the ultimate team player but when fighting for her sport she goes for it.

In Ski GP 1 Ladies, we have to acknowledge the ferociously awesome performance of Benedicte Drange from Norway. This young lady was in the junior camp less than two years ago, challenging herself to the pros in 2022. Suddenly, she comes into these championships to win big time. She won two motos, holding off her equally fierce sisters. Winning suits Benedicte, and she just got a taste of it. Janina Johansson has racing in her blood. We often see her on the standup. Recently, we've seen her excel on runabouts like her brother and father Samuel and Johan Johansson. Applying consistency to her newly adopted class she won Runabout GP 2, holding off last year's champion, Linus Lindberg.

Sam Johansson took Runabout GP 1 win, Erik Persson for Runabout GP 4 and Czech Republic's Nikola Dryjakova for Runabout GP 4 Ladies. Ski GP 1 was Anders Keller's class to win, with kudos to runners up Severi Salonen and Daniel Svae Andersen. Daan Hoeke from the Netherlands won Ski GP 2 and Dag Martin Drange took the win in Ski GP 3 (holding off Mattias Reinaas and Ander-Hubert Lauri). A good stop for the Drange and Johansson families! PR









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## ON THE WATER



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By: Paul Lehr, Lehr Performance Photos: Jonathan Wooley, S3 Magazine

ate September in the north Georgia hills, the rowdy boys of the dirty South have jet skiing on their minds, none wanting to let summer vibes go just yet. Lake Allatoona is the destination. The 12th annual gathering of the now Classic Southern Fried Freeride is on where standup watercraft is king no couches allowed! Those old Ford and Chevy pickups have a 550, 650 or other standup in the bed.

Allatoona Landing Marina and Campground, in conjunction with X-H2O.com hosted the event, the only 'true standup freeride' left, freeride enthusiasts have been waiting all summer for with an awesome mix of first-time riders, ex-racers, freestyle wannabes, freestyle has-beens and plain fun-loving people!

#### What is Freeride / Freestyle Watercraft riding?

\*FREERIDE: (Sport) by definition is a style of standup watercraft riding, where riding is performed on natural waves or boat generated waves and ariel jumps / tricks are the objective.

\*FREESTYLE: (Sport) by definition is a style of standup watercraft riding, where trick or stunt riding is the objective. Rider discipline and control, a highly maneuverable ski, with amazing talent is required.

\*FREERIDE GATHERING: No rules, just right; an endless party atmosphere.

The core group headed by Harrison Lanford and me, has been promoting the freeride lifestyle for years. This season's gathering attracted many new riders from across the southeast, some having never ridden standup! Energy was high, stoke was real as they grabbed the bars and climbed into the tray for their first rides, now part of the Freeride Family.

Eighty skis took to the water, while a lively crowd cheered the shenanigans, a healthy mix of old school vintage skis, custom aftermarket craft, and new 4 stroke models.

The event included the customary covered dish dinner with BK's southern fried catfish, Jill's cowboy beans, Kathy's mac-n-cheese

Interested in learning about the standup freeride lifestyle, or for information on next year's SFF gathering? Head over to WWW.X-H20.COM forum. There's a Freeride section to keep you up to date on all gatherings nationwide.

Ski ya at the next ride! PR



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BY @THEINONLYDILLAN Photo and Videos: @the1nonlydillan (3)









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"Lucky, AKA Lucky Dawg, is a 4-year-old Red Heeler rescue from the Western Arizona Humane Society. I worked with my sponsor, OnlyFans and the jetski community to raise \$1,000 for supplies for the shelter, and during my visits at the shelter I met Lucky.

My family has had Heelers since before I was born, and I've always loved them. I'm thankful to have met such a great dog and am happy to have him as a part of my life! Catch us at **Body Beach!**"





















s a mother who's passionate about jet ski racing, finding time for my workouts has been challenging. Juggling responsibilities of motherhood with the intense training required for this exhilarating sport isn't easy, but it's not impossible. I've discovered effective home workout routines that allow me to pursue my passion while ensuring I'm there for my kids. I'm excited to share some of my favorite jet ski racing-inspired home workouts for the moms out there looking to stay fit and active while raising a family.

## 1. CORE STRENGTHENING FOR BALANCE AND CONTROL:

Jet ski racing demands excellent core strength for balance and control on the water. To develop this, incorporate exercises like planks, Russian twists, and leg raises which are effective and can be done in short bursts throughout the day, ideal for busy moms.

#### 2. LEG POWER FOR ACCELERATION:

Powerful leg muscles are essential for quick acceleration and maneuvering on a jet ski. Bodyweight exercises like squats, lunges, and calf raises build strength and endurance. Plus, you can involve your kids in these exercises to make it a fun family activity. Fun game, every time your child says "mom" do a squat. If your kids are anything like my three, you will be in shape in no time!

#### 3. CARDIOVASCULAR ENDURANCE:

Jet ski racing requires robust cardiovascular endurance to handle high-speed action on the water. Incorporate high-intensity interval training (HIIT) with activities like jumping jacks, burpees, and mountain climbers to get your heart rate up quickly. Do these exercises in short bursts while your kids play or nap.

Flexibility and mobility are often overlooked, but they're crucial for avoiding injuries and performing your best. Yoga or stretching sessions can be a wonderful addition to your weekly routine, calming moments allowing you to recharge while enhancing flexibility.

#### **6. MENTAL TOUGHNESS:**

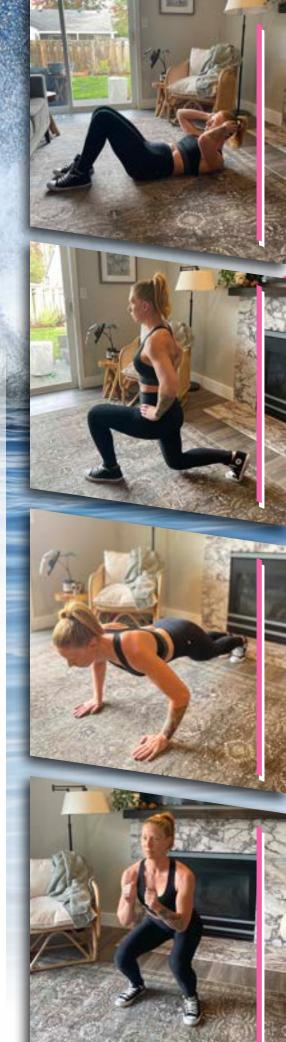
Racing requires mental strength. Visualization and meditation exercises help you focus and stay calm during races. Practice these early in the morning or late at night when your kids are asleep to promote a peaceful environment.

#### 7. MULTI-TASKING WORKOUTS:

As a mom, multitasking is your superpower! Combine home workouts with activities involving your kids. Play a game of tag in the backyard, go for a family bike ride, or do squats while supervising their playtime. Small efforts add up and help you stay fit without sacrificing quality time with your children.

I've learned it's possible to pursue your athletic dreams while raising a family. Incorporating home workouts inspired by the demands of stand-up racing can help you achieve fitness goals without compromising responsibilities as a mom. With dedication, creativity, and a supportive family, you can find the perfect balance between being a mother and a racer in the comfort of your own home. Keep in mind, nothing will prepare you more for racing than time on your ski! It's most beneficial for my racing and my mental health to get out on the water and burn some gas!

Gear up, embrace the challenge, and show the world what a determined mom can achieve!  $\mbox{\it PR}$ 











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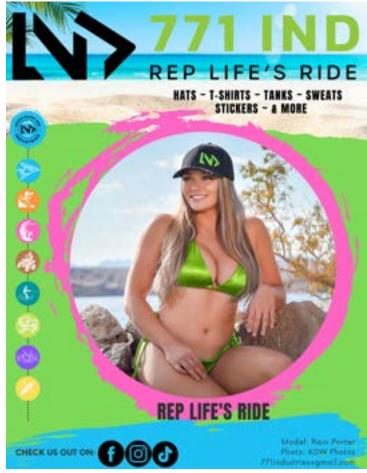


















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## FUELS EUROPEAN FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

By: Vaclav Zacek | Photos: Grzegorz Photography

Fuels European Freestyle Championship returned to So'Fun Village near Paris, France. Twenty competitors from France, United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, Italy, Belgium, and Finland participated in the European qualifier for IJSBA World Finals.

#### FREESTYLE BEGINNER

3 RD Stephane Roman, France, Dasa Racing powered Rickter by Rick Roy Products

**2** ND **Michael Krawczynski**, Poland, Helium by Team Xscream powered by True Performance Engineering

sт Yohan Dremaux, France. Xone by Compositech powered by **Engine Tech** 

#### OLD SCHOOL CLASS FREESTYLE 800 3

**3** RD **Paul Hewitt**, United Kingdom, Loki Customs powered Yamaha SuperJet 2

ND Thomas Wolf, Germany, Yamaha SuperJet The Queen of

st Claire Hartung, Germany, Yamaha SuperJet, daughter of 8x Freestyle World Champion Marc the **Shark Sickerling** 

#### FREESTYLE 900

**2** ND **Pierre Paris**, France, Revolver R by Lee Stone Products powered by Dasa Racing

Ist Dan Fitzpatrick, United Kingdom, Pro Series Revolver by Lee Stone Products powered by Engine Tech

#### FREESTYLE 1200

RD Kornel Babilec, Poland, Helium by Team Xscream powered by TPE

nd Penti Keinanen, Finland, Helium by Team Xscream powered by Team Xscream

1 st Niels Willems, Belgium, Rickter by Rick Roy Products powered by Dasa Racing

Every Freestyle Personal Watercraft Assoc-iation organized event since the beginning of the European

Freestyle Championship in 2012 includes crowd favorite Best Trick competitions sponsored by JETTRIM:

Best Trick Beginner Freestyle: Yohan Dremaux, France

Best Trick Freestyle 800: Claire Hartung, Germany

Best Trick Freestyle 900: Dan Fitzpatrick, United Kingdom

Best Trick Freestyle 1200: Niels Willems, Belgium

Only top 5 riders who accumulate the most points in each class are allowed to compete in the most prestigious freestyle event where European Freestyle Champions are crowned, the Super Final.

#### FREESTYLE BEGINNER

**5** TH Cedric Peterson, France, Rickter by Division Rickter by Rick Roy Products powered by Engine Tech

тн Stephane Roman, France, Rickter by Rick Roy Products powered by Dasa Racing

**3** RD Cedric Potvin, France, Rickter by Rick Roy Products powered by Dasa Racing

ND Michael Krawczynski, Poland, Helium by Team Xstream powered by True Performance Engineering

sr **Yohan Dremaux,** France, on Xone by Compositech powered by Engine Tech

#### Freestyle 800 Super Final

**5** тн *Lilouan Desroche,* France, Yamaha Superjet

Тн **Jason Wilms,** Germany, Yamaha Superjet.

? RD Thomas Wolf, Germany, Yamaha Superjet

ND Claire Hartung, German, y on Yamaha Superjet

*s r Paul Hewitt,* United Kingdom, Yamaha Superjet

#### FREESTYLE 900 SUPER FINAL

ND Pierre Paris

sт Dan Fitzpatrick

#### FREESTYLE 1200 SUPER FINAL

тн **Franck Chesnay,** France. **5**TH **Franck Cheshay, France,**Tigercraft powered by Dasa Racing

тн Nice Denille, France, Rickter by Rick Roy Products powered by Dasa Racing

RD Kornel Babilec

ид **Penti Keinanen** 

**S** ▼ Niels Willems

We hope to see you in 2024 at the European Freestyle Championship in London. Thank You and keep on flippin'! PR





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\*Products and sizes may vary.



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