

American Power Boat Association
17640 E. 9 Mile
Eastpointe, MI 48021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2/22/13

EASTEPOINTE, Mich.,- Lake Hollingsworth in Lakeland, Fla. will be abounding with power boats competing in the 75th anniversary of the Orange Cup Regatta on March 2-3.

The largest categories to compete will be Inboard and Outboard Performance Craft (OPC). Joining the Inboards and OPCs will be one Stock Outboard class and two Junior Classes. Jersey Speed Skiffs, part of the Inboard category, will be one of the largest classes, and one of the best to watch. Each Speed Skiff, carrying a driver and a riding mechanic, travels at 80mph while precariously rolling sideways and often flying above the water. OPC classes that will also race, such as SST 120 and SST 200 are tunnel boats that can reach speeds over 100mph.

“A good number of people watch it. There’s thousands that come.” APBA Chief Scorer Sally Titus said, “We make arrangements on all sides of the pits and they come and they can park and set up all around this lake with tents and everything.”

Each of the categories has a referee and a schedule is crafted so that the racing is nonstop from morning until night. With an entire lakeshore to camp out on, spectators can enjoy the different races throughout the day.

“The Orange Cup Regatta is a great entertainment venue. There is no charge, just great viewing around the lake.” Race Director Gene Engle said, “It’s a great way to spend the day, to see a lot of great boat racing.”

Coming from as far as Chicago and sometimes even Canada, and as far west as the Mississippi River, racers can thaw out and enjoy beautiful Lakeland, Fla.

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Formed in 1903, the American Power Boat Association is the oldest governing body in motorsports. Headquartered in Eastpointe Mich., the APBA has over 3,500 active members and sanctions over 150 races nationally. The APBA sanctions all types of power boat racing from Unlimited Hydroplanes to Junior Class Outboard racing which children can begin at nine-years of age. For more information, please visit www.apba.org