



Introduction

Some memories stay with you. Maybe it was the game-winning home run in the World Series. Or the last lap of an Indianapolis 500. You remember the moment, the people, the excitement.

Excitement

In powerboat racing, the U.S. Title Series also offers a special kind of excitement. Live. Real. Vivid. The best moments stay with you. The U.S. Title Series showcases America's finest outboard drivers in state-of-the-art boats professionally presented in a series of championship events. Because of the high tech nature of the boats and engines, they are often compared to Indy cars on water. The speeds are fast, over 120 mph, and the intense competition of a U.S. Title Series race is not soon forgotten.

"I've been a fan of the U.S. Title Series for years. I love the speed and the competition, but I also enjoy the people. The drivers are friendly. Every year, it's like seeing old friends again."

Community

The U.S. Title Series is more than great racing. Its events are meant to appeal to families. Most U.S. Title Series regattas are the centerpiece of community celebrations where families can enjoy the activities together. The drivers and crews in the U.S. Title Series also represent traditional family values. Racing is a tradition passed from generation to generation.

Professionalism

Professionalism is a constant in all aspects of the U.S. Title Series— from the appearance of the boats and crews to the final award ceremony. Profession-

alism is also a driver taking time to talk with a young race fan, providing media assistance, and working together with the sponsor to make a great event. Professionalism is part of what makes the U.S. Title Series special.

Background

"My family has been active in powerboat racing for three generations. My father started in it, then I followed, and so has my son. I think racing has made us a closer family."

Dan Kirts, Bristol, Indiana

Three-time World Powerboat Champion

The U.S. Title Series is one of America's major outboard powerboat racing series. Annually, thousands of people view the races on the U.S. Title Series tour. Founded in 1982, the U.S. Title Series is the showcase for professional racing outboards, a heritage that began early in the 20th century. Today, the boats and engines are designed exclusively for racing. Speeds range from 60 mph for the smallest classes to over 120 mph for the fastest.

The U.S. Title Series attracts many of America's best outboard drivers, including World Champions and World Speed Record Holders, plus many drivers who compete internationally.

At U.S. Title Series events, drivers compete for cash prizes, awards, and points toward the U.S. Title Series Driving Championship, one of the most coveted achievements in outboard racing. Usually, a U.S. Title Series race attracts at least 70 entries from 16 states and Canada. The U.S. Title Series is a member of the American Power Boat Association, the nation's largest powerboat

sanctioning body.

Format

A U.S. Title Series competition is designed to be a fast paced program lasting approximately 3 1/2 hours, the ideal length for most major sports events. A program is run on both Saturday and Sunday. Each day's program presents different classes of boats. Friday is reserved for testing and practice.

The U.S. Title Series blends the close competition of oval track racing with the variety and fast pace of drag racing. Each class competes in 3 heats of 4 laps around a 1-mile oval course. Points awarded in the heats determine the overall winner in each class. The format provides a close competition and high speeds, and the course layout allows spectators to have a full view of the race course.

A U.S. Titles Series race offers flexibility in coordinating with other elements of a community event that is unmatched in motor sports. The crowd pleasing format, flare, diversity, and flexibility of a U.S. Title Series event make it an extremely attractive addition to an existing community event, or the focal point for a new event.



Mark Gyskiewicz from Cumberland, WI driving the Dupont 500 Capsule.

US Title Series Boat Classes

There are ten classes in the U.S. Title Series based on the type of boat and the size of the engines. Engines are specifically designed for racing, burn methanol fuel, and are manufactured all over the world. A separate race is run for each class consisting of three heats per class and four laps per heat. There are two distinctive types of boats in the U.S. Title Series: Runabouts and Hydroplanes.



The 500cc Runabouts reach 100 mph.

Runabouts are hulls that have a flat bottom. They turn well, ride rough, and as any experienced Runabout rider will tell you, require the most skill to drive. U.S. Title Series has 4 Runabout classes dependent on engine size: 125cc, 250cc, 350cc, and 500cc. Runabouts don't have seats— the driver kneels and has to lean hard into the turns while bouncing on the water at speeds up to 100 mph. With one hand on the throttle and the other on the steering wheel, these sharp turning boats require quick reflexes and a love for adrenaline.

Hydroplanes are the fastest boats on the water. Designed to ride on a tunnel of air over the water, these boats nearly fly—up to 120 mph. The 500cc Hydros require a capsule and a 5-point harness seating system similar to NASCAR for safety conditions. These drivers carry oxygen and many use radios in their helmets to receive direction from their crew-chief. U.S. Title Series also runs 125cc, 250cc, and 350cc Hydroplanes. As one of the most popular classes in the world, 350cc Hydroplanes balance the abilities of high speeds with good handling, which can result in some very exciting racing.



The 500cc Capsules require NASCAR 5-point safety harness.



The Comprehensive Package

The U.S. Title Series has greatly reduced the effort of producing a major powerboat race by providing a comprehensive package. The package contains most necessary services and we think it's one of the finest packages in powerboat racing. This package includes:

An exclusive franchise. Only one U.S. Title Series event is scheduled per weekend.

A major racing event. The U.S. Title Series is America's showcase for professional racing outboards, the nation's oldest form of powerboat racing. A U.S. Title Series race weekend includes an exciting 3 ½ hour show on both Saturday *and* Sunday. Four different classes are presented each day (a total of eight during the weekend.) Also, the practice sessions on Friday add to the excitement and help build momentum for the event.

Race weekend operations. An extremely capable and experienced staff is necessary to run a race as efficiently as the U.S. Title Series. The U.S. Title Series has one of the best. Our staff performs the following functions during race weekend:

- ◆ Sanction and insurance preparation
- ◆ Driver registration
- ◆ Course design and set up
- ◆ Officiating all race heats
- ◆ Scoring and timing of all race heats
- ◆ Boat and engine safety inspections
- ◆ Disbursement of all prize money

Marketing and promotion support program. The U.S. Title Series works with the sponsor both prior to, and during the race weekend to create and maintain spectator and commercial sponsor interest. The elements of the program include:

- ◆ Press releases and media kits about the event. These may be distributed by the event sponsor or the U.S. Title Series depending upon the sponsor requirements. The U.S. Title Series can help coordinate press conferences about the race.
- ◆ Program book design layout. Camera-ready articles and photos about the U.S. Title Series provide the backbone for the program. Ad sales and printing are handled by the race sponsor.
- ◆ Race announcer to keep spectators excited and informed.
- ◆ Post race awards ceremony. This public ceremony acknowledges and thanks local sponsors, and olympic style medals are awarded to drivers.

Liability insurance. Standard coverage: \$1,000,000. Higher limits optional at extra cost.



Sponsor Requirements

The U.S. Title Series is one of the most comprehensive packages in powerboat racing. However, there are some elements that are more appropriately handles at the local level. The U.S. Title Series is always happy to advise sponsors about these items.

Adequate pit area: To accommodate U.S. Title Series race boats and trailers, a minimum of 150 feet of gently sloping water frontage is required. U.S. Title Series boats cannot be launched from docks. Of course, the water-front area must be accessible by a road. There should be adequate parking area for the tow vehicles and support vehicles. For insurance reasons the pits must be separated from the general public by a temporary or permanent fence.

Written authorization to use the body of water: Most bodies of water require local, state, or federal permission to be used for racing. Usually permits must be obtained.

Patrol of the race course by appropriate authorities: Just as it would be impossible to run an auto race through the streets of town during rush hour, it's impossible to run a powerboat race on water that remains open to the public. For safety reasons, the race course must be closed to public boaters during race activities, and the appropriate authorities must be present to enforce this closure.

A minimum of two boats or jet skis for towing disabled race boats.

Race-site medical services during testing and both race days: The minimum acceptable level is one trauma-equipped ambulance on the test day and two trauma-equipped ambulances on race days (one may be on-call). Insurance requirements necessitate that an ambulance must be on site at all times while racing boats are on the water.



Terry Klemm from Stockton, Ca.
