

Conference Call of the Vintage & Historic Representatives -- August 25, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Doug Whitley at 7:07 PM. Members in attendance were: Region 2, Bill DeGlopper; Region 3, Bob Moore; Region 4, Dan Joseph; Region 5, Chuck Woodruff; Region 7 & 14, Ron Snyder; Region 8, Phil Mitchell; Region 9, Jay Marshall; Region 10, Don Kelson; Regions 11 & 12, Frank Banducci; Region 12, Stuart Ford; Canada, Sylvain Demers; Unlimiteds, David Williams. Tom Bertolini also participated in the conference call in an advisory capacity. Absent from the meeting were: Region 1, Brian Small; Region 2, Marv Hart, and Region 6, Billy Noonan. Joe Schulte is no longer a member of the reps board following his resignation to participate in racing boats.

The first item of business concerned the reps' discussion board on vintagehydroplane.com. Doug asked if the reps felt that the discussion board had proven to be of benefit to the group. The consensus was that while not all the reps were using the board, it was a good tool to have. Doug encouraged members to log on and participate in the discussions taking place. Doug also strongly reminded the reps that the information on this board was to remain absolutely confidential among the reps.

Doug brought up an issue with inspection sheets. These are apparently not being turned into Tom Bertolini promptly following events. Doug told the reps that they are responsible for making sure these are turned in to Tom from events in their region. He encouraged reps to keep a copy of all of the sheets for their records, with originals being submitted to Tom within the week following the event.

Doug previously asked reps to be responsible for submitting articles on vintage to Propeller. Bob Silva will be writing articles again every month or two, but reps are encouraged to participate in this activity as well. There is no limit on how many articles may be submitted; Tana Moore will accept all and will use them as she has space.

Doug encouraged each rep to spend time working with at least one event per year in their region, or in another region if there are no events in their region. Stand alone events, in particular, always need help in many ways, and reps are strongly encouraged to become involved.

A question has arisen concerning the use of fire extinguishers on board a boat if there is a fire. Doug strongly encouraged reps to advise drivers to not fight fires on board, rather let the rescue crews who are trained in fighting fires to take care of this.

Doug reminded reps that Gary Vore remains on probation for the remainder of this year. Reps at events where he is present and running his boat must keep an eye on him and report back to Doug immediately with any issue that arises.

At a recent west coast event, a vintage boat was on course and a capsule boat also came on course. While not in the rules, Doug strongly encouraged reps to not allow vintage boats to run on a course where a capsule boat or boats are present. There may be rare special permission that would allow for this practice, but these must always be approved by Doug. This issue could pose an insurance problem so reps must not allow this practice to take place.

Discussion of a dual kill switch in vintage boats carrying a passenger was tabled until the national meeting in January.

Doug mentioned that race boats must not be launched from an APBA official launch site, even when the races/heats are over, without drivers wearing life jackets and helmets. If a boat which bears official state license stickers wants to launch after the official heats are over, they must launch from a non-APBA launch site. Sanctions issued to race sites are effective from 12:00 AM through 11:59 PM, and as such the launch site is still covered under APBA insurance.

As a reminder, open toed shoes are NOT permitted in hot pit areas while an event is taking place. During a break, when cranes are stationary and boats are not being worked on, if spectators are allowed in the pits this rule does not apply as the pits are not hot at that time.

Items to consider for future discussion: 1. Reinstating the 100 mph club; 2. Instituting a program for national high points champ in vintage; and 3. The possibility of scheduling too many vintage events in a year and the possible negative impact this could have on vintage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Joseph