

APBA

J COMMITTEE VIDEOCONFERENCE

JANUARY 23, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mark Wheeler, at 11:00 AM.
2. In attendance were committee members Mark Wheeler, Fred Hauenstein, Jim Nilsen, Andrew Tate, and Jim Sweeney. Chris Fairchild was excused. Also in attendance were approximately 35 guests.
3. Because of the lack of an in-person meeting, Chairman Wheeler announced the winners of the J Scholarship Awards as received from Jill Glossner and Sherie Runne. Winners of the Miller/Runne Scholarship were Andriana Bonanno and Jack Lyons. Karissa Mitchell was announced as the winner of the Fitz/Packer Scholarship.
4. Motion by Jim Nielsen, seconded by Fred Hauenstein to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2020, meeting held in Seattle, WA. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Chairman Wheeler gave an updated inventory report. There are 4 complete new motors. One is stored in the Seattle area by Daren Goehring, 3 are stored in Michigan. There are 9 short blocks in stock as well as restrictor plates for both the Mercury and the OMC motors. There are also 6 gearcases coming soon from Sidewinder.
6. Chairman Wheeler explained that with the recent passing of Steve Hearn's funds had been donated to the APBA Junior Classes in Steve's Memory. No restriction was placed on the use of these funds by the Hearn Family. A plan was presented to fund sponsoring J aged kids who want to attend Driving Schools. Students must be between the ages of 9 and 15, although they do not have to run a J boat at the school. It is recommended that clubs collect the total fee when the student registers and then refund this fee on the day of the school in Steve's name. APBA will then send \$40 for each student to the club and retain \$35 to cover the single event fee. Motion by Jim Nilsen, seconded by Andrew Tate to approve this plan as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Chairman Wheeler announced that both the Stock and Mod categories had retired the number 5-P in honor of Jeff Williams for his contributions to the categories. This number can only be used by members of the Williams family. Motion by Fred Hauenstein, seconded by Jim Nilsen to retire the number 5-P from racing, with the provision that members of the Williams family may use the number. Motion passed unanimously. On behalf of the Williams Family, Mary Williams thanked the committee for this honor.
8. Motion by Jim Nilsen, seconded by Fred Hauenstein to approve the carry over from 2019 of the special numbers US-1, 1-M, etc. to the 2021 season. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion by Jim Nilsen, seconded by Fred Hauenstein to approve the following 2021 championships. These are the same clubs as were awarded the 2020 championships which had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.
 - a. National Championship – Marine Racing Club, Springfield, OH July 12-17
 - b. North American Championships – Indiana Outboard Association, Constantine, MI June 26-27
 - c. Central Divisional Championships – Michigan Hydroplane Racing Association, Grass Lake, MI early August
 - d. Northeast Divisional Championships – Three Rivers Outboard Racing Association, Franklin, PA September 25-26
 - e. Southeast Divisional Championships – Carolina Virginia Racing Association, Wilson, NC October 2-3

f. Western Divisional Championships – Seattle Outboard Association, Everett, WA June 5-6
Motion passed unanimously.

10. Chairman Wheeler reported there are no bids for the Nationals in 2022. Any club interested in bidding for them should submit their proposal before April 1st 2021.
11. A rule change proposal was presented.

Current Rule 15.4: There must be three legal boats for a race to qualify for national points at any race. At national championship events there must be at least eight boats for the drivers to earn bonus points.

Proposed Rule 15.4: There must be at least three bona fide starters for a race to qualify for national points. In addition, in order to earn bonus points at national championship events, there must be elimination races in the class or there must be at least eight bona fide starters.

Motion by Fred Hauenstein, seconded by Jim Nilsen to approve this change. After discussion, the motioner and seconder agree to remove the words “there must be elimination races in the class or” from the proposal. After further discussion, the motioner and the seconder returned the motion to the original proposal. Motion passed unanimously. This will go to the Board of Directors for final approval.

12. Discussion of New Engines. In the absence of Chris Fairchild, Mark Wheeler reported on a new private project testing a 20 HP 4 stroke Mercury motor for possible use by APBA. Category/Class has yet to be determined. Testing is being done by Mike Pavlick and crew. Because Mike was not present to answer questions on this, Becca Nichols read the minutes from the Stock Commission meeting which covered this testing.
13. Other Matters
 - a. Chairman Wheeler wanted to again thank Sherie Runne and Jill Glossner for all their work on the J Scholarship program and the APBA Historical Society for providing the funding.
14. There being no further business, a motion was made by Fred Hauenstein, seconded by Jim Nilsen to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams

APBA Secretary