

APBA MODIFIED OUTBOARD COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 26-27,2017

1. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Tom Sutherland. He extended a welcome to all in attendance. Attendance was taken. Commissioners in attendance were: Hunter Grimes IV, Alex Poliakoff, Alex Jennings III, Jerry Davids, Jeff Williams, Eric VanOver, Brian Palmquist, Bob Koschka, Jasen Dirksen, and Daren Goehring. Also in attendance was Chief Scorer, Lisa Jennings. Modified Secretary, Mary Williams joined the meeting later.
2. Motion by Bob Koschka, seconded by Daren Goehring to approve the minutes from the Jan 21-22, 2016, meeting. Motion passed.
3. The 2017 Budget was presented by the Chairman. Jeff Williams presented a sample of a Modified promotional brochure he had developed. These could be available through APBA to order as needed for boat shows, etc. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Brian Palmquist to spend \$500 in promotional funds for 1000 Modified brochures. Motion passed. Brian Palmquist gave a presentation on two promotional ideas he has been working on. One was a banner ad for HydroRacer which would link to the APBA web site to purchase the Modified Exhaust kits. Cost of the ad is \$500. The dates on the bottom of the ad will be the year's nationals and can be changed each year. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Alex Jennings to approve this. Motion passed. Brian also reported that since APBA is mandating the sticker size, we should have a Modified one to promote our category and our product. The one he is working on has a driver, motor and Yamato listed on the sticker. Cost is 106 stickers for \$495 (\$4.70 each). Brian made a motion to spend \$1000 to print 200 of these stickers, seconded by Jerry Davids. Daren Goehring asked if we could do another one with a different motor on it. Brian then amended his motion to spend \$1000 to get 200 stickers, seconded by Jerry Davids. Brian and Daren will work on the sticker design. Motion passed.
4. Tom Sutherland went over the class participation. Most classes are down from last year. Only a couple of classes went up: 250MH and 500MR.
5. Prototypes:
 - a. 20 cu in Sidewinder in 350ccMR. Sidewinder is working on getting this ready. After discussion, Jeff Williams made a motion to continue the 20 cu in Sidewinder in 350MR, seconded by Jerry Davids. Motion passed.
 - b. Eric VanOver made a motion to continue the 20 cu in Sidewinder in 400MH, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passed.
 - c. PRD Fireball. Tom Sutherland reported that that Howie Pickerall has one running, but we are not sure how fast it goes. Dewald is making propellers. Tom reported that he was at the New Class Committee and advised them that we would need a new class for this motor. Jeff Williams reported that the Pro Commission is also looking into this motor to run in KPro in the future if needed. Motion by Jeff Williams to prototype the PRD Fireball in 250ccMR, 250ccMH, and 400ccMH, seconded by Alex Jennings. Motion passed.

6. Gary Miller reported on the power head program. They purchased a 302 motor and put it on a 500MH. The first guy who tested it bought it. Gary has bought another motor (302) and will try to do this again. He noted that a 44 is too much for a new guy to handle.
7. Brian Palmquist led a discussion on marketing. Jeff Williams noted that the Modified pictures on the APBA website have been corrected. Brian stated that the wording on the link from HydroRacer to the APBA website to purchase a Mod Exhaust kit is not clear. He will work on fixing this. He is also working on an idea at a combined nationals to pick a class and then the winner of the hydro class and the winner of the runabout class would get an exhaust kit.
8. Insurance Meeting report. We have a new insurance representative and a new insurance company. There are changes with the minor release forms. Fire Department and EMT's are requested to sign the waiver.
9. Safety Meeting report. Bob Koschka reported that General Safety rules are being cleaned up. They are also working on Air tank recommendations, along with a seat belt recommendation.
10. Inspectors Meeting. They discussed how to get their numbers up. Jeff Williams reported on the idea of having 2 levels of inspectors: (1) a height, weight, fuel, and safety and (2) nationals inspector. Suggestions were to maybe have kids tear down a motor at region meetings to try and generate interest.
11. Scorers' Meeting. Lisa Jennings reported that the test will now be every 2 years.
12. Manufacturer's reports
 - a. Tohatsu – Alex Poliakoff reported the motor is running good, making some changes.
 - b. Yamato - Ric Montoya provided an update on the 300 series motors.
13. Report on Tabor City Winter Nationals. To be held April 6,7,8 & 9 in conjunction with the Stock winter nationals. Testing will be on Thursday, the 6th. Discussion was held on the idea of doing an east and a west coast winter nationals each year starting in 2018. Motion by Daren Goehring to do this, seconded by Jeff Williams. Motion passed 5 in favor, 4 against.
14. Motion by Brian Palmquist, seconded by Eric VanOver to not award a winter national Hall of Champions point unless there are 5 boats in the class. Motion passed 8 for, 2 against. You would still get the double points.
15. The commission then recessed for lunch.
16. Alex Poliakoff gave a proposal to have the eastern winter nationals in 2018 at Standish, ME on May 18,19,20. Jerry Davids gave a proposal to have them at Jesup, GA in April 2018. This item was tabled.
17. Jasen Dircksen gave an update on the 2017 Modified/Pro Nationals to be held at Constantine, MI June 22-25. Thursday will be testing, registration, and the drivers meeting. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be racing. Monday is a blow-out day. The race committee is: Pre-Race Jasen, Gary Miller, and Tim Sidor. Race Director is David Weaver, Scorer is Joyce Golley, Inspector is Jeff Williams, Chief Referee is Josh Kimball, with Buddy Tennell as the possible Risk Manager depending on Sam's baseball schedule. Jasen made a motion to request \$2500 from the Mod Commission for this event, seconded by Brian Palmquist. Motion passed.
18. Daren Goehring reported that the 2018 Mod/Stock/J nationals at Moses Lake are in the planning stages. Date is July 29 – August 5.

19. The 2019 bid from Wakefield, MI had previously been tabled. It was agreed to leave it tabled until after the Constantine race.
20. 2017 Divisional Bids:
 - a. Northeast – Whitney Point, NY June 3-4
 - b. Southeast – Jesup, GA April 29-30
 - c. Central – Alexandria, KY in Sept.
 - d. West – Ingle Lake, Seattle, WA Sept 9-10
21. North American Championships were discussed. Voting will take place later.
22. New Proposals:
 - a. A proposal to reduce the minimum weight of a rope pulley in 500cc Mod Yamato motors to 315 grams. Motion to approve by Jerry Davids, seconded by Alex Jennings. Motion passed. This will go to ballot.
 - b. A proposal to add the name Yamato to the carb listing for 500 cc Mod Yamato motors. Motion to approve by Jerry Davids, seconded by Daren Goehring. Motion passed. This is not a ballot item.
 - c. A proposal to legalize the 321 Yamato motor in the 500 cc Mod classes. Motion to approve by Jerry Davids, seconded by Daren Goehring. Motion passed. This will go to ballot.
 - d. A proposal to change the model designations of the 302 and 321 to reflect current practice and call them 300 series Yamato motors in the 50 cc Mod classes. Motion to approve by Jeff Williams, seconded by Brian Palmquist. This is not a ballot item.
 - e. A proposal to clarify the legality of using Model 302-321 pistons in the 102 motors for all Yamato classes. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Brian Palmquist to add the verbiage to the Mod Tech Manual: It is permissible to reposition the ring groove stop pin to allow the use of the Model 302-321 piston in the 102. Motion passed. This is not a ballot item.
 - f. A discussion was held on the weights drivers actually are running in various classes based on the survey completed by Tom Sutherland and Jasen Dircksen. Motion by Brian Palmquist, seconded by Eric VanOver to raise the weight in 750MR to 475 pounds. Motion passed. This will go to ballot. Motion by Eric VanOver that if this increase to 475 passes, a freeze be put on the weight for 3 years effective the day after the ballot results are announced, seconded by Alex Poliakoff. Motion passed. This will go to ballot.
23. Commission then recessed for the day.
24. The meeting was called back to order and attendance was taken. All present at the beginning of the meeting were in attendance again.
25. 2018 Winter Nationals was brought up. It was noted that the Stocks had voted to go to Standish the weekend before Memorial Day. Motion by Eric VanOver , seconded by Jeff Williams to have commissioners vote on either/or of the two sites:
 - a. Jesup, GA received 6 votes
 - b. Standish, ME received 3 votes
26. North American Championships were reviewed:
 - a. 200MH – Huntington, IN

- b. 200MR
- c. 250MH - Kittanning, PA
- d. 250MR
- e. 350MH - Huntington, IN
- f. 350MR – Alexandria, KY
- g. 400MH – Huntington, IN
- h. 500MH – Huntington, IN
- i. 500MR – Alexandria, KY
- j. 750MH – Constantine, MI (Stock race)
- k. 750MR – Pell Lake, WI
- l. 850MH – Whitney Point, NY
- m. 850MR – Hillsdale, MI

Motion by Jeff Williams to approve the NACS as presented, seconded by Bob Koschka. Motion passed.

- 27. A proposal to add the 25XS and Yamato 80 motors to 400MH. Motion to approve by Daren Goehring, seconded by Alex Poliakoff. Motion failed.
- 28. A proposal to add a rule covering the size of the APBA logo to the Mod Rule Book. Motion by Eric VanOver, seconded by Alex Jennings to approve. Motion passed.
- 29. A proposal to allow race committees to run Sunday's schedule on Saturday if bad weather is imminent without notice on the sanction. No motion.
- 30. A proposal on 3 days of racing being run over 2 days. Tabled till later.
- 31. A proposal to add a new safety rule requiring that all weight must be securely fastened to the hull. Motion by Brian Palmquist to approve, seconded by Eric VanOver. Motion passed. This is not a ballot item.
- 32. A proposal to change the definition of an overlap. No motion.
- 33. A proposal to allow gear reduction in 102 Yamato motors. No motion.
- 34. The commission then recessed for lunch.
- 35. The commission reconvened. The tabled item concerning 3 days of racing over two was brought up. Motion by Bob Koschka change rule 2-15 to read: When three days of racing are run in two days, a minimum of four (4) classes must be run for the third day. And to add a new Rule 16 to read: No more than three (3) races in any class can be run during a single sanction period. Seconded by Jerry Davids. Motion passed.
- 36. The tabled item concerning an east/west championship was brought up. Motion by Jeff Williams, seconded by Jerry Davids to change Rule 20-E to read: There will be an eastern winter national championship for the northeast, southeast and central divisions and a western winter national championship for the west division. Double points will be awarded only to drivers residing in the selected championship division(s). Motion passed.
- 37. Alex Poliakoff made a presentation requesting consideration for the Tohatsu. He made a motion to grant the Tohatsu prototype status in 750MH and 750MR, seconded by Daren Goehring. The motor would run in its stock configuration, except drivers can use a 4 blade propeller. 4 in favor, 5 against. Motion failed.

38. Jeff Williams introduced Karisa Mitchell who had done all the development work on the new Mod brochure. She was given a round of applause.
39. Len Miller made a proposal from the audience to not allow someone who has not driven a boat in a class during the year be allowed to run it at the last two races of the year. No motion.
40. Jeff Williams asked commissioners to think about how to encourage race committees to give someone with a brand new boat a couple of shakedown laps.
41. Motion by Eric VanOver to adjourn, seconded by Jerry Davids.
42. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams