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Not One...But Two High-Drama Powerboat Circuits Highlight Fifth Annual Bradenton Area River Regatta

BRADENTON, Fla.— The ferocious power and sheer speed of powerboat racing will provide double the thrills and frills when the fifth annual Bradenton Area River Regatta returns to the Bradenton-Palmetto area, Saturday, Feb. 9.

This year, the waves of the Manatee River will certainly rock as two circuits (F-2 and F-3) of Powerboat Superleague racing showcase a full day of FREE family-fun activities scheduled along the banks of the Manatee River in Bradenton and Palmetto.

The thunderous impact and speed of these high-drama F-2 powerboats have always been the staple and fan-favorite of Regatta spectators. Doubling the action in 2019, the smaller, more nimble F-3 powerboats join the F-2s, but still can max out at 100 mph and provide thrilling entertainment for Regatta fans. With two championships on the line, the Regatta has become the largest single-day racing event on the APBA circuit. Local favorites Jeff Reno of Okeechobee, Tom Ludwig of St. Petersburg, and Fred Durr of Punta Gorda will be among the 12 “pilots” competing for championships.

“We are excited to be part of what has become one of the best-attended, nationally sanctioned (by APBA) powerboat races in the United States,” said Sherron Winer of Powerboat Superleague Racing. “The cooperation between Bradenton and Palmetto, the combined services of these two cities, the incredible support of the event sponsors and the professional guidance provided by ISM/USA makes the experience exciting and fun for everyone.

“We will feature two Florida State Championships for the 2019 edition of Powerboat Superleague racing. It’s fast, it’s free, and it’s a guaranteed day of heart-pounding, adrenalin-pushing racing action.”

Practice runs begin at approximately 10 a.m., followed by qualifying heats and then F-3 and F-2 championship racing.

Fans can also view these impressive crafts on display all day at a new Vintage Powerboat Village near the Palmetto Riverside Park Area. Palmetto-native Bob Walwork will have two of his vintage Raveau Boats on display. These classic crafts were first built in late 1930s and early ‘40s and became known for their craftsmanship and endurance capabilities. They were one of the first power-racing watercrafts built.

—more—

add two...Superleague Powerboat Racing

The day's festivities conclude with a climatic pyrotechnical display produced by the first family of fireworks, Zambelli International, beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Full details, schedule and additional information are available at: bradentonarearegatta.com. Follow all the fun and activities on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiverwalkRegatta.

The 2019 Bradenton Area River Regatta is sponsored by Manatee Memorial Hospital, Firkins Automotive, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), RTI Insurance Services, Bradenton, Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key, Pittsburgh Pirates/Bradenton Marauders, Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, Heli Aviation, University of South Florida, Courtyard Marriott-Bradenton, Pier 22, Riverhouse Reef & Grill, Regatta Pointe Marina, Grove, Workforce Business Services (WBS), Bealls, Bridgely Key, Grimes Goebel Attorneys at Law, Sysco, Bradenton Herald, SRQ Media, 10 News WTSP, Ticket Sarasota and Spectrum.

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The Bradenton Area River Regatta is produced and managed by ISM/USA—a sports event management and marketing firm with offices in Pittsburgh, PA and Lakewood Ranch, FL.

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About the Bradenton Area Convention & Visitors Bureau:

The Bradenton, Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key area is located on Florida's West Coast between St. Petersburg and Sarasota. It is bordered on the north by Tampa Bay, and to the west by the Gulf of Mexico. Easy to get to, but off the beaten path, filled with "Old Florida" ambience brimming with opportunities to experience Florida at its most real and authentic, the Bradenton/Anna Maria Island/Longboat Key area is a part of the state worth discovering and exploring again and again. For more information, please visit www.bradentongulfislands.com.

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