

2009 RACE RESULTS

Temperatures in the lower 70's and overcast conditions were the weather pattern for the 2009 Ohio Governor's Cup Regatta. The one mile certified record course on Grand Lake St. Mary's in Celina, Ohio was rougher Saturday (8/22/2009) than Sunday (8/23/2009) due to a breeze coming from the southwest. Sunday's water was excellent for racing action.

The traditional Hydro Hot Laps took place as well each morning at 9 AM with sponsor AmeriGas. Three J-Stock hydro teams churned the waters too along with 21 hulls in the Jim Cunningham Memorial vintage.

Hot Laps were just that with three new course records set. Brandon Kennedy twice broke the 1.5 Litre stock record. Saturday's speed was 70.866 MPH and then increased the mark to 71.684 MPH on Sunday. Dan Kanfoush in 1 Litre blistered the lake at 86.289 MPH and Mike Monohan pushed the 2.5 litre modified speed to 93.191 MPH in Celina's Hydro Hot Laps.

The big trophy in Celina is the Ohio Governor's Cup. The cup is presented to the driver and team that have five legal starters to begin their racing weekend. The object is to win each time out. Fours wins is a perfect weekend. Ties are broken by who is nearest to or exceeds a competition record in their class.

Two drivers picked up four wins over the weekend. Dan Kanfoush in Jim Sechler's Y-1 Auglaize/Mercer Family YMCA in 1 litre and Jim Martin in his E-43 Kemmler Orthopedic were the two waiting to see who won at the Award's Ceremony. Dan Kanfoush was two miles per hour away from a record speed in 1 litre and that was the tie breaker making him a two time winner of the Ohio Governor's Cup and the first driver to win the Cup twice since the races came back to Celina in 1995. Kanfoush's other win was in 2006 to join Tom Skelly (1962 & 1968) and J.D. Smith (1965 & 1966) as two time winners. Jim Martin was four miles per hour off a record in 5 litre.

Awards in each class were presented to the top three based on their overall point totals for the weekend.

J-Stock

- #1...Jacob Zerkel, J-30 Kyle's Boat
- #2...Jacob Anderson, J-17 Snake Eye's
- #3...Brandon Zemash / Michael Wiener, J-20 Wind Shear

Zerkel and Anderson knocked heads all weekend long. The younger generation raced six times on Grand Lake St. Mary's. Zerkel won four times with Anderson winning twice. Neat to see the kids on the water.

1.5 Litre Stock

- #1...Brandon Kennedy, T-1 Time Warner/Roadrunner
- #2...Bobby Kennedy, T-5 WSCM 96.7 FM
- #3...Becky Wilson, T-31 WKKI 94.3 FM

The defending Ohio Governor's Cup champion Brandon Kennedy made it a clean sweep over the weekend but his chance to defend the top prize was not there due to only four T boats in Celina. Brandon, during the Sunday final was being given instructions from the shoreline by his cousin, eight year old Austin Hayes. Welcome aboard Austin and I'm sure too there was adult eyes as well on the radio with Brandon.

1 Litre

- #1...Dan Kanfoush, Y-1 Auglaize/Mercer Family YMCA
- #2...Doug Simpson, Y-126 Mercer Savings Bank
- #3...Joe Sovie, Y-44 Fanning & Howey / Amerigas

Dan Kanfoush was on top of his driving skills all weekend claiming lane one four times and getting four wins. Kanfoush was at record pace in the Sunday heat race but hit a huge hole entering turn two coming down for the white flag. Kanfoush slowed and hung on for the win. Doug Simpson was consistent finishing all four heats to claim second overall. Joe Sovie keeps running well with the Polaris and was Saturday's Hydro Hot Lap top speed at 83.236 MPH. Notable's Sean Bowsher in Y-52 Mercer County Solid Waste/Lake Contracting & Keith McMullen in Y-80 Mercer County Community Development ran well all weekend but both drivers had one DNF each keeping them off the podium.

2.5 Litre Stock

- #1...Mark Johnson, S-9 Your Hometown Lima TV
- #2...Keith Anderson, S-17 Reynolds & Reynolds
- #3...Tom Vielhauer, S-11 Celina Wine Store

Mark Johnson, the savvy 30 year veteran took the S-9 to three wins on the weekend and one second. Bobby Kennedy in the S-88 Wal-Mart / Grand Lake State Park won the Saturday final over Johnson but a mechanical problem and DNF in the Sunday heat race while running second behind Johnson took them out of the top three for the overall totals. Keith Anderson stays steady and fast. Its just a matter of time for the Hobart, Indiana driver to carve his name in first at the races overall.

2.5 Litre Modified

- #1...Mike Monohan, A-23 Bella's Italian Grille
- #2...Tom Thompson, A-52 The Celina Moose Lodge
- #3...Dennis Wright, A-2 Romer's Westlake Villas

The Celina fans saw the 2.5 litre modifieds raced three times. Mike Monohan in Debbie Welte's Bella's Italian Grille's boat ride and power were excellent in Celina. Monohan, in one heat beat Thompson by a boat length to the checkered flag. Monohan had two wins to Thompson's one.

5 Litre

- #1...Jim Martin, E-43 Kemmler Ortopedic
- #2...Tom Thompson, E-816 Grand Lake Health Systems
- #3...Tom English, E-75 Delux Dry Cleaners

Jim Martin swept 5 litre with Tom Thompson challenging but could not get in front of the dominant white E-43. Tom English has made great starts in 2009 with his Henderson designed E-75 and ran steady to claim third overall.

National Modified and Grand National Hydroplane ran combined during the weekend but results were given in each class.

National Modified

- #1...Jack Meyer, NM-333 Holiday Inn Express
- #2...Tom Newman, NM-100 Shell Party Mart/Ottawa Oil
- #3...Tom Thompson, NM-81 Celina Tent

Jack Meyer driving for Paul and Wahnita Yinger battled all weekend long with the GNH-8 of Jimmy Deel. Deel's boat was handled by Steve Kuhr II on Saturday and the boat owner took the keys back on Sunday. Some neat side by side battles with the NM-333 and GNH-8 all weekend with GNH-8 winning them all.

Jack's four second places made them the top boat overall in National Modified in the Red, White, & Blue Yinger racer.

Grand National Hydroplane

#1...Steve Kuhr II & Jimmy Deel, GNH-8 Q-Com

Four wins for the GNH-8. Steve Kuhr was in Celina with the GNH-317 The Irishman but a malfunction in Saturday morning hydro laps sidelined the craft for the weekend.

Chairman Ron Snyder saw 21 vintage boats take part in the Jim Cunningham Memorial. The colorful F-726 Flying Tiger team of Phil & Andy Mitchell are a treat to watch. Andy & Phil love to turn those 90+ MPH laps when they can. They enjoy being addressed by the officials for going to fast!!!