



The 2008 Round Britain Offshore Powerboat Race



To be run under the joint burgee of the Cowes Organising Committee
& The Classic Offshore Powerboat Owners Club (COPOC)

30th September 2006.

You may have heard that it is our firm intention to hold a Round Britain Offshore Powerboat Race commencing on 21st June 2008.

This is an Historic Race and it will be only the third time in the history of Offshore Powerboat Racing that the race will have been held. The event will start and finish in Cowes, Isle of Wight and will probably follow the same format as the 1984 event which will include ten legs over twelve days including two lay days via the Caledonian Canal. This is a 1600 nautical mile race and will undoubtedly be the longest and toughest race to take place for many years. The race is equivalent to taking part in the Cowes-Torquay-Cowes powerboat race every day for ten days and is not, therefore, for the faint-hearted. We believe that it will be the Greatest Offshore Powerboat Race to be held in the world for some time.

We are delighted to announce that the famous and prestigious **Beaverbrook Trophy** – see above, - has been offered by The Beaverbrook Foundation to be presented to the overall Winner of the Race.

Tim Powell, our Event Chairman, not only took part in the first Round Britain Offshore Powerboat Race in 1969, but he also organised the second race in 1984. Tim brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the proposed 2008 race, as does Steve Curtis MBE. The rest of the Team are well known active personalities from the British Offshore Powerboating scene. They are already bringing their experience and enthusiasm to the Event and working hard towards making this a successful race.



Most of the classes, as currently run by the RYA Nationally and the UIM Internationally, will be eligible providing the boats are over 25ft in length and can maintain a minimum speed of 30knts. This will include all P1s (Sport, Super Sport and Evolution), Class 111D 4 litre, ProVee, Tourism (Classes T and Sport), Honda Formula 4 Class 225, and RIBs (Open and Formula 1). Class 1 will be mono hulls only. The equivalent APBA classes will also be welcome. We will also be encouraging Motor Cruisers of all types to take part. More details will follow in due course.

So far Interest in the 2008 Round Britain Race has been quite phenomenal even though we have not formally announced it. The race is, of course, subject to raising the appropriate sponsorship.

The reason behind our attempt to put on this huge endurance event; and it is going to be huge if we get it off the ground, is that some of us feel there is now a real desire among competitors to race long distances again in what we used to call a “proper” offshore race. It will, in many ways, be good for the sport that we all love, bringing back the challenge and meaning behind the term Offshore Powerboat Endurance Racing. This will be the adventure of a lifetime for those taking part. Most of the competitors from the last race in 1984 will confirm that to be true.

If you would be interested in joining us in this exciting and historic venture email me at race@roundbritain.info

Mike Lloyd
Event Director