

after the final day of competition in the race. If these forms are not received at APBA Headquarters within 14 days following the completion of the event, the promoter will not be granted a future sanction until this paperwork is received at APBA Headquarters.

- 2.7 **APBA Logo:** The APBA Logo must appear in all printed matter used to promote the event as well as on the promoter's web site.
- 2.8 **Championship Events:** A promoter may not hold any event as a "National Championship" or "United States Championship" or any other similar name or title without written consent from the APBA.

## **RULE 3 – TYPES OF EVENTS**

- 3.1 **Closed Course (Watercross):** Watercross racing features a buoy-marked, 1/2- to 3/4-mile track that is designed to keep the competition tight and fans close to the action. Speed, technique and racing ability will all come into play in a Closed Course race, as the riders begin to negotiate a series of left- and right-hand turns. Each race begins with one of the most gut-wrenching experiences in motorsports – the side-by-side gated start (sometimes a rolling start is used). Similar to horse racing, a PWC racing start features up to 20 riders exploding off the line, all barreling together into one single turn on machines capable of going from zero to 60 in mere seconds, each thinking to themselves, "I'm going to be the first one to that buoy." Obstacles such as log jumps and ramp jumps may be present.
- 3.2 **Supercourse:** Supercourse events are long distance races that utilize multiple buoys turns for the majority of turns to create a virtual road course on the water. The course can be thought of as a larger closed course type event. The length of Supercourse is typically one to three miles in length where skill, endurance, and the reliability of the racers watercraft all come in to play during the race.
- 3.3 **Offshore/Endurance:** Offshore/Endurance races are long distance races that may or may not include turns to be negotiated. They can be point-to-point races or may have a large course consisting of multiple laps. The length of Offshore/Endurance race is typically many miles long where skill, endurance, and the reliability of the racers watercraft all come in to play during the race. These events can be run by individual riders and may include team races provided one rider is on the watercraft at a time.
- 3.4 **Sprint:** Sprint are short races (usually 10-20 minutes long) that are run on a ½ mile to 1 mile oval track with a few additional turns added. These events are run in conjunction with several APBA boat racing events. With fewer turns racers get a chance to show off the speeds of their personal watercraft.
- 3.5 **Slalom:** Slalom is a timed event, requiring a competitor to negotiate zig-zag left and right hand turns around five stationary buoys. Similar to Olympic ski races, participants race against the clock, one at a time, on a regulation slalom course. Each racer gets two runs on the course with finishing position based on each racers fastest run. A racer who fails to negotiate completely around a buoy is penalized ten seconds for each buoy missed unless he/she goes back to correctly pick up the buoy.

- 3.6 **Freestyle:** A Freestyle event is an event where riders get a chance to show their skills, expertise and acrobatic abilities in executing difficult, challenging and creative maneuvers. One of the truly “extreme sports,” freestyle features some of the most gifted athletes on the beach, performing two-minute routines in an Olympic-style format for a panel of seven judges. Competitors’ routines are made-up from a series of choreographed tricks. Some of the more popular tricks and catch phrases include: Aerial Barrel Roll; Back flip; Hollywood Corkscrew; Kilowatt Flop; Ride ‘Em Cowboy; Bull Doggin’; and many other eye catching tricks.
- 3.7 **Drag Racing:** Drag racing is an event where two competitors compete side-by-side on a straight course of a set distance in length.
- 3.8 **Special Events:** Special Events are other type of watercraft event that meets APBA safety requirements and is not hazardous to participate in. Examples include relay races, Australian pursuit, radar run, timed lap races, and other fun-type events.

## **RULE 4 - RIDER CLASSIFICATIONS**

### **4.1 GENERAL REGULATIONS**

- 4.1.1 **Rider Skills:** The American Power Boat Association does not test the skill of individual participants in APBA sanctioned events, nor does the APBA judge each competitor’s competence and ability to participate in a racing event. Participants are solely responsible for their own safety at events.
- 4.1.2 **Minimum Age Limits:** The APBA requires that riders must be 16 years old or older to race in all classes except Junior Ski 10-12 Stock and Junior Ski 13-15 Stock and Limited. Boating laws in some states require higher age minimums, therefore some classes may not be offered at all events if the special event permit does not allow it. Consult your promoter as to if Junior classes will be offered at the event you will be attending. A birth certificate and/or passport shall be presented to substantiate age.
- 4.1.3 **Skill Classification for Different Divisions:** Riders may have different skill classifications for Runabout, Sport and Ski divisions (i.e.: an Expert Runabout racer may also be a Novice Ski racer). Riders may also have a different skill classification within a Division for Supercourse/ Endurance racing and Closed course with APBA approval.

### **4.2 RIDERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE**

- 4.2.1 Riders under the age of eighteen (18) are required to have an original Minor Release Waiver on file at APBA National Headquarters before they will be allowed to compete. If one is not on file at APBA National Headquarters, riders must complete a Minor Release form at their next race.
- 4.2.2 A Minor Release form must be filled out once each year when the minor renews his/her membership and at the first race he/she attends each year. A racer will not receive his/her membership packet until APBA National Headquarters receives the signed Minor Release Form at National Headquarters.