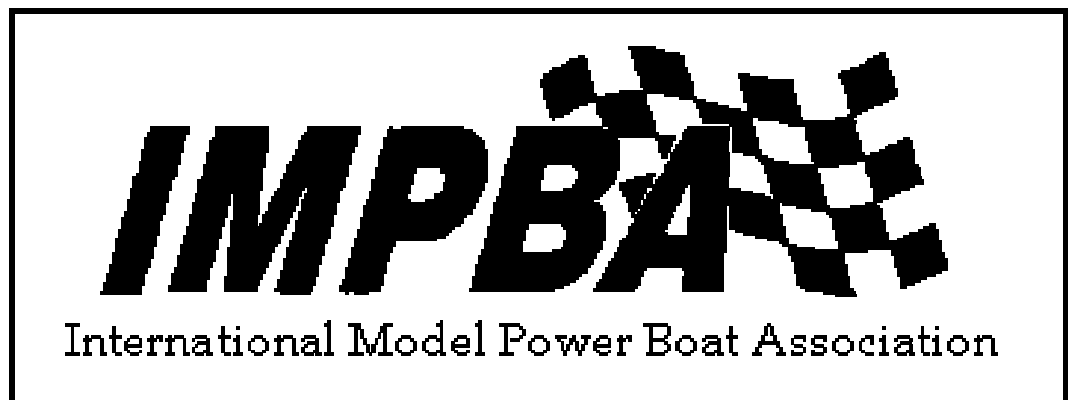


# **IMPBA OFFICIAL RULE BOOK**



## **“F” General Rules of Competition**

## **General Rules of Competition**

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## **General Rules of Competition**

### **AMATEUR STATUS**

- A. Participation in regatta competition shall be restricted to amateurs.
- B. An amateur competitor shall be defined as one who engages in the operation of model powerboats for pleasure and not for profit.
- C. No member shall receive cash or monetary award as a prize or compensation for competing with a model powerboat or operate a model boat for hire.
- D. Items A and B above shall not be constructed to include compensation received for advertising, design, manufacture, or sale of engines, plans, hulls or complete outfits or writings pertaining to model power boats.
- E. Amateur status may be revoked by Executive Board action, should satisfactory proof be presented to it.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR MODEL POWER BOATS**

- A. The boat shall have positive buoyancy when open compartments are filled with water.
- B. The method of propulsion shall be the type that functions by contact with the water. Inertia reaction devices such as rockets or jets are prohibited, as main source of propulsion.
- C. An engine throttle control will be required of all boats entered in racing or record trials.

### **SAFETY**

- A. A "National Safety Director" will be appointed by the President.
- B. Adequate provision shall be made for the safety of the contestants and spectators.
- C. No **IMPBA** events shall be sanctioned or approved unless **IMPBA** insurance is in effect. (See section E, **IMPBA** Procedures, Sanctions and Insurance).
- D. Spectators shall be kept out of the water, and a minimum of 20 feet from any operating boat. Fencing of the area is recommended.
- E. The pit area shall be roped or fenced and kept clear of spectators.
- F. No person shall be permitted in the water without expressed permission of the contest officials.
- G. A positive engine throttle control, or speed control on electric boats, will be required of all boats entered in racing or record trials.
- H. Transmitters shall be impounded upon arrival at a contest site from all competitors in the pit areas. The impound area shall be furnished by sponsoring club and shall be properly shaded and provide adequate protection.
- I. Frequency flags as approved by FCC are mandatory at all times to be displayed on the transmitters.
- J. The proper contest officials will control the use of transmitters for checking operations.
- K. All transmitters will be identified by the owner's name and address thereon.
- L. Radio on/off switch shall be positioned in such a manner as to prevent its accidental shut off if bumped either during launching, handling or racing on all boats.
- M. Anyone in the pit area **MUST** wear shoes. (Sandals or open-toes of any kind are **NOT** acceptable.)

- N. Boats will be checked to see each has an antenna before the race is started. Boat antennas should have a protective cap to prevent eye injuries.
- O. Only Metal Props will be used, except for Fast Electric, Scale Electric, and ABS Production Class boats
- P. There will be no model boats running on the pond while the pickup boat is working.
- Q. The club safety officer may provide technical inspection to the boats prior to an event, and deny running privileges to any boat not considered safe.

## RECORDS

- A. Records shall be established for each hull type and engine or motor class at all approved events.
- B. The **IMPBA** shall recognize only records made at sanctioned record trials on surveyed courses with **IMPBA** certified timing equipment as outlined below in paragraphs C-Course and D-Timing Equipment.
- C. **Course**  
To be considered a surveyed course, the course must be set up as outlined in section K, Technical Standards, Setting up **IMPBA** Approved Courses. In addition, a survey layout or map of the course, buoys, timing points and targets for an approved records course, signed and dated by a Commercial Surveyor or Graduate Civil Engineer, must be on file with the **IMPBA** office before any record sanctions will be issued. Should any survey markers be removed or destroyed, a re-survey and a new survey document will be required.
- D. **Timing Equipment**
  1. Only **IMPBA** certified electronic timing equipment may be used at sanctioned record trials. Instructions on site preparation, equipment installation, and its usage may be obtained from the Records Director.
  2. A \$100 deposit is required from a club holding a record trial before the equipment will be shipped. That deposit will be forfeited if the equipment is not shipped back to the Record Director the first working day after the trial.
- E. To establish a new record, .250 seconds or .250 mph must exceed the previous record whichever is less.
- F. Fill in the application for recognition of a record. It shall be the duty of the member clubs' racing committee to verify the displacement of the internal combustion engine for Nitro/Gas or Cell count and motor type for Fast Electric. The signature of the chairman of the committee shall appear on the application.
- G. Application for world record must be mailed within two days after the record trial on the approved **IMPBA** Record Application Form.
- H. The **IMPBA** shall issue certificates of recognition to individuals establishing a world record.
- I. To be eligible for record recognition, the contestant must have been a member in good standing previous to the run. Note: Event fee contestants are not recognized for breaking any record.
- J. Any protests during a record trial must be made not later than **thirty minutes** after the last run is made. The racing committee shall record these. They shall bear the signature of the complainant and be forwarded to the Records Director.

## **GENERAL**

- A. Sanctioned races will be run in accordance with all the rules in the **IMPBA** Rule Book. If a club wishes to deviate from these rules, the deviations must be prominently displayed on the race entry form. If a situation arises forcing a change from the established rules, it must be approved by a majority vote of the contestants at the drivers' meeting prior to the race. Under no circumstances may a rule be waived or altered that would reduce the safety of the event.
- B. **Radio Compliance**
1. All radio equipment shall be in accordance with rules and regulations of the communications governing body; i.e. United States shall comply with existing FCC (Federal Communications Commission) regulations.
  2. Frequency flags as approved by **IMPBA** are mandatory at all times to be displayed on the transmitters.
  3. All transmitters will be identified by having the owner's name and address thereon, and must be enforced by the Contest Director.
  4. Radio on/off switch shall be positioned in such a manner as to prevent its accidental shut off if bumped either during launching, handling, or racing. Same rules shall apply to the switch on all boats.
- C. **Optical Devices**  
Optical and/or mechanical devices (other than protective, corrective prescription lenses, or sunglasses) used as navigational aides are prohibited.

## **CONTEST PROCEDURE, RACING RULES, COURSES AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

**IMPBA** has two divisions: Power Division and Scale Division. Refer to the proper section of the Rule Book for the type of event.

## **LIMITATION OF ENTRIES**

### **SECTION 1**

The host club shall determine the number of entries per contestant for each sanctioned racing contest or Regatta where awards are won. The restriction shall be specified on the sanction request and in advertising publications.

### **SECTION 2**

- A. A boat may be run in more than one engine class by changing engines to comply with cubic inch requirements.
- B. At any event, a boat may run only as a Mono or a Hydro.

## SECTION 3

- A. No contestant may enter more than one boat of the same hull/engine class in one event. To do so would double his chances of winning an award or trophy.
- B. There shall be no backup boats at any event.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### General

All **IMPBA** members and /or contestants are responsible to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the concept of good sportsmanship; to wit, a person who plays fair and conducts him/herself in an acceptable fashion while participation in **IMPBA** events. The use of alcohol or illegal substance and/or the abuse of prescription drugs while participating in an **IMPBA** race or sanctioned event is considered unacceptable conduct.

### Conduct

If, during an event sponsored by this Association, it is determined by the member in charge of said event that a contestant's conduct falls below the acceptable standards as set forth in these rules, that contestant is subject to immediate disqualification from the event and is further subject to a suspension of all racing privileges for a period of 30 days or more. The Director of the event is required to immediately inform the **IMPBA** President in writing of the action taken

#### 1. Appeal

If a contestant is sanctioned as a result of the rule as set forth above, he/she shall have ten (10) days to file an appeal with the Board of Directors. If such an appeal is filed, the Board is required to hold a hearing within ten (10) days if possible but under no circumstances later than fifteen (15) days from the date the appeal is received.

- 1. In order for the sanctioned contestant to invoke the appeal process, it is necessary that the appeal be in writing setting forth the appellant's grounds and any witnesses to the event in question.
- 2. Once received, the Board shall immediately designate a member to preside over the investigation. This member is required to contact the Race Director who filed the sanction for a written response to the appeal. This response is to set forth in their entirety stating the reasons for the entering of the sanction, and witnesses to support the charge.

#### 2. Hearing

- a. Once the above-mentioned steps have been completed, the Board member in charge of the investigation shall convene a hearing to determine the penalties, if any.
- b. It is necessary that fifty percent (50%) plus one of the members of the current Board of Directors of the **IMPBA** participate in this hearing. A vote by majority either way as to the guilt, innocence, and/or sanction is required. Should the board fail to properly convene within the time frame as set forth above, all sanctions shall be automatically dropped.