

**SECTION  
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IMPBA  
HISTORY**

**IMPBA OFFICIAL RULE BOOK**

## **IMPBA HISTORY**

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# IMPBA HISTORY

## I - HISTORY OF IMPBA

### A. Origins

On the evening of July 2, 1949, the finalization of the IMPBA Constitution, By-Laws, and Racing Rules was presented to the then model boat representatives. Some of the organizers were: Barney Kiewicz, Ed Kalfus, F. Schneider, and a Mr. Sparr. Thus the IMPBA was formed. Barney Kiewicz of Detroit, Michigan served as the first IMPBA President. These original documents are now the property of IMPBA.

Boating in the early formation days of IMPBA was that of tether boating. Tether boating was against the clock, and the procedure was as follows: The course was a 105' diameter circle with a center pole at a maximum of 36" above the water line. The center pole had a free turning pivot at the top and a wire aircraft cable running line which measured 52' - 6" including the boat running bridle. The running bridle had to be able to withstand a 250-pound pull test before it was allowed to run in competition.

Once the boat was fired up and ready to run, it was hand launched with a person manning the center pole to hold the running line above water level until the boat was up to speed so the running line would not drag in the water. The boat owner waited until he thought the boat was running at top speed, and then he would call for time. The boat had to make four laps in order to be timed. Four laps of the 52' - 6" radius circle equaled 1/4 mile, and, thus, be timed.

Some of the big names in boating at that time were Ed Kalfus, Joe Horvath (the only 2 tether boaters to go over 100 mph), Roger Matthews, Bob Graham, Pete Yauczer, Bob Palmer, Bill Baughman, Max Beiderman, Charles Watkins, and Tom Perzentka.

Radio control boating IMPBA was picked up in the late 1950's and early 1960's

### B. Presidents

The IMPBA presidents throughout the organization's history are:

<u>Two-year Terms:</u>		Gene Taylor, Tennessee	1985-1988
Barney Kiewicz, Michigan	1949-1950	Doug McNeely, Florida	1989-1990
Charles Baxman, Michigan	1951-1958	Bernard Bathauer, Indiana	1991-1992
Pete Yauczer, Missouri	1959-1960	Joe Ingrao, Florida	1993-1994
Jim Dunham, Illinois	1961-1964	Dick Tyndall, Virginia	1995-1998
Mert Mischnick, Illinois	1965-1966	Tom Grannis, Florida	1999-2000
Bob Packman, Illinois	1967-1968	Dick Jones, Iowa	2001-2002
Bill LeFeber, Indiana	1969-1974	Patrick Kelly, Michigan	2003-2004
John Bridge, Michigan	1975-1976	Bill Zuber, Alabama	2005-2008
Len Skweria, Indiana	1977-1978	Kevin Sheren, Michigan	2009-2012
Fred McBroom, Indiana	1979-1982	<u>Three-year Terms (implemented 2013)</u>	
Gus Johnson, Florida	1983-1984	Chris Rupley, Ohio	2013-current

## II - IMPBA NITRO INTERNATS

### A. Location

1957	St. Louis, Missouri	1987	Huntsville, Alabama
1958	Detroit, Michigan	1988	Huntsville, Alabama
1959	Indianapolis, Indiana (1st RC)	1989	Slidell, Louisiana
1960	Parsippany, New Jersey	1990	Sarasota, Florida
1961	Chicago (Marquette), Illinois	1991	Atlanta, Georgia
1962	Seattle, Washington	1992	Huntsville, Alabama
1963	Lombard (Chicago), Illinois (1st St.1/16)	1993	St. Louis, Missouri
1964	St. Louis, Missouri	1994	Ft. Worth, Texas
1965	Cape Coral, Florida	1995	Bartow, Florida
1966	Wheeling (Chicago), Illinois (R/C only)	1996	Ft. Wayne, Indiana
1967	San Francisco, California	1997	Elmira, New York
1968	Chicago (Marquette), Illinois	1998	Huntsville, Alabama
1969	San Diego, California	1999	Huntsville, Alabama
1970	Buffalo, New York (1/3 Mile)	2000	Milan, Illinois
1971	Memphis, Tennessee	2001	Sarasota, Florida
1972	Flint, Michigan	2002	Evansville, Indiana
1973	Kitchener, Ontario	2003	Milford, Michigan
1974	Countryside, Illinois	2004	Jackson, Tennessee
1975	Indianapolis, Indiana	2005	Jackson, Tennessee
1976	Chesapeake, Virginia	2006	Evansville, Indiana
1977	Hammond, Louisiana	2007	Seville, Ohio
1978	Flint, Michigan	2008	Evansville, Indiana
1979	Dallas, Texas	2009	Seville, Ohio
1980	Bartow, Florida	2010	Seville, Ohio
1981	Indianapolis, Indiana	2011	Evansville, Indiana
1982	Orlando, Florida	2012	Charleston, S.Carolina
1983	Oxford, Michigan	2013	(Not held)
1984	Bartow, Florida	2014	Evansville, Indiana
1985	Huntsville, Alabama	2015	(Not held)
1986	Huntsville, Alabama	2016	Rochester, New York
		2017	

## B. US-1 Trophy Winners

### 1975 – Indianapolis, IN

AB Hydro Gary Preusse  
AB Mono Mike Bokulich  
CD Hydro Lew Mettetal  
CD Mono Wayne Adcock  
E Hydro Mike Meelbusch  
E Mono David Leigh  
F Hydro Gene Klisnick

### 1976 – Chesapeake, VA

AB Hydro Martin Casey  
AB Mono Conrad Cupit  
CD Hydro Glen Cupit  
CD Mono Earl Stutz  
E Hydro Dee Hughey  
E Mono Tom Daniels  
F Hydro John Bridge, Jr.  
F Mono Dick Schulte

### 1977 – New Orleans, LA

B Hydro Marty Davis  
B Mono David Preusse  
D Hydro Howie Whitaker  
D Mono Mike Wilson  
E Hydro Gene Adams  
E/F Mono Mark Hughes  
F Hydro Dick Schulte

### 1978 – Flint, MI

AB Hydro Marty Davis  
AB Mono Howard Hole  
CD Hydro Howie Whitaker  
CD Mono David Preusse  
E Hydro Howie Whitaker  
EF Mono Skip Horstman  
F Hydro John Bridge, Jr.

### 1979 – Dallas, TX

B Hydro Marty Davis  
B Mono Ray Hamby  
D Hydro Lew Mettetal  
D Mono Rip Holdridge  
E Hydro Marty Davis  
E/F Mono Bob Finn  
F Hydro Charles Chauvin

### 1980 – Bartow, FL

B Hydro Ed Hughey  
B Mono John Shannon  
D Hydro Len Skwiera  
D Mono George Grossman  
E Hydro Len Skwiera  
E Mono George Harris  
F Hydro Charles Chauvin

### 1981 – Indianapolis, IN

B Hydro Ed Hughey  
B Mono David Preusse  
D Hydro Jay Maguire  
D Mono George Grossman  
E Hydro Bud Beard  
E Mono Scott McGuffin  
F Hydro Tom Pretzfeld

### 1982 - Orlando, FL

B Hydro Steve Odonnell  
B Mono David Preusse  
D Hydro Len Skwiera  
D Mono Ray Gonzalez  
E Hydro Bob Finley  
E Mono Andy McCauley  
F Hydro Cal Lange  
F Mono Chuck Baader

### 1983 - Oxford, MI

E Mono Tommy Lee

### 1984 - Bartow, FL

B Hydro Cal Lange  
B Mono Bill Schafer  
D Hydro Jim Sweeden  
D Mono Joe Ingrao  
E Hydro Art McMeans  
E Mono Sid Broughton  
F Hydro Ed Lackey  
F Mono Scott McGuffin

### 1985 - Huntsville, AL

B Hydro Bob Schoenau  
B Mono Karen London  
D Hydro Bob Schoenau  
D Mono Tommy Lee  
E Hydro Ed Lackey  
E Mono Bill Golightly  
F Hydro Eric Swenson  
F Mono Bill Carty  
D OB Hydro Pat Mulvaney

### 1986 - Huntsville, AL

D Mono Tommy Lee

### 1987 - Huntsville, AL

E Hydro Andy Brown  
F Mono John Finch

### 1988 - Huntsville, AL

B Hydro Sue Bathauer  
B Mono Dennis Cunningham  
D Hydro Mark Bullard  
D Mono Glover Jeffcoat, Jr.  
E Hydro Larry Beals  
E Mono Joe Dugas  
F Hydro Stu Barr  
F Mono Joe Ingrao

### 1989 – Slidell, LA

B Hydro Stan Simpson, IV  
B Mono John Otto  
B Tunnel John Otto  
D Hydro Rich Moore  
D Mono Rich Moore  
D Tunnel John Otto  
E Hydro Terry Keeley  
E Mono Joe Dugas  
F Hydro Andy Brown  
F Mono Art McMeans, III

### 1990 – Sarasota, FL

B Hydro Don Jones  
B Mono Paul Garner  
B Tunnel Karl Sturm  
D Hydro Herb Samuels  
D Mono Scott Jones  
D Tunnel John Otto  
E Hydro Art McMeans  
E Mono Tony Psalmonds  
E Tunnel Joey LeJeune  
F Hydro Joe Ingrao  
F Mono Jose Mendana

### 1991 – Atlanta, GA

B Hydro Jim Sweeden  
B Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
B Tunnel Tommy Lee  
D Hydro Stan Simpson, IV  
D Mono Greg Alewine  
D Tunnel Terry Moore  
E Hydro Tom Pretzfeld  
E Mono Jim Scott  
E Tunnel Karl Sturm  
F Hydro Larry Beals  
F Mono John Reagan

### 1992 – Huntsville, AL

B Tunnel Tommy Lee

### 1993 – St. Louis, MO

B Hydro Bobby Caudill  
B Mono Larry Hutchens  
B Tunnel John Otto  
D Hydro Stu Barr  
D Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
D Tunnel John Otto  
E Hydro Larry Maglinger  
E Mono Luanne Willis  
F Hydro Larry Beals  
F Mono Louie Baumann

### 1994 – Fort Worth, TX

B Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
B Mono Tom Wagner  
B Tunnel Jason Prejean  
D Hydro Stu Barr  
D Mono Bill McGraw  
D Tunnel Cathy Preusse  
E Hydro John Brown  
E Mono Jason Prejean  
F Hydro Art McMeans, III  
F Mono Bob Sanders

### 1995 – Bartow, FL

B Hydro David Preusse  
B Mono Dick Tyndall  
B Tunnel Andy Smith  
D Hydro Stan Simpson, IV  
D Mono Dick Tyndall  
D Tunnel John Otto  
E Hydro John Brown  
E Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
F Hydro Tom Pretzfeld  
F Mono John Reagan

**1996 – Fort Wayne, IN**

B Hydro Marty Davis  
 B Mono Dick Tyndall  
 B Tunnel Tommy Lee  
 D Hydro Cal Brown  
 D Mono John Finch  
 D Tunnel Tommy Lee  
 E Hydro Frank Sechrest  
 E Mono Tom Avedisian  
 F Hydro Andy Brown  
 F Mono Terry Moore

**1997 – Elmira, NY**

B Hydro Marty Davis  
 B Mono Tom Avedisian  
 B Tunnel Bob Kensill  
 D Hydro Rich Moore, Jr.  
 D Mono Mark Blackburn  
 D Tunnel Cal Brown  
 E Hydro Jason Pas  
 E Mono Rich Moore, Jr.  
 F Hydro Rich Moore, Jr.  
 F Mono John Finch

**1998 – Huntsville, AL**

B Hydro Ed Lackey  
 B Mono Steve Speas  
 B Tunnel Tommy Lee  
 D Hydro Stu Barr  
 D Mono Steve Speas  
 D Tunnel Richard Marowski  
 E Hydro Sam Augspurger  
 E Mono Rich Moore, Jr.  
 F Hydro Rich Moore, Jr.  
 F Mono Jerry Crowther

**1999 – Huntsville, AL**

B Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 B Tunnel Mike Talley  
 D Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 D Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
 D Tunnel Richard Marowski  
 E Hydro Mark Grannis  
 E Mono Ron Van Wagnen  
 E Tunnel Tommy Lee  
 F Hydro Rich Moore, Jr.  
 F Mono Oscar Leech  
 F Tunnel Karl Sturm

**2000 – Milan, IL**

1/8 Scale Tom Grannis  
 B Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 B Mono Jerry Crowther  
 B Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 D Hydro Stu Barr  
 D Mono Ray Bowden  
 D Tunnel Cathy Preusse  
 E Hydro Mark Grannis  
 E Mono Jerry Crowther  
 F Hydro Jerry Crowther  
 F Mono Jerry Crowther

**2001 – Sarasota, FL**

1/8 Scale Marty Davis  
 B Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 B Hydro John Brown  
 B Mono Joe Dugas  
 D Hydro Stu Barr  
 D Mono Larry La Hue  
 D Tunnel Cathy Preusse  
 E Hydro Mark Grannis  
 E Mono Glover Jeffcoat  
 F Hydro Stu Barr  
 F Mono Andy Brown

**2002 – Evansville, IN**

1/8 Scale Steve Ball  
 B Hydro Mike Zaborowski  
 B Mod Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 B Mono Donnie Showers  
 D Hydro John Barr  
 D Mono Ernie LaFleur  
 D Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 E Mono Ernie LaFleur  
 E Hydro Stu Barr  
 E Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 F Hydro John Barr  
 F Mono Ken Hildreth

**2003 – Milford, MI**

1/8 Scale Ken Stang  
 B Hydro Allen Waddle  
 D Hydro Steve Ball  
 E Hydro Bruce Jacobs  
 F Hydro John Barr

**2004 – Milford, MI**

1/8 Scale Brian Schymik  
 B Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 B Mono David Preusse  
 B Tunnel Ron Drake  
 D Hydro Ernie LaFleur  
 D Mono Ernie LaFleur  
 D Tunnel Ron Drake  
 E Hydro Ernie LaFleur  
 E Mono Joe Warren  
 E Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 F Hydro Ernie LaFleur  
 F Mono Cody Sandifer  
 Sport 40 Ernie LaFleur

**2005 – Jackson, TN**

1/8 Scale Steve Peterson  
 B Hydro Bryon Nesvacil  
 D Mono Phil Thomas  
 D Tunnel Brian Schymik  
 E Tunnel Brian Schymik  
 F Hydro Dr. Gary Turner  
 F Mono Mark Voorhies  
 Sport 40 Steve Peterson

**2006 – Evansville, IN**

1/8 Scale Ryan Hobby  
 B Hydro Chris Wood  
 B Mono Jerry Crowther  
 B Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 D Hydro Steve Ball  
 D Mono Jerry Crowther  
 D Tunnel Brian Schymik  
 E Hydro John Brown  
 E Mono Jerry Crowther  
 E Tunnel Brian Schymik  
 F Hydro John Brown  
 F Mono Jerry Crowther  
 Multi-Engine Rigger  
 Ralph Almirola  
 Sport 40 Brian Schymik

**2007 – Seville, OH**

1/8 Scale Olly Douglas  
 B Hydro Chris Wood  
 B Mono David Preusse  
 B Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 D Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 D Mono Ernie LaFleur  
 D Tunnel Ernie LaFleur  
 E Hydro Chris Wood  
 E Mono Mark Voorhies  
 E Tunnel Brian Loy  
 F Hydro Ernie LaFleur  
 F Mono Ernie LaFleur  
 Multi-Engine Rigger  
 Stu Barr  
 Sport 40 Steve Peterson

**2008 – Evansville, IN**

1/8 Scale Greg Hahn  
 B Hydro Francois Peilleron  
 B Mono Garrett Randall  
 B Tunnel Brian Loy  
 D Hydro Ron Zaker, Jr.  
 D Mono Josh Wiet  
 D Tunnel Jay Halbrehder  
 E Hydro Stu Barr  
 E Tunnel Buddy Benedict  
 Sport40 Phil Thomas

**2009 – Seville, OH**

1/8 Scale Brian Stieglitz  
 B Hydro Olly Douglas  
 B Mono Charles Dukes  
 B Tunnel Jay Halbrehder  
 D Hydro Ron Jefferson  
 D Mono Tony Jacuzzi  
 D Tunnel Jay Halbrehder  
 E Tunnel Brian Loy  
 F Hydro Steve Ball  
 F Mono Olly Douglas  
 Sport 40 Brian Stieglitz

**2010 – Seville, OH**

1/8 Scale Mike Hallam  
B Hydro Walt Barney  
B Mono Phil Thomas  
B Tunnel Bob Kensill  
D Hydro Mike Hallam  
D Mono Phil Thomas  
D Tunnel Brad Beckner  
F Hydro Bob Morton  
LSG27 Mono  
    Bill North  
LSG-27 Sport Hydro  
    Chris Rupley  
Sport 40 Phil Thomas

**2011 – Nationals Format**

**2012 – Charleston, SC**

1/8 Scale Phil Thomas  
B Hydro Doug Twaits  
B Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
B Tunnel Jeff Whiddon  
D Hydro Josh Black  
D Tunnel John Otto  
E Hydro Doug Twaits  
E Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
F Hydro Stu Barr  
F Mono Stan Simpson, IV  
Multi-Engine Hydro  
    Mark Grannis  
Sport 40 Dick Tyndall

**2013 – Not held**

**2014 – Nationals Format**

**2015 – Not held**

**2016 – Nationals Format**

**2017 -**

### C. William E. LeFeber Award Winners

1986	John Equi, Alabama	2002	River City Racing Club, Indiana
1987	Fred McBroom, Indiana	2003	Randall Thomas, Canada
1988	Bob Londress, Alabama	2004	Ron Byrd, Florida
1989	Bob Murphy, Louisiana	2005	Ernie LaFleur, Texas
1990	Sue Bathauer, Indiana	2006	–
1991	Paul Hayes, Georgia	2007	Steve Ball, Indiana
1992	Leon Kettle, Missouri	2008	Mike Zaborowski
1993	Richard Moore, Sr., Florida	2009	Michael Laing
1994	Richard Moore, Sr., Florida	2010	Bob Morton
1995	James Willis, Florida	2011	Mike Schindler
1996	Marty Davis, Indiana	2012	Don Ferrette
1997	Andy Brown, Florida	2013	(Not Held)
1998	John Equi, Alabama	2014	Mike Schindler
1999	Priscilla Tyndall, Virginia	2015	(Not Held)
2000	Dick Jones, Iowa	2016	Rochester Model Boat Club
2001	Tom Grannis, Florida	2017	

### D. Excellence of Performance Winners

1972	Leonard Skwiera	1995	Stan Simpson, IV
1973	Mike Meelbusch	1996	Cal Brown
1974	Gary Preusse	1997	Marty Davis
1975	Mike Meelbusch	1998	Jerry Crowther & Steve Speas ( <i>tie</i> )
1976	Glen Cupit	1999	Stan Simpson, IV
1977	Mike Wilson	2000	Jerry Crowther
1978	Howie Whitaker	2001	Stuart Barr
1979	Marty Davis	2002	John Barr
1980	Ed Hughey	2003	Cody Sanderfer
1981	Jay Maguire	2004	David Preusse
1982	David Preusse	2005	Ernie LaFleur
1983	Clee Morman	2006	Ernie LaFleur
1984	Jim Sweeden	2007	Ernie LaFleur
1985	Ed Lackey	2008	Brian Loy
1986	Bob Schoenau	2009	Ron Jefferson
1987	Greg Huey	2010	Bob Kensill
1988	Larry Beals	2011	–
1989	John Otto	2012	Josh Black
1990	John Otto	2013	(Not Held)
1991	Tom Pretzfeld	2014	(National Format)
1992	Rich Moore	2015	(Not held)
1993	Stan Simpson, IV	2016	(National Format)
1994	Jason Prejan	2017	



### **E. President's Cup Winners**

1980	Len Skwiera	2007	Ernie LaFleur
1984	Ed Lackey, Alabama	2008	Phil Thomas
1988	Andy Brown	2009	Brian Stieglitz
1995	Stan Simpson, IV	2010	Mike Hallam
1996	Tommy Lee	2011	Ron Zaker, Jr.
1997	Steve Speas & Marty Davis ( <i>tie</i> )	2012	Phil Thomas
1998	Dick Tyndall	2013	–
1999	Mark Grannis	2014	Sam Bowden
2000	Jerry Crowther	2015	–
2001	Stuart Barr	2016	Stu Barr
2002	Mike Zaborowski	2017	
2006	Brian Schymik		

### III - IMPBA GAS NATIONALS

#### A. Location

2000	Huntsville, Alabama	Hosted by Huntsville Model Boating Association
2001	Atlanta, Georgia	Hosted by District 13 & Atlanta Model Boaters
2002	Slidell, Louisiana	Hosted by Southern Gentlemen Racing Association
2003	Atlanta, Georgia	Hosted by Atlanta Model Boaters
2004	Cincinnati, Ohio	Hosted by Cincinnati Model Boat Club
2005	<i>Race was cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina, which hit New Orleans</i>	
2006	Crosby, Texas	Hosted by Lone Star Model Boat club
2007	Celina, Ohio	Hosted by Cincinnati & Driftwood Model Boat Clubs
2008	Durant, Mississippi	Hosted by
2009	Reserve, Louisiana	Hosted by VooDoo Model Boat Club
2010	Reserve, Louisiana	Hosted by VooDoo Model Boat Club
2011	Celina, Ohio	Hosted by Driftwood Model Boat Club
2012	Dallas, Texas	Hosted by Dallas Thunderboaters
2013	Charleston, S. Carolina	Hosted by Charleston Model Boaters
2014	Reserve, Louisiana	Hosted by VooDoo Model Boat Club
2015	Macedon, New York	Hosted by Rochester Model Boat Club
2016	Sellersburg, Indiana	Hosted by Quad Counties R/C Boat Club
2017		Hosted by

#### B. Johnny Ber Award

This award is given for outstanding sportsmanship and service to the organization in model gas boating. The first year for the Johnny Ber award was 2007.

2007	Dan Kramer, Indiana
2008	Doug Dalme, Louisiana
2009	–
2010	–
2011	Charles Rakes, Virginia
2012	Tim Martin, Texas
2013	John Knight, S.Carolina
2014	Jesse Lee, Louisiana
2015	Bob Austin, New Jersey
2016	Roy Workman, Indiana
2017	

#### **IV - IMPBA FAST ELECTRIC INTERNATS**

##### **A. Location**

2000 Toronto, Ontario Hosted by Metro Marine Modelers

##### **B. William E. LeFeber Award Winners**

Not offered

##### **C. Excellence of Performance Winners**

2000 Jerry Pelletier P, 12 Cell Sport Hydro