



Media Release

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P1 USA to Sanction 2016 Sarasota Powerboat Grand Prix

Daytona International Speedway was the venue on Saturday night for the announcement by P1 USA of its 2016 provisional race calendar and it sees the world's leading motorsport brand returning to Sarasota next July to sanction the 32nd Annual Sarasota Powerboat Grand Prix Festival.

There will once again be a two day race format, featuring both national and regional televised coverage around the world and prize money up for grabs. On Saturday, July 2, Aqua X and SuperStock race teams will compete. Then on Sunday, July 3, they will each run a final heat and be joined by Powerboats from around the world featuring Production (P1-P7), Super Vee, Super Vee Lite, Super Stock, Super Cat, and Unlimited Powerboats Classes.

P1's double bill of SuperStock powerboats and AquaX jet ski action made a successful debut this summer at the famous 10-day Festival, when a crowd of more than 100,000 enjoyed the world class racing along the shore of Lido Beach. "Expanding this historic event to include the two P1 national championships proved to be a hugely popular move, with fans able to watch such a variety of marine motorsport across the holiday weekend" explains Lucy Nicandri, Festival Director & Executive Director for Suncoast Charities for Children. "The Grand Prix Festival is a wonderful example of the economic and social impact sports tourism can bring to a community, with this year's event generating \$32 million and raising over \$145,000 for the charity."

The 2016 Grand Prix Festival aims to continue to grow by welcoming racers from around the world, regardless of what series they race with throughout the year, and plans to promote all race venues. Sarasota is the only race venue run by a charity raising money for special needs clients of all ages. "This makes it a special venue and a real favorite with our racers" says P1 USA director Azam Rangoonwala. "We enjoy and value our close relationship with Lucy and her team, and it will be fantastic to race there again over the Fourth of July weekend. The vibrancy and atmosphere of our P1 events perfectly compliment this iconic race site that offers world class racing and so much more!"

The nine day Grand Prix Festival will host over ten events which include a golf classic, fundraising cocktail party, boat & motorcycle fun run, car show, a race team meet-and-greet session, downtown boat parade, block party, and bayfront fireworks. "We hope that P1 can help the event to expand by delivering more competitors, attracting more spectators, creating more television coverage, boosting the local economy and hopefully raising more money for children's charities" added Rangoonwala. "P1 recognizes the importance of effective partnerships to its business and we are excited by the relationship that we have established with Suncoast Charities for Children." For more information and race registration visit sarasotapowerboatgrandprix.org

