

Englewood Beach Waterfest To Hold the 2019 OPA World Championship Race and APBA National Points Race in Englewood Florida In November

October 28, 2019 (Englewood, FL) Powerboat racing fans that are gearing up for the annual Englewood Beach Waterfest weekend on November 21st through the 24th have double the excitement coming their way. Along with the [OPA World Championship](#) races held for the 5th straight year in the Gulf waters in Englewood, Florida, Waterfest will be hosting the final points race for the [APBA](#) (American Power Boat Association) National Championships.

“Our entire team here at Waterfest is really energized to see the culmination of the two racing associations seasons happen right here in Englewood. This year we are celebrating our 5th straight year of bringing the world-class powerboat races to our area of the Gulf coast, so having both the OPA and APBA on our waters is really something we are greatly looking forward to!” said Ray LaBadie, Englewood Beach Waterfest Board member.

This year’s Waterfest event kicks off on Thursday, November 21st with a Pre-Race party with a special buffet and LIVE music from 5-10pm, hosted by [The Lighthouse Grill and Stump Pass Marina](#), right on Lemon Bay in Englewood. PowerUP will be the first opportunity for the public to meet and mingle with the race teams, officials and organizers.

Friday night, November 22nd starting at 5pm, is our annual Dearborn Street “Block Party” sponsored this year by [Port Charlotte Honda and Volkswagen](#). This will be a great opportunity for the public to view the race boats, listen to music, enjoy a wide variety of food from local restaurants, and vendors. There will also be VIP Block party tickets available for a more inclusive, up-close experience. Tickets are available on the Waterfest website.

Race days are Saturday, and Sunday, November 23rd and 24th, with the FREE public shuttle busses running from 9am until 11pm both days, and gates opening at 10am both days. Beach VIP tickets are limited, and available at select ticket locations and [online](#).

The Family Conservation Center will open at 10am as well, featuring interactive exhibits by Mote® Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, and family fun and games. The FCC will be sponsored

again this year by the Ron and Matt Smith State Farm Agency. “The Smith family and their agency are strong, and vital supporters of Waterfest. They really believe in what we are doing here in Englewood and in addition, put their support behind this year’s *1st Annual Derby Day event*, by becoming the key sponsor of our “Tales of Hope” program.” said Elaine Miller, Secretary of the Waterfest Board.

Waterfest is highly committed to the success of the local business community, and we promote several events throughout the year, including Derby Day in May, and Pirate Poker Run held in August. *“There are hundreds of volunteers donating thousands of hours every year, assisting with events and planning, way in advance of the OPA race, held the weekend before Thanksgiving annually. These volunteers work tirelessly in a wide variety of areas, as an event organization this large requires many hands”*, also stated Steve Gardiner, President of Englewood Beach Waterfest.

For more race week details, additional Waterfest information, or to buy tickets, please visit the Englewood Beach Waterfest website below.

Englewood Beach Waterfest Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit Florida organization, who is committed to donating all proceeds to deserving organizations that foster the protection of our water and marine life. We encourage the responsible recreational use of our water resources, and we do this by hosting various outdoor entertainment events that showcase water recreation and conservation activities.

www.EnglewoodBeachWaterfest.com