



PRESS RELEASE

Michigan City, Ind. (March 19, 2009) – Super Boat International President John Carbonell Wednesday welcomed Michigan City and Washington Park Beach to the organization’s 2009 offshore powerboat racing schedule.

“I think Michigan City’s going to a great site for this race,” the Key West based SBI president said Wednesday during a press conference at the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau. “Any time you can keep everything in the same area it’s great for the racers and especially for the spectators. I’m really looking forward to this race.”

The inaugural Great Lakes Grand Prix will take place the weekend of Aug. 7, 8 and 9, 2009, in Lake Michigan off Washington Park. Two dozen of the world’s fastest and largest offshore powerboats will race a 5.5-mile rectangular course that will feature one turn in the shadow of Michigan City’s storied lighthouse and the other near Stop 20.

Spectators will be able to feel the rumble of the 5,000 horsepower boats as they race by just 100 yards or so past Washington Park Beach.

Jason Miller, Sports Development Manager with the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau, said Wednesday the race stands to inject a great deal of revenue into the area over the four days racers and spectators will be in Michigan City.

“Any time you nearly double the population of your city, you stand to see a great financial benefit,” Miller said. “And with this event, we’re definitely going to see it. People from throughout the Great Lakes and the Midwest are contacting me for information.

“We hope to start something really special in LaPorte County.”

Michigan City Mayor Chuck Oberlie presented Carbonell with a pin emblazoned with the city’s notable lighthouse and welcomed Super Boat International to the area.

“We look forward to this event and the impact it will have on Michigan City,” Oberlie said. “I can’t wait to see these boats.”

For more information on the 2009 Great Lakes Grand Prix contact Jason Miller at Jason@laportyecountycvb.com or by telephone at 219.872.5055 ext. 304. Carbonell can be reached at sbipinc@aol.com or by phone at 305.296.6166.