

2018 RACE GUIDE

KEY WEST RACE COURSE & SCHEDULE



KEY WEST

NOVEMBER 2018

38TH ANNUAL KEY WEST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

★ 2017 RESULTS ★

**SBI RESCUE DIVE TEAM:
THEY COULD BE HEROES**

**VICTORY TEAM DUBAI
RACES FOR SBI**

**POWER BOAT RACERS
THE NEXT GENERATION**

EAT & DRINK KEY WEST

The Florida Keys
Key West

Close To Perfect - Far From Normal

TO BE THE BEST, YOU HAVE TO WIN KEY WEST

► OFFICIAL PROGRAM

\$15.00

A POWERBOAT RACING FAMILY TRADITION

HOW THREE YOUNG RACERS HAVE FORMED A BOND WITH FAMILY AND POWERBOAT RACING.

By Susy Ferrer



From top, clockwise: Stephen Kildahl, Andrei Allen, Lindsey Denooyer.

Born to Race

No doubt that when Hank Williams Jr. penned his signature song, "Family Tradition"—he wasn't referring to powerboat racing. But just as he and Hank Williams Sr. shared the same love of music, women, and perhaps a vice or two, many of the next generation of racers have also followed in their father's footsteps—that is finding themselves behind the wheel or throttle of a super fast race boat.

"My first memories of powerboat racing were [seeing] pictures of my father racing with my grandfather many years ago," says Lindsey Denooyer, the 20-year-old driver for the Killer Bee Offshore Racing Team.

Lindsey and her father, James Denooyer, Jr., from Charlton, NY, are the driver and throttles (respectively) for the S-88 Killer Bee in the Super Boat Stock Class.

"When my dad found the old Killer Bee and went to go look at it, he brought me along with him to see it...my dad had me sit right in the driver's seat and I instantly fell in love with the boat. Apparently the first words to come out of my mouth were, 'Dad, you have to buy it!' He couldn't turn it down as soon as he saw the smile on

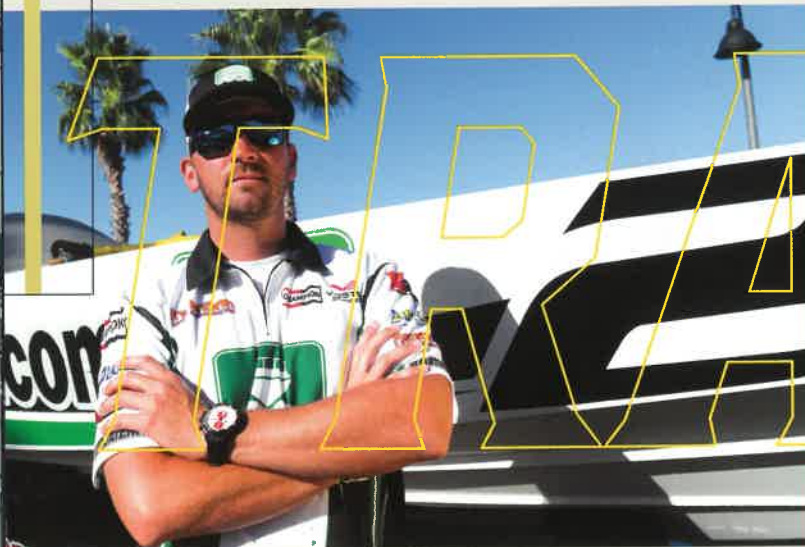
my face. About six years later we ran together in the Lake George Queen's Great Boat Race and from that moment on, I was hooked."

Lindsey, currently in her junior year at the University of Vermont College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, is looking forward to a career exploring traditional veterinary medicine as well as pursuing her interest in the field of animal facilitated psychotherapy. However, she is also hoping to one day win a national championship with her dad at her side.

"What matters most to me is being able to cherish the memories that I'll be making over the next couple of years in a sport that I love. As well as spending time with the people who are a part of it."

For Stephen Kildahl, driver and one half of the Scott Free Racing team from Sarasota, there are similar aspirations.

"My goal since I started has been to win a world championship with my dad next to me in the cockpit," says Stephen. Stephen's father, Steve Kildahl, is the second half of Scott Free Racing, working the throttles for their 29' Extreme, Boatfloater.com.



ability to not only play the part of a dad, but also as a friend that views me as an equal and a peer. Inside the boat, our relationship as equals definitely shows because we act as a team. While in the boat I don't necessarily view my dad as 'Dad,' but as someone who is able to guide and teach me as a racer."

Lindsey's deep love of racing is something she hopes to pass on to her own children someday, although she is aware of the obvious risks. Something her own mother, Darlene, understands well.

"As far as my mom, I'm pretty sure that after my dad retired from racing, she never thought that she would have to be involved in the sport again; especially when she had a daughter," Lindsey explains. "So when she got the news that my dad and I were building a new boat and racing together, it was definitely an uneasy shock to her at first. Now I think she has come to terms with it because she knows that my dad and I aren't budging!"

Stephen Kidahl has been racing with his father for over a decade and has fond memories of the wins they have shared since their first race in Sarasota back in 2007. Just as the wheel and throttles must work together to get a powerboat up to its top speed, so the relationship between the Kidahl father-and-son team is one that is complementary and supportive.

"My dad and I have a great relationship inside and outside of the boat," says Stephen. "Inside the boat we think alike so there is not much communicating going on during the race. Sure, some times are more tense than others, but we're usually able to work well together in any situation."

The rest of the Kidahl family stands behind the team "100%." "Most of them have been supporting Scott Free Racing since it was started back in 1985 by my dad," notes Stephen. "They all think it's a very unique and thrilling sport."

Destiny certainly played a role in the life of Andrei Allen. Born in Kondopoga, Russia, he came to the U.S. when he was just ten years old. Now an integral part of the Allen family, it would be difficult to

imagine what his life would be had he never arrived from his home country. With his father Bill at his side, the future looks very bright.

"With my dad, every race is a great memory just because of our conversations in the boat and how they can sometimes get heated," Andrei laughs. "Our family is very involved in the racing. They watch all the live streams and constantly ask us questions when we get back from the races."

Woman on Board

For all of these talented next-generation racers, a supportive family and a deep passion for the sport of powerboat racing is something they all share. It is Lindsey however who is in the unique position of being among the very few women drivers on the powerboat circuit—something she is well aware of but that ultimately makes her a stronger person and racer.

"Since the beginning of getting involved in the sport, I have always had a shadow of doubt cast over me by many people, simply because I am a woman," explains Lindsey. "They hear that a girl is going to be driving this massive, all-powerful speedboat and they kind of brush it off and give it a good laugh. Despite all of the bias and doubt that accompanies women in any male-dominated field, what makes everything worthwhile is the moment when even a single man's outlook on you changes and you can show that you are one in the same."

A bright future for racing

Thanks to fearless and dedicated second-generation racers like Lindsey, Stephen and Andrei, the powerboat racing community can look forward to many more years of excitement on the water.



BY SUSY FERRER

THEY COULD BE HEROES

LED BY SBI RESCUE COORDINATOR AND FORMER FIREMAN SHAWN STEINERT, THE SBI RESCUE TEAM IS ALWAYS PREPARED TO SAVE LIVES AND ARE COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY OF EVERY SUPER BOAT RACER.

The sun is shining bright on a hot August day in Michigan City, Indiana. Shawn Steinert, Super Boat International's Rescue Coordinator, steps onto a bench at Pullman Field, surrounded by his team of expert divers. As the team stands by processing his every word, Steinert positions one arm across his stomach, then raises the other to his face to hold his nose. With an agile jump, he demonstrates for them the precise way to exit a rescue chopper.

"I expect my guys to be proactive and forward thinkers. We pre-plan for every type of incident that we can think of," reveals Steinert.

Foresight, he says, is the number one rule for preparing for a rescue dive.

"We pre-plan for every type of incident that we can think of. This pre-planning includes having equipment in top condition and back-up equipment, it also includes having pre-assigned duties for the team so that each diver knows his role on the different types of boat racing incidents."

A few miles away at Washington Park, the first set of racers are lining up for the day's big competition at the 10th Annual Great Lakes Grand Prix. Meanwhile, the SBI Rescue Team continue to check and double check their equipment as they wait for the scheduled helicopter to land at Pullman Field. The first race will begin in less than an hour and soon they will be flying above the race course—fully prepared to dive in the water in case there are any collisions or rolling boats. Adrenaline is up. It's time to rock and roll.

Pictured: Shawn Steinert, SBI Rescue Dive Coordinator



Members of the SBI Rescue Dive team at a practice drill.

My first thought during an emergency is time. I want those racers out of the boat and on the surface as fast as possible," says Steinert. "When these racers have an incident and they are underwater it is truly a game of seconds. My job in the front seat of the helicopter is to tell the pilot where to position the aircraft and I make the call on when to deploy the divers. There are a thousand thoughts running through my mind when an incident happens, yet I feel perfectly comfortable in the chaos because I know the caliber of this team and we have put in the prep work."

With his steely demeanor and air of a military drill sergeant, Steinert is no stranger to the serious task of saving lives. He served 27 years with the Orlando Fire Department, 15 of those as the Commanding Officer of the Heavy Rescue 1 Unit. That special unit was an elite, five-man team made up of some of the most talented and dedicated firefighters in the nation. Steinert found that he thrived on the challenges and adrenaline of being part of the special operations teams.

"I have always had a passion and drive to be the best I could be in the rescue field," he says.

Steinert's career in offshore racing began about 15 years ago working with the Offshore Super Series. He worked closely with veteran members from the Ft. Lauderdale Fire Rescue where he learned all of the proper and effective ways to lead an offshore racing rescue team.

But even though he is a dedicated and capable leader, Steinert never stops seeing himself as a member of a team. His compassion comes through when he reflects on his fellow SBI Rescue Team members whom he holds in the highest regard.

"I was honored to be chosen for the SBI Rescue Coordinator position," says a proud Steinert. "I accepted the position because I was confident that I could assemble the absolute best rescue team in offshore racing history. No disrespect to any previous rescue teams out there, but there is no doubt that this SBI Rescue Team is the most professional, capable and qualified group of rescue divers that I have ever worked with. Myself and Co-Rescue Coordinator Artie Gatlin spent many hours vetting and talking to these guys to make sure they were the right fit."

The team is comprised of professional firefighters from throughout Florida with three members from Orange Beach, Alabama.

A tight team, the divers usually begin their race day around 6am and are non-stop until 7pm. They remain in synch throughout, all sharing the understanding of the gravity of what is on the line and knowing the risks involved. After a race is over and everyone is safe, you might see them cutting each other up and teasing one another just as any other band of brothers.

"The best part of work is being with my team," expresses Steinert. "I love these guys and trust them with my life."

His favorite team member however is no doubt his son Korey Steinert who has followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a firefighter with the Orlando Fire Department. Korey is also an active member of the SBI Rescue Team. The father and son share a passion for rescue that enhances their already special bond.

"The most rewarding and important thing for me and this team is to earn the racer's trust and respect. I want the racers to know that we are ALL IN for them because that is what we signed up to do and ultimately that is the type of men that we are," asserts Steinert. "We do that in our careers as firefighters and we do that in our duties as members of the SBI Rescue Team."

"I HAVE ALWAYS HAD A PASSION AND DRIVE TO BE THE BEST I COULD BE IN THE RESCUE FIELD."

—SHAWN STEINERT



SBI Rescue Divers make a jump from their helicopter.

GO DEEP

Under the water, time is crucial for a diver. Professional divers know that a few minutes can make all the difference between safety or danger, whether they are on a rescue dive, or diving for pleasure. Located in Key West's Margaritaville Resort & Marina, Little Switzerland offers a selection of top-of-the-line dive watches from luxury brands around the world that will allow you—or the diver in your life—to take the plunge in style. www.littleswitzerland.com



CITIZEN PROMASTER PROFESSIONAL DIVER

Features Eco-Drive technology, powered by light and battery-free. Stainless steel with azure blue aluminum bezel and matching azure blue dial, one-way rotating elapsed time and WR200.

\$177

OMEGA 300 SEAMASTER DIVER 300M

OMEGA's new Seamaster is well and truly equipped for life beneath the waves. The new Seamaster 300M features a rotating bezel with a luminescent dot at 12 o'clock, helium escape valve, and water resistant up to 30 bar. —price upon request

TAG HEUER CARIBBEAN EXCLUSIVE

Available only in the Caribbean. Water resistant up to 300 meters showcasing an 18K yellow gold steel case diameter of 40.5 mm. dial shows map of the Caribbean, luminescent markers to optimize visibility underwater and in the dark. —price upon request



BEST PLACES TO DINE AND DRINK IN KEY WEST

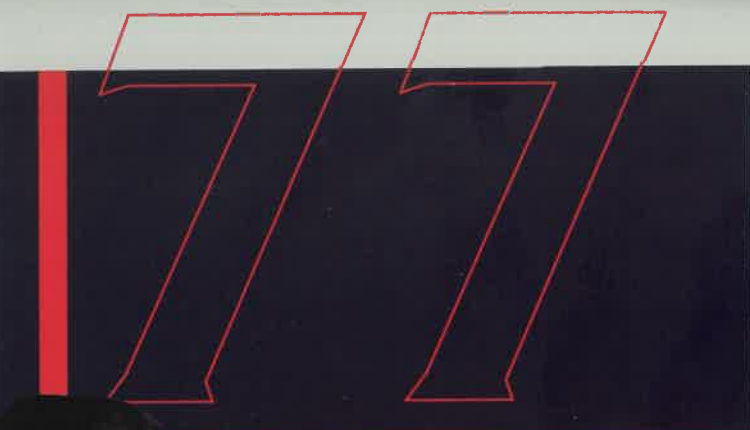
Photo Courtesy of Ocean Key Resort & Spa

SINCE ITS EARLY BEGINNINGS, KEY WEST HAS ALWAYS BEEN A CITY TO HOLD ON TO ITS INDIVIDUALITY. FROM ITS PASTEL-TONED CONCH HOUSES, TO ITS STUNNING MANGROVE-LINED BEACHES AND EVEN DOWN TO ITS COLORFUL LOCALS, THE ISLAND FIRST KNOWN AS CAYO HUESO, OFFERS A VARIETY OF SIGHTS AND SOUNDS FOR ALL THE SENSES. AND EVEN MORE CHOICES TO TEMPT AND DELIGHT THE TASTE BUDS OR QUENCH THE THIRST.

Located on the historic Key West Bight, the **Conch Republic Seafood Company** offers a daily Happy Hour from 4-7 pm and price-friendly, seafood fare caught right from the marina.

The Tipsy Rooster Liquor Store & Bar lets you drink now or stock up for later. Their grand selection of spirits knows no rival on the island, and whether you are making a pit stop for a cocktail, or saving your libations for another time, this is an Old Town location not to miss. Known for its casual open-air dining, the **Two Friends Patio Restaurant** location has been a part of Key West since 1886. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Two Friends offers a bevy of specialty drinks (including their Best in Key West-voted Bloody Mary), and a little bit of everything on the menu for any part of the day or night. If you are in the mood for American cuisine with a Caribbean flair, the **Yellowfin Bar and Grill** at the Ocean's Edge Resort & Marina is the ideal spot for fresh local seafood and drinks or drinks at the inviting waterfront bar.

The sophisticated all-you-can-eat brunch at Ocean Key Resort and Spa's **Hot Tin Roof** includes magnificent ocean views and a selection of specialty beers and craft cocktails that provide the perfect companion for an early afternoon meal. Magnificent views and top-grade cuisine are not the only things that make **Bistro 245** at Margaritaville Resort & Marina worth visiting; exceptional service is the hallmark of this waterfront eatery serving Sunday brunch from 10am to 2pm. For a quick but tasty bite between sightseeing and power boat races, **The Courthouse Deli** gives up an extensive menu of classic sandwiches, coffees and snacks. One of the best spots to catch all the action of the Key West World Championship, the **Pier House Resort & Spa** offers VIP seating Saturday and Sunday on their Sunset Terrace with an included continental breakfast and lunch buffet.



VICTORY LAP TO AMERICA

By Helen Morris



The sleek, fast and mighty boats of Victory Team Dubai make their way to the coasts of Florida for SBI's National and World Championships bringing with them one of the most gilded legacies in power boat racing history.

Making their way from the glittering City of Gold—Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates—Victory Team has developed an impressive legacy racing Class 1 internationally. Along the way, they have swept up no less than 15 international championships, making them one of the most triumphant teams in the sport of offshore powerboat racing.

Powerboat racing fans attending the SBI Clearwater National Championships will be among the first to see Victory Team's legendary action stateside. The race will mark the team's Super Boat debut and they will follow that with a second appearance in November when they compete at the Super Boat World Championships in Key West.

"We are thrilled to return to the US with new Emirati talents, says Huraiz Al Mur Mohammad Bin Huraiz, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Team Victory. "As a team, we have a strong fan base in the US, and our racers are excited to put on a great show and bring home the title."

At the Super Boat National Championships taking place September 28-30 in Clearwater, Victory Team will race in the Super Boat International class with a Class 1 V12 engine powerboat.

Among their many other accomplishments, in 1998, Victory Team became one of the first international teams to begin designing, building, and manufacturing their own race boats. Since then, they have collaborated with manufactures such as Italian luxury carmaker, Lamborghini, to include some of their parts in the production of their own V12 engines.

Left: Salem Al Adidi

Right: Eisa Al Ali

Victory Team made its offshore powerboat racing premiere back in 1986, claiming their first Class 1 powerboat championship in 1993. Today, they are considered the biggest and most established powerboat racing team in the UAE with a crew of 85 powerboat racing experts, designers and engineers that have collected more than 600 awards and trophies.

Although they are arriving late into the SBI racing year, Victory Team plans on making a splash among racing fans and making sure they secure a place at the most important SBI event of the year—the 38th Annual Key West World Championships. That would be a fitting conclusion for a team that thrives on excellence and that isn't shy about tooting their own horn.

"Our aim is to raise our UAE flag and be the titled champion, and we will do everything to ensure our victory," declares Bin Huraiz. "Our duo Emirati World Champions Salem Al Aididi and Eissa Al Ali will lead our team racing in Clearwater and Key West."

Throughout their careers, Salem Al Adidi and Eissa Al Ali have raced all over the world in places such as China, Australia and Switzerland; but for both, Clearwater will mark the first time they have ever raced inside the US. The duo will be pairing off with Superboat Unlimited racers for both final championship races. Al Adidi will join John Tomlinson of Performance Boat Center/Jimmy John's, and in Clearwater, Al Ali will partner with FJ Propeller's world champion racer, Gary Ballough.

It seems that Super Boat's current roster of racing teams will need to be on their best game as America welcomes the Victory Team. Whatever the outcome, there is little doubt that the ultimate victory will be for all the fans attending the races who will enjoy some very fast action, excitement and a great time on the water!

Victory Team is under the patronage of Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum who is the chairman of the Dubai Sports Council as part of Dubai Government. Victory Team has its own board of directors chaired by HE Huraiz Al Murr Bin Huraiz.



Team: Victory Team

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Established: 1986

Category: Class 1

Driver: Eisa Al Ali

Driver: Salem Al Adidi

Team motto: We live by our name Victory. Our motto is to live and breathe Victory through our team spirit, racing integrity and powerboat designs. As a team, our strategic goal and mission is to nurture new generations of Emirati racers, marine experts and engineers to continue The Victory Team's legacy.

Victory Team boat specs:

Length: 12.4 m

Weight: 4950 kg

Built and designed by: Victory Team

Cylinder: 12

Top Speed: More than 1060 mph

Power: 1000 hp per engine @8500 rpm

