

Nashville Shores Race Recap

2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships Final Round

2003 IJSBA National Tour Final Round

2003 IJSBA Northern Division Championship Final Round

Round 6 - August 9th, 10th, 2003

Nashville Shores, Nashville, Tennessee



Hammertime Promotions has recently wrapped up it's Final Round of the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships** at Nashville Shores Park in Hermitage, Tennessee with 171 Riders from 25 States in attendance. Riders from; California, Mississippi, Alabama, North Dakota, New York, South Carolina, Louisiana, Arizona, Florida, West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Missouri, Texas, New Hampshire, Kansas, Michigan, Illinois, Tennessee, Indiana, Georgia, and Canada put on an excellent Show and provided some Great Racing Action. This was also the final stop of the **2003 IJSBA National Tour**, and was the Final Race of the **2003 Northern Division Championships**.



With temperatures at 88 degrees, and Sunny Skies all weekend it made for a great time of Fun in the Sun.

The Nashville Shores Water Park was packed all weekend as everybody enjoyed the many Water Rides and Activities. The beautiful weather also made for some Hot Racing Action as well. The "Havasu" like atmosphere was a result of the many Riders from across the country competing in the Final Round of the 2003 IJSBA National Tour. With 20 lap Main Events; this put both Rider, and Watercraft to the test in determining several Overall Championships for the 2003 Season.



The Finals – Nashville Nationals

What better way to end the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships**, and the **2003 IJSBA National Tour** than at Nashville Shores in Nashville, Tennessee? Nashville Shores has so many activities and fun things to do. The 1,000 foot beach is located literally right in front of the water park, and is centralized right in the middle of Nashville Shores. You can be inside the water park, soaking up some rays, and you will be able to view the racing action. The rider pits are some of the best pits in the country. There are RV camping areas with electrical hookups in convenient locations surrounded by nice shade trees and grass. The race site was a big hit among many people that attended.



The Finals Begin...

On Saturday, the racing action got underway, as the Novice Riders from around the country hit the racecourse for their day of racing. With many Overall Championship Titles at stake this guaranteed some good, fast paced PWC Racing. There were many full classes, and the Novice Ski Limited Class was 1 rider away from having 3 Heats prior to the Main Event.

The Water Park was packed

Joe Durocher, from LaSalle, Ontario; Canada; on his No Fear powered Polaris took second place. **Clint Huhn**, from Mt. Pleasant, MI; on his UMI, Jet Pilot, Hydro Turf powered Kawasaki, piloted to third place for the overall. Clint had an outstanding season in 2003, as he was a force in the Novice Ski Class all year long. **Justin Luinstra**, from Wichita, KS; on his ZZ1 powered Kawasaki crossed the finish line in fourth place for a respectable finish in this 12 lap Main Event.

In the **Novice Ski Stock Class**, it was **Marc Kirovac**, from Wacomb, MI; on his Great Lakes Contracting powered Kawasaki taking the win.



The story of the day would be in the **Novice Ski Limited Class** as this was the biggest class of the day and became extremely competitive. It appeared in the Main Event the winner would come down to the two heat winners ran earlier that day. **Jamie Deer**, from Fountaintown, IN; sponsored by Outlaw Racing on his Steve



Crane powered Kawasaki took a commanding lead and eventually winning Heat 1. In Heat 2, **Rusty Wilson** from Pottsboro, TX; on his Dales Jetsports powered Yamaha ran a flawless race in Heat 2 taking the win. For the 12 lap Novice Ski Limited Main Event it was a full class heading into the first turn. The key to this race was the fact it was a 12-lap race, as the winner would be determined on the 11th lap. **Jamie Deer** took the holeshot and led virtually every lap. It appeared as though he would sail to a victory, but tragedy would strike on the 11th lap as Jamie's lanyard came off on the backstretch. This gave enough time for **Brian Friederich**, from Highland, IL; on his Rhino Linings of Central Ohio powered Kawasaki to pass **Jamie Deer** for the lead, and take the victory. Brian who came out of retirement ran a consistent race for the overall Win. **Rusty Wilson** finished in 3rd place and also ran a great race as he battled lapped traffic.



In the **Novice Ski Superstock Class**, it was all Yamaha as it took the top 4 positions. **Rusty Wilson**, from Pottsboro, TX; on his Dales Jet Sports Yamaha pulled the holeshot, and never looked back as he took the overall win. With several good finishes throughout the day, Rusty will be a force in the Novice Ski Class in Havasu. **Jonathan Smetak**, from Kent, OH; on his Lakeshore Performance powered Yamaha ended up in 2nd place with a solid performance. **Erik Hahr**, from Defiance, OH; on his Riva/Blowision powered Yamaha finished in 3rd place overall.

In the **Novice Ski Veteran's Class**, it was again a battle between **Jamie Deer**, and **Rusty Wilson**. These two went rail to rail the entire race providing some great racing entertainment, with **Jamie Deer** eventually taking the Win. **Rusty Wilson** gets the Iron Man Award as he finished the day having ran 58 laps total. **Ben Harris** from Musella, GA; on his Wamilton's/Skat-Trak powered Kawasaki took 3rd place. And **Jeff Hasty** from Cicero, IN; on his Hasty Racing powered Kawasaki came in 4th place overall.

In the **Novice Women's Ski Class**, it was **Nanette Grissom**, from Algonquin, IL; on her Woodfield Motorsports powered Kawasaki led from start to finish to take the win. She was also the **2003 U.S. Grand National Overall Champion**, and has showed to be a real contender for a National Title at Havasu. **Susan Ramroth**, from Haslett, MI; on her lamRemar powered Polaris took 2nd place, with **Kirsten Hasty**, from Cicero, IN; on her Hasty powered Kawasaki finishing in 3rd place overall.



In the **Novice 1200 Runabout Stock Class**, it was a full class of some outstanding riders. **Mark Aylor** from Columbus, OH; on his PPG powered Sea-Doo took the win. Mark also was your **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Series Champion**, marking a highly successful season. **Dennis Mack II** from Bethlehem, GA; on his Precise Flatwork powered Kawasaki finished in 2nd overall, with **Marc Petz II**, from Wyoming, MI; on his No Fear powered Sea-Doo finishing in 3rd place overall. **Justin Price**, from Knoxville, TN; on his Dixie Stampede powered Honda turned some heads finishing in 4th place. This was the first time for many in attendance seeing a Honda in PWC Racing competition.

In the **Novice 1200 Runabout Limited Class**, **Jimmy Parshall**, from Azle, TX; on his Sims Racing powered Yamaha took the win, as he battled **Gary Wald**, from St. Clair Shores, MI; on his Ace Guard powered Yamaha for 2nd place. **Dennis Mack II**, from Bethlehem, GA; on his Precise Flatwork powered Kawasaki finished in 3rd position.



Saturday Night's Novice Awards Ceremony

Championships, and walked away with some nice hardware that evening. The Saturday Evening Awards Ceremony was a fun time for all.

After Saturday's Racing Action was over, it was now time for the Novice Awards Ceremony held in the Blue Lagoon at the **Nashville Shores Water Park**. This was an excellent location, as riders gathered around at poolside for the Ceremony. There was also a cash bar located adjacent to the Blue Lagoon for riders to get a beverage of their choice as they watched the festivities. The anticipation was high as several videos were on the agenda for the night's activities. Also, the **2003 Can-Am Cup Video** would be premiered as well. The Video Show was a big hit, as Riders from across the country had a chance to view "a year in review" for Region 6 and the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships**. After the Video Presentation, it was time for the 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships Overall Series Awards to be handed out. Several Riders were crowned Series Champions of the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross**

Kawasaki
JET SKI RACING

Experts take to the water...

On Sunday, it was now time for the Amateur & Expert Riders to hit the water. Several were looking forward to the Day's Events because there were several outstanding Expert Riders entered. The 1200 Runabout Classes were loaded with incredible talent, and as a result provided some of the best racing of the day. The 800 Runabout, and Ski Classes also had a full lineup of some highly talented jet-pilots. Everybody was looking forward to the Amateur 14-15 yr. old Ski Limited Class. With 6 Riders in the field, this was the double the entries to date, and there were some seriously fast 14-15 year old's. There was also some awesome Freestyle Riders in the house for the weekend to compete in the Amateur & Pro-Am Freestyle Events. Several Freestyler's entertained the many spectators at the Nashville Shores Water Park with Ariel Barrel Rolls, and many other High Flying Tricks.



Expert Ski Limited Start

Derek Powell had a highly successful season returning from retirement. This year, he won every virtually every moto he raced in from start to finish. He was your **2003 Can-Am Cup Ski Class Champion**, and ended up being the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Expert Ski Class Overall Series Champion**. If Derek attends the 2003 IJSBA World Finals, he has a great chance of being this year's World Champion.



In the **Expert Ski SS Class**, your winner was again **Derek Powell**, from Syracuse, IN; on his on his Speed Racing/Z-Force powered Kawasaki got out front and never looked back as he took the win, for a Expert Ski Class sweep. One of the most entertaining races of the day was actually for 2nd place. **Bryan Hofsas**, from Columbus, OH; on his Hot Products powered Yamaha traded fiberglass the whole race with **Jeff Wright**, from Grandview, MO; on his Sims Racing powered Kawasaki. The were literally side by side the entire race battling for 2nd position, with eventually **Bryan Hofsas** holding off **Jeff Wright**. Bing Sung, from Seminole, FL; riding a Kawasaki followed closely for the 4th spot.



In the **Expert Veteran Ski Class**, **Jeff Wright**, and **Bryan Hofsas**, again battled virtually the whole race running rail to rail the entire race. Until late in the race **Bryan Hofsas** experienced some problems on the backstretch, as **Jeff Wright** rode to take the win. Watching these to go at it in some great clean racing was a treat to see. **Jeff Clark**, from Monroe, MI; on his K&J Fab/Goggle Grip powered Kawasaki finished in 2nd place, and **Jerry Schmidt**, from Monroe, MI; on his Factory Pipe/Slippery powered Kawasaki ended up in the 3rd spot. Taking 4th place was **Bing Sung**, from Seminole, FL. **Bryan Hofsas** would eventual finish up with a 5th place overall.

Expert 800 Runabout Start



Another exciting race on Sunday was the **Amateur 14-15 yr. old Ski Limited Class**. It was great to see 6 competitors entered in this class, making it the largest for the 2003 season. However, it would be the **Broc Harris** Show as he dominated while showing some serious speed. **Broc Harris**, from Musella, GA; on his Wamilton's powered Kawasaki lead from start to finish in the 8 lap Moto's, and proved he would be a contender for the Amateur 14-15 yr. old Ski Limited Class National Championship at Lake Havasu. Another rider showing some serious speed was **Jamie Hattenbach**, from Sandia, TX riding a

Kawasaki. Jamie, who made the long trip up from Texas ended up in 2nd place overall. **Nathan Denton**, from Burrows, IN on his Racer Extreme, powered Kawasaki ran a consistent race for the 3rd spot. **Bryce Miller**, from Sugar Grove, OH; riding a Kawasaki ended up taking 4th place, and **Britney Charrier**, from Noblesville, IN; on her Dean's Team powered Kawasaki ended up taking 5th place overall. **Robert Tingle**, from Fishers, IN; on his Dean's Team powered Polaris rounded up the field in the 6th position.



In the **Amateur Veteran Runabout Class**, it was **Kenny Sims**, from Waxahachie, TX; on his Sims Racing powered Yamaha rode hard the entire race and never looked back as he took the win. **Stan Hightower**, from Rome, CA; on his Kawasaki of Rome powered Kawasaki ended up in 2nd place, and **Gary Wald**, from St. Clair Shores, MI; on his Ace Guard powered Yamaha took 3rd overall after bumping up from the Novice Class the day before.

In the **Expert 800 Runabout Limited Class**, **Thomas Hunt**, from Lansing, MI; on his Factory Polaris took the holeshot, and lead from start to finish to take the Overall Win. Thomas rode a great race in the 15 lap Main Event as he looked unstoppable. **Todd Parent**, from Tecumseh, Ontario, Canada; on his Lakeshore Performance powered Sea-Doo rode consistently to take 2nd place. **Mike Varbel**,



from Syracuse, NY; on his Sport-Mann Racing powered Sea-Doo battled with Tina Mannise, from North Syracuse, NY; again on a Sport-Mann Sea-Doo for 3rd & 4th respectively. **Jamie Cheney**, from West Fargo, SD; on his Cheney Motors powered Sea-Doo was again plagued with problems, and ended up in the 5th position.

In the **Expert 800 Runabout SS Class**, **Geoffrey Swann**, from Arnold, MO; on his Factory Polaris, showing he had the right combination, and dominated the class from start to finish. **Jeff Lingenfelter Jr**, from Noblesville, IN; on his LPG Racing powered Sea-Doo rode a great race for 2nd place. **Jo Jo Mannise**, from North Syracuse, NY; on his Sportmann powered Sea-Doo followed closely to end up in the 3rd position. **Mike Vrabel**, from Syracuse, NY; on his Sport-Mann Racing powered Sea-Doo battled with **Eric Swann**, from Arnold, MO; on his Factory Polaris for the 4th & 5th positions respectively.

Mike Remar hosted the Awards Ceremony In the **Expert 1200 Runabout Limited Class**, it was all **Evan Connell**, from West Bloomfield, MI; on his Dean's Team powered Sea-Doo who was your overall winner. He held off **Derek Parker**, from Bloomington, IN; on his Dean's Team powered Kawasaki who ended up in 2nd place. **Justin Haverkate**, from Grandville, MI; on his Team Tinzmo powered Factory Sea-Doo rode a consistent race taking 3rd place overall. **Raymond Degrazia**, from Chicago, IL; on his Z-Force/Novi powered Sea-Doo had the best race of his 2003 season taking 4th place. **Timothy Neff**, from Indialantic, FL; on his Pepsi/Dixie Stampede powered Yamaha ended up in the 5th position.

In the **Expert 1200 Runabout SS Class** there was a full field of talented riders, and provided some great racing action. **Jay Edworthy**, from Cambridge, Ontario, Canada; on his Cal Jet/Rotax powered Sea-Doo rode a great race, and showed some serious speed in the grueling 20 lap Main Event. Battling lapped traffic he set a tremendous pace throughout the entire race to take the win. **Timothy Neff**, from Indialantic, FL; on his Pepsi/Dixie Stampede powered Yamaha rode to a solid 2nd place finish. **Yousef Alabdulrazzaq**, from New York, NY; battled with **Jo Jo Mannise**, from North Syracuse, NY; on his Sportmann powered Sea-Doo for 3rd & 4th place respectively. **Evan Connell**, from West Bloomfield, MI; on his Dean's Team powered Sea-Doo ended up in the 5th position overall.

Pro-Am Primetime...

In the **Pro-Am Women's Ski Class**, it was **Nicole Goudreau**, from Lake Havasu City, AZ on her Red Bull/UMI powered Yamaha who took the win, with her patent flawless riding style. In the 10 lap Main Event, it was apparent that Nicole was fully ready for the World Championships in October. **Ashlee Hyde**, from Hide-away-hills, OH; on her Rhino Linings powered Kawasaki took 2nd place edging out **Debbie Hyde**, from Hide-away-hills, OH; on her Rhino Linings powered Kawasaki for 3rd place. **Eleanor Cosper**, from Denham Springs, LA on her Hooters powered Kawasaki rode a consistent race for the 4th position.

In the **Pro-Am Stock Ski Class**, **Brad Maloney**, from Holland, OH; on his Goggle Grip powered Kawasaki dominated the 15 lap Main Event. He finished virtually a half a lap ahead of a full field as he crossed the checkered flag. Brad showed he was in true form to be a contender to win the World Championships in Lake Havasu. **Jeff Wright**, from Grandview, MO; on his Sims Racing powered Kawasaki rode consistently to take a solid 2nd place finish. **John Shuper**, from Allegan, MI; on his Factory Pipe/Wamilton's factory powered Polaris rode a great race for a 3rd place overall finish. **Scott Hyke**, from Madison, WI; on his Barrs powered Kawasaki ended up taking 4th place overall. And **Jim Hill**, from St. Simons, GA; ended up in 5th position.



In the **Amateur Freestyle competition**, **Randy Richardson**, from Aiken, SC; on his Wamilton's/Hydro Turf Yamaha took the win. **Devin Hoover**, from Ypsilanti, MI; on his Det-Chi Video Kawasaki took 2nd place, with **Jimmy Sweeney**, from Hendersonville, TN; taking 3rd place on his Polaris. All 3 had outstanding performances, as they entertained the Nashville Shores audience.

Great Weather, Great Racing, Great Race Site

In the **Pro-Am Freestyle competition**, **Gary Burtka**, from Allen Park, MI; on his Det-Chi Video.com Yamaha thrilled the crowd to take the win. **Jason Stoyer**, from Hollywood, FL, on his Hydro Turf Yamaha took 2nd place, along with **Greg Brock**, from Chicago, IL; on his Det-Chi Video.com Yamaha taking 3rd place. High Flying Barrel Rolls, and many other tricks rocked Nashville Shores, as this was a popular event for the spectators.

Did you just see that...

Without a doubt, the best race of the day, and arguably the best race I've seen in years of Personal Watercraft Racing, was in the **Pro-Am 1200 Runabout SS class**. People were in awe after witnessing 1st through 3rd place cross the finish line within a boat length of each other after the grueling 20 lap Main Event. The story developed early in the race when **Ryan Hardwick**, from Knoxville, TN; on his Pepsi/Dixie Stampede powered Yamaha pulled the holeshot leading with **Jay Edworthy**, from Cambridge, Ontario, Canada; on his Cal-Jet/Rotax powered Sea-Doo a short distance behind. Battling for 3rd position was **Kenneth Ritchie**, from Fullerton, CA; on his Hydro-Turf Powered Yamaha, and **Shawn Ninesling**, from Berkley, MI; on his Rec Motorsport powered Sea-Doo. For the first 3 laps **Jay Edworthy** was slowly closing in on **Ryan Hardwick** when disaster struck for **Jay Edworthy**. On the right handed corner after the main straight, Jay caught a wave, and high sided and was



Pro-Am 1200 Runabout Start

soon swimming to his Cal-Jet/Rotax Sea-Doo. Being a short distance away from his ski, he was losing valuable time on the leaders. After Jay got back on his ski, and re-entered the race he was a ½ lap behind the leaders. At that point with 16 laps to go, everybody thought to themselves there's no way, he's too far behind, we were wrong. Disaster would strike again soon, as **Ryan Hardwick** while leading would develop mechanical problems and surrender the lead to **Shawn Ninesling** with **Kenneth Ritchie** right behind him. **Jay Edworthy** was still at this point running a far distant 3rd place. While **Shawn Ninesling** and **Kenneth Ritchie** traded fiberglass, **Jay Edworthy** lap after lap was gaining on the leaders. He was riding at an incredible pace as he battled lapped traffic while constantly gaining on the leaders. At this point, you thought, "He just might do it". Then on lap 16 **Jay Edworthy** coming from a



Jay Edworthy charging through the Field

½ lap down caught Ninesling, and Ritchie. For the next 4 laps to the finish these 3 battled it out for the lead all within a boat length of each other. Time would eventually run out, and **Shawn Ninesling** would hold on for the win, and **Kenneth Ritchie**, and **Jay Edworthy** finished 2nd & 3rd respectively. **Jay Edworthy** had the crowd in amazement after the race with how hard he rode to catch the leaders. It was simply spectacular to witness.

This concluded Sunday's racing action. It was apparent that several riders were in top form and ready for the World Championships at Lake Havasu in October. Afterwards, Sunday night the Awards Ceremony was held at the Blue Lagoon, in the Nashville Shores Water Park. Several Guest Speakers addressed the crowd including **Jim Delzer**, Competition Manager for the IJSBA. The **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Expert Overall Awards** were given out, followed by the **2003 IJSBA National Tour Overall Awards**. This ended a great weekend of Personal Watercraft Racing. Nashville Shores is a fantastic race site, and everybody had an enjoyable time throughout the weekend. It was a fun time for all, and there was some pretty good racing as well.

This was the final round of the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships**. We would like to give a sincere thanks to the many sponsors that made this season possible. We deeply appreciate your continued support of Personal Watercraft Racing.

The 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships is brought to you by; Kawasaki, Sea-Doo, Yamaha, Novi, Skat-Trak, Wiseco, Hydro-Turf, Budweiser, Goggle Grip, Harrison Marine, Arbonne International, Madman Engineering, and Freelance Lettering.

For more information on the 2004 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships, contact Jacque Bryant, Phone: (317) 846-0789, Fax: (317) 846-0789 or email: mwctour@iquest.net

