

On behalf of the *Pontoon & Deck Boat* staff, I would like to invite you to our 31st annual Shootout Boat Test, where we will be testing the latest pontoon and deck boats for the upcoming year.

This year's Shootout will be held at the **Fourwinds Resort & Marina on Lake Monroe** in Bloomington, Ind., starting **Monday, September 16 through Thursday, September 19, 2024**. Our staff will be staying at the resort and we have made special arrangements if you'd like to stay here as well.

For room reservations at Fourwinds call 812-824-2628 and ask for the *PDB* magazine group rate, which starts at **\$109** per night. This rate is based upon availability so please make your reservations before **August 31** for the discounted rates. The Fourwinds Resort is located at 9301 Fairfax Road, Bloomington, IN 47401. (At the DNR gate at the entrance to the park, let them know you're with *Pontoon & Deck Boat* magazine to avoid paying the fee)

We will be testing **a limited number of boats per day** and we will have a **sign up sheet** with scheduled times for your convenience again this year. Included with the Shootout information kit is the sign up sheet. **Please reserve** your time slot by calling **Shantelle Stewart at 208-542-2217 or you can email her at shantelle@pdbmagazine.com** after you've submitted your paperwork.

We'd like to encourage you to arrive **at least an hour prior** to your scheduled time slot. When you arrive for testing, **launch** your boat at the **Fairfax public boat ramp** and then bring it around to the boat slips at the marina to begin testing (<u>See Map</u>). Please check in with the crew on the dock and make sure your boat is gassed and ready. <u>It is mandatory that a qualified factory representative</u> <u>stay with the boat at all times during the testing process.</u>

We would like to include all of the write-ups in one issue again this year, so we are limited on the number of boats we can review for this specific test issue. Like at previous Shootout tests, we respectively ask that you **bring only one pontoon and/or one deck boat** to be tested per brand. However, additional boats can be tested to be included in a regular issue of *PDB* magazine for an additional testing fee if interested.

There is a **\$1,000 testing fee** for each boat (\$3,800 for non-advertisers) and included is increased added value this year (see test package) including the enhanced video. The video coverage of our review will be included and promoted

on our website and it will also be available for your own use following the release of this issue. These videos will be available before January 1, 2025.

Complete details for our Shootout test can be found in this online kit. If you would like more information regarding testing procedures, general judging criteria and other facets of the event, please feel free to contact me. We appreciate your support of this event and we hope to see you in September.

Brady L. Kay Publisher / Executive Editor 208-542-2251 blk@pdbmagazine.com