

Dayton To Get Regatta Again Next Summer

By Jim Robey
Journal Herald Outdoor Writer

Another Inboard Hydroplane Racing Regatta will be held at Dayton next year, Gene Whipp said, yesterday.

Whipp, commodore of the Dayton Motor Boat Racing association, was enthusiastic about the large turnout of spectators who came to witness the races at Eastwood lake park.

Boat drivers were also delighted with the race and were in general agreement that Dayton has one of the best sites in the country for an annual racing regatta.

"This is the best water I've ever run in," said Cliff Reif, Dayton outboarder who was second in his class yesterday.

"It's a natural," Reif went on. "You got a big lake, parking area and excellent viewing for spectators. And the lake is protected from the wind by the high banks."

In agreement was John Keller of Medway, another outboarder. "The lake has a good pit area for boats and would be excellent for water shows such as jumping events and skiing exhibitions along with boating," said Keller.

Hydroplane drivers found the race course to their liking, too. Billy Sterrett of Owensboro, Ky., national leader in the 7-litre class, praised the course and called the Dayton Motor Boat Racing association a "going group."

Drivers had one complaint. It was aquatic vegetation. The weeds had been cut out of the racing area several days ago but some of the vegetation still floated in the area and hung up in props.

An earlier and more extensive weed-control program is planned prior to next year's regatta.

✱ ✱ ✱

City Welfare director Jackson Perry said planning money for

development of Eastwood park will be requested next year.

"We would like to have a marina development in progress in 1967 in order to provide launching and docking for area boatmen," Perry said.

The Welfare director pointed out that the giant quarry at Harshman road and Route 4 and 69 will be opened to the general public when gravel excavations are completed in a few years.

"When this lake is developed and tied in with the overall Eastwood park project the city of Dayton will have one of the finest municipal parks in the country," Perry stated.

✱ ✱ ✱

Paul Sarossy, chief of the Ohio Division of Watercraft, was present for the regatta and said that the state would be working with the city of Dayton on development of boating facilities at Eastwood.

"This is a lake with great boating potential and we'll be able to provide matching funds for launching and docking," said Sarossy.

Dayton
Journal Herald
7/19/1965