

## NATIONAL HYDROPLANE CHAMPIONSHIPS

# So They Named Schultz Chairman

By GARY NUHN

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Most of Nelson L. Schultz's hair is black and wavy and brushed straight back. He earned the touch of gray hair at his temples legitimately.

Schultz is 43 years old and is one of the charter members of the Dayton Motorboat Racing association, the association with a heart.

LAST YEAR, Schultz entered his 280-inch monster in six races. Three times this sleek piece of beauty started with feeling on the trailer—whining melodiously. Then he put it in the water and it acted like a rowboat. Indifferent to his pleas and threats, the motor started not.

Another time, says Nelson,

“The shaft backed out of the coupling.” When your shaft backs out of your coupling, it's time to go home. Nelson went home.

Yet another of the six times, the engine started (Ah, sweet success), the shaft stayed in place (Ah, wave the green flag), but Schultz's accelerator stuck (Ah, call the Shore Patrol).

The sixth time,—well, do you really want to hear about it?—Schultz started last and finished last.

HIS FELLOW DMBRA members didn't boot Schultz out. Not on your rooster tail. They gave him probably the highest honors this side of commodore—they named him

chairman of the 1971 National Inboard Championships for Limited Hydroplanes, which will be held in Dayton one year and three months hence at city-owned Eastwood Park lake.

The details of the competition, to be run in nine classes over a three day period, were disclosed in The Daily News Wednesday.

What wasn't disclosed is that the DMBRA is in hock for \$21,275, well, not actually in hock, but that's what its winning bid was and that is what it is liable for one year and three months hence.

The association has already successfully produced two Eastern championships, for each of which they started

\$15,000 in arrears.

The total cleared in those two half-country championships was \$11,000, all of which it promptly turned over to the Barney Children's Medical Center. That's where that “association with a heart” comes in.

THE DMBRA is not in business to fill a bank vault with wet money or to build itself a downtown headquarters.

“Primarily,” said Gene Benning of Piqua, Dayton's and

Region Six's (a four state area) representative to the American Power Boat association, “we race for the love of racing. You know what those All-Star football games say, ‘we run so that children may walk? Well, we race so the kids can walk.’”