



BUOY RIDING, RIVER RUNS & WATERCROSS WITH THE CHATTANOOGA JET SKI CLUB!

By: Keith McAfee | Photos: Chattanooga Jet Ski Club

On any given Wednesday at

5:30 pm during summer, on a little back bay off the main channel of the Tennessee River, one hears small engines and splashing water. It's the Chattanooga Jet Ski club doing what they love —chasing down buoys as fast as they can, sometimes eloquently but occasionally, not so much. What brings these riders out? Stories vary—a few to blow off steam from work, some for race practice, and others to spend time with their kids.

A long-time racer and club member describes jet skiing as “all about fun,” and he lives it every week with his son. There are several parent and child teams. Almost 25% of the club is made up of young riders, many eager to become racers.

What makes the club so incredible is there are many veteran racers in the group, and all of them feel it is their duty and privilege to share what they've learned with the young guns. Youngsters get the benefit from others' years of experience, newbies (no matter how old!) also get to learn. There are no egos on ride days.

That's the beauty of ride days: the club specifically states NO racing during ride events. The purpose of ride days is to tune skis, practice rounding buoys, but most of all, have fun, hang out and enjoy each other, allowing everyone from novice to grandmaster to ride, compare tips and strategies and lend a hand helping tune skis. The range of skis, from Kawasaki 300 to Sea-Doo XP to new Yamaha SuperJets and SXR 1500s, ensures someone can help you with whatever you need.

How did this come about? In 2019, club founders, Dustin Higdon and myself applied for and received a permit from the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency to set up a PWC course throughout the summer. The first season was more impromptu; folks would call and ask to ride. The club has come far since then: now there is a set ride every Wednesday and select Saturdays.

If you ever find yourself near Chattanooga on a ride day, please swing by, you'll be glad you did! *PR*

SATURDAY RIDE DATES

APRIL 23, 2022
TBD

MAY 28, 2022

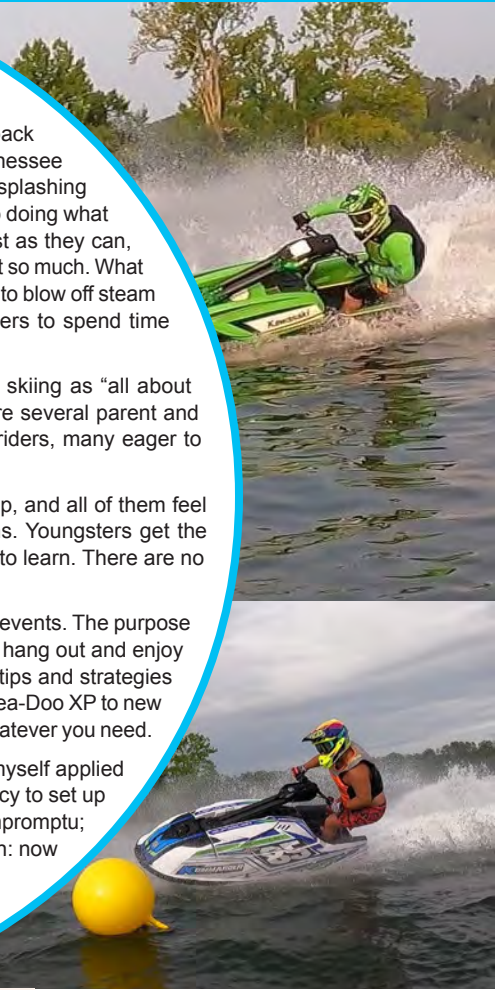
JUNE 18, 2022
2ND ANNUAL SUPER CHICKEN OLYMPICS

JULY 16, 2022

AUGUST 27, 2022

MORE INFORMATION

<https://chattanoogajetskiclub.com/>



BUOY COURSE EXAMPLES

