

Bid Proposal for:

Alternate 2010 Hobie 16 North American Championships
(due to the unfortunate gulf oil spill)
At Lake Mohave, Nevada

Proposed Dates:
October 10 thru 15th, 2010

I. Introduction

Lake Mohave has been the home of Fleet 51's early spring regatta in Division 2, now known as the **'Hobie Way of Life' Regatta**. It has a 6 event, 4 year reputation for superb wind conditions. Dubbed by wind surfers and kite boarders as 'the secret spot', it is a place which is increasingly drawing interest amongst wind-sport enthusiasts.

An 'Inland Isthmus'

Often, Lake Mead to the north and Lake Havasu to the south will be becalmed, while Lake Mohave will have strong breeze. Why is this?

A geographic map study shows that Lake Mohave lies directly between two ridges rising over 3,000 feet above it both east and west, about 10-15 miles up the alluvial slopes which flank the lake's shorelines and it's Colorado tributary. Land masses both east and west beyond those ridges remain a minimum of 2500 feet above the lakes 600 feet above sea level surface for hundreds of miles. This condition is an extensively studied area by the NOAA which has proven itself a vast inland isthmus and wind generating machine.

Currently, Windmills are being prepared for installation in the area. Furthermore, the lake is flanked on its north end by two very large thermal engines which further enhance the area's wind creating characteristics. If the ocean were to rise about 600 ft, well then, Lake Mohave would be the furthest north shoreline in the inland southwest.

A rustic venue with a distinct 'Hobie History'

As the southernmost part of the Lake Mead National Recreational Area, Lake Mohave is the most primitive and underdeveloped area in 'the park'. Even though the Lake extends north and south more miles than Lake Mead to the north, it is cut off from much of the world by geographic features. You will find it a most rewarding experience to view the majestic mountains and features that surround this lake as it is devoid of tall trees and lies near the middle of the Mohave desert. Sunsets light up the colored terrain and are inspiring. The Nighttime star-scape is very clear.

During the Dana Pt. 40th Anniversary regatta, while talking with Sandy Banks (the first HCA Race Director), he related that the very first prototype Hobie 14's were taken to Lake Mohave for testing due to the light wind conditions in Southern California. They needed a place with reliably strong wind conditions to put the new catamaran through its paces. This took place in 1967 and was not a race, but certainly puts Lake Mohave on the map as an important piece of 'Hobie History'. Meteorological authorities have stated that statistical records reveal that Lake Mohave has the highest frequency of 15+ mph winds over any other body of water in the West, including coastal waters.

II. Hosts and Personnel

- a. Event CoHosts: Hobie Fleet 51, address and website and Hobie Fleet 88, PO Box 1464, Searchlight, NV 89046
- b. Event Co-Chairs: David Martin, h16music@yahoo.com phone, Gordo Bagley, gnbii@msn.com , 702-427-7328
- c. Event Treasurer: Erika Lapinski, energain@rraz.net , 928-486-1778
- d. Proposed Principal Race Officer: Matt Bounds, HCA Race Director
- e. Proposed Jury Chairman: To be selected by HCA Race Director, USSA certified

III. Venue – Cottonwood Cove Resort has stated that they are in essence ‘giving us the keys’ for this event and are doing a great deal to make the event an easy setup and fit.

a. Facilities

Host Hotel – Cottonwood Cove Resort

- (1) 24 rooms available plus extensive rooms at similar rates on 40, 50, 60 and 70’ houseboats within the marina. The resort charters these units during the lake’s peak season at very high rates. They will be vacant for this event. Hence the hotel room rates. Reservations should be made asap. See cottonwoodcoveresort.com

(2) Meeting rooms

- (a) Registration, CC Resort conference room
- (b) Jury, same or as selected by Mr. Bounds
- (c) Scoring, same or as selected by Matt Bounds and/or Race Chairs

(3) Banquet facilities – with tent at conference room

- (a) Capacity 200
- (b) Fully Catered

ii. Beach Facilities – CC beachfront and along adjacent peninsula, also various coves nearby and within walking or shuttle provided distance.

- (1) Capacity – 70 boats
- (2) Trailer Parking – plenty in resort parking lots
- (3) Boat Launch Capability
 - (a) beach launch at Hotel
 - (b) courtesy dock for motorboats and signal boat
- (4) Motor Home Parking/Camping – Large RV Park at resort and close adjacent RV & Camping spaces at Lake Mead NRA facilities.

iii. Moorage and Gas Dock – CC Marina provided

- (1) 1-2 miles to racing area.

b. Racing Area

- i. Prevailing Wind – northwest to southeast variable 5-25mph with occasional blowouts in the late afternoon southerlies.
- ii. Permitted with National Park Service, all lake waters available

- iii. Depth 5-60ft, use river bottom anchors
- iv. Navigation hazards primarily are shoreline reefs and recreational/fishing boats/jet skis under way. Light traffic this time of year.
- v. No tides, negligible Colorado River current.
- vi. Daytime temps average about 80, night time about 55.
- c. Medical Facilities
 - i. Nearest facility: [Medical Clinic in Community Center at Searchlight, NV on Cottonwood Cove road above the resort.](#)
 - ii. Local Medical Practitioner: ?

Access other than driving: The nearest airport is McCarran Int'l Airport in Las Vegas, NV which is approximately 65 miles from the venue. Obviously, this is a busy airport and you should have little trouble finding a flight to make the event.

Access via driving: Find your driving route through [maps.google.com](https://www.google.com/maps). Be sure to avoid any reference on your route description that includes crossing Hoover Dam. That will add a significant amount of time as the crossing is slow and requires homeland security inspection.

Note: Temperatures in the fall are very mild with cool nights. Water temperatures are still warm from the summer but likely require wetsuits on higher wind days. The available racing area on Lake Mohave is shaped like an (American) football, with dimensions approximately 3.5 miles (east to west) X 8 miles (north to south), providing plenty of room for short or long courses typically on the diagonal of the lake (lookup [maps.google.com](https://www.google.com/maps)). Southeast winds are very fair with even wind chop from 1 to 5 feet, depending on wind-speed (light wind in the morning and a wall of wind coming in sometime in the day and building as the day goes on). Northwest winds are lightly gusty with very flat conditions (stronger in the morning and lulling as the day goes on). Double trap conditions are common. Very high winds can occur on the lake making it hazardous. It has occasionally been observed to white over. The NOAA has an impeccable reputation for accurate predictions of wind on this lake over any other in the vicinity due to its long term studies there. See daily - wrh.noaa.gov. Proviso: This is a lake, and as such we cannot guarantee that these conditions will prevail everyday. Occasionally, there are light days.

'Small Print'

Additionally and traditionally, this lake is dropped at this time of year about 10 to 15 feet for Arizona winter farm irrigation starting in October. Therefore, while there are good sandy beaches available, they are fewer in number than in spring and summer months. Beach wheels are important. There is little or no chance of rain, so if you like to camp-out, it is free on the beaches outside the NRA campgrounds. There is the possibility, however slight, of running into rattlesnakes there, so going into deep brush is inadvisable. October is when they typically are headed for hibernation. Entrance into the park is gated by the National Park Service and requires a \$5 fee upon entry, which is good for the week.

Cottonwood Cove Resort and Searchlight, NV are austere rural communities and do not have a grocery store. Beverages, snacks and basic items are readily available at the various service stations but selection is limited. There are some available frozen meats and

commodities, but you will be best to stock your coolers before coming with food items that you wish to have available outside the catered events.

Restaurants and bars include the Nugget Casino, Terribles (both in Searchlight) and Cottonwood Cove Cafe.

Resort has public restrooms and showers in addition to the motel and houseboats.

In conclusion, a proposal is set, based on past experience, that if the condition arises with a 10-17mph southeast wind condition, that a catamaran hull flying world record can be set (whether single or double handed). With this, Lake Mohave has a uniquely fair wind experience that could produce a possible 30+ minute sustained flown hull on a Hobie 16 that could be video recorded. Anyone would be eligible. We will have on hand a video follow to record this event. It may require the abandonment of a race by those wishing to accomplish this task. It will be submitted to the Guinness Book of World Records for consideration. This task has already been achieved on several occasions on this lake, but has yet to be officially recorded.



