



## **Put-in-Bay Sports Car Races Set 2023 Dates, Featured Marques and Expanded Eligibilities**

**Put-in-Bay OH – January 2, 2023** -- For 2023, the Put-in-Bay Sports Car Races, Tuesday through Thursday September 19-21, will honor Japanese marques with expanded vehicle eligibilities for the very first time. Held on an historic Lake Erie island, this unique vintage racing event has always featured a heritage focus. For 2023, organizers plan a celebration of Japanese car brands and their collective role in motorsports in addition to the traditional lineup of entries.

Datsun/Nissan, Honda, Mazda and Toyota entrants built 1990 and prior will be eligible for a “featured marque” discount and join the traditional Put-in-Bay race groups generally comprising 1973 and earlier cars. Hence first-generation Mazda Miatas, rotary powered RX7s, Toyota MR2 coupes and similar under-3 liter, pre-1991 cars driven by experienced vintage racers will now be able to take part in “the Holy Grail of Old-School Vintage Racing.”

“By opening entry eligibility to enthusiasts of the next generation of small-bore sports cars and sedans we feel we are staying true to the concept of the original Put-in-Bay Road Races while also expanding our ‘reach’ to a broader group of vintage racers,” said event coordinator Manley Ford. Adding that the annual Put-in-Bay event has entry options for both racing- and non-racing participants, Ford notes, “We also expect to attract a broader slate of street-car entries and spectators as well.”

For those not familiar with the Put-in-Bay event here are a few things that make it unique:

- Small-bore sports cars raced through the narrow streets of the island from 1952-1959 and one ‘last time’ in 1963.
- Vintage Races have been held annually at the Put-in-Bay Airport since 2012 (except 2020).
- Today’s challenging and competitive 1.2-mile hay-bale lined course rewards precise braking and nimble handling on a pristinely maintained surface that offers excellent grip, numerous passing opportunities and varieties of racing lines.
- Besides two days of racing, there is also an all-entrant’s car show, police-escorted tour-laps of the original 3.1-mile road course, social gatherings and the highly competitive and entertaining “rocker cover races.”

Registration is now open. See [www.pibroadrace.com](http://www.pibroadrace.com) for registration materials and further details about eligibility. Early registration discount expires June 1, 2023.

For further info:

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