

BRENT DILLARD Inducted into the APBA Hall of Champions



It was not the easiest road for Brent Dillard (#80, Dalzell, SC – “The Vivrant Thing”) to travel. His APBA Hall of Champions destination seemed distant at the start of the 2008 Formula Three/SST 60 racing season. Two appearances in the winner’s circle were OK, but they were not for first place. Especially difficult was his finish during the 2008 F3/SST 60 World Championship (Marietta, Ohio), when an engine problem took Dillard from a sure win, to third on the last half of the last lap.

However, a measure of a champion is how well adversity is handled. If the HOC award was based simply on grit and determination, Brent certainly had a leg up on his competition, but this honor has always been reserved for those few that earn it on the water. That world championship third place marked the turning point. Longer hours in the shop, combined with longer hours testing, reworking and refining the race program and always keeping the HOC goal at the forefront catapulted Dillard to the top of his game – at the end of the season, he was the Powerboat Superleague F3 Champion, SST 60/F3 National Champion, SST 60/F3 High-Points Champion and SST 60/F3 North American Champion.

Dillard clinched the coveted Hall of Champions berth -- one of two positions awarded to the tunnel boat racing category – by amassing the largest point total in the OPC category. His remarkable 288 HOC points, 138 more than his closest competitor, placed him among the elite in the motorboat racing industry, and allowed him to be inducted into the APBA Hall of Champions for a second time.

Congratulations to Powerboat Superleague member Brent Dillard and all of the “Vivrant Thing” team members for achieving APBA's highest driver honor.

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