

Go-fast boats hit beach this weekend

FLORIDA WEEKLY STAFF REPORT
news@florida-weekly.com

With the cancellation of the powerboat races this year on Fort Myers Beach, boat-

ing enthusiasts can still get a glimpse of the rocket-fast vessels this weekend.

Poker Runs of America, an international high-performance boating group, is holding a poker run, something that's more com-

mon among motorcycle riders.

Boaters will head off on defined routes to collect playing cards at stops along the way. The best hand at the end of the day wins.

More than 200 speedboats — some faster

than 180 mph — are expected for the beach poker run Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5. Many of the boats will be on display at Salty Sam's Marina, 2500 Main Street, Fort Myers Beach. The public is welcome to view these high-speed, exotic boats.

The event starts at 10:30 a.m. Saturday with a few parade laps off the Pink Shell Resort on Fort Myers Beach, then its off on the run.

"Providing a 5-star service is what we are committed to doing," said Bill Taylor, president of Poker Runs of America. "From the marina to the hotel, down to the free GPS programming for all of the waypoints of the Poker Run course, this is just a little savoring of what this year's Fort Myers Poker Run is all about."

This year's poker run will benefit Voices for Kids, a volunteer organization that works with the state's Guardian ad Litem to help children in need. ■



Intelligent Storm Protection

Ask about our **NO INTEREST and NO PAYMENTS plan***



Finally, a convenient way to invest in hurricane protection. Qualified homeowners can enjoy a no interest and no payments plan when they participate in a new financing program just announced by Storm Smart Industries. This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy the benefits of Smart Screen, our incredibly strong roll-down screen system with electric push-button convenience. Smart Screen is like having a bulletproof vest for large openings such as lanais, storefronts and entranceways, while its cutting-edge mesh structure filters light in, allowing you to see outside.

Get intelligent protection with Smart Screen, and peace of mind with Storm Smart Industries' 15 years of installation experience and superior customer service. Call today for a free estimate.

Now open in the new International Design Center.

Located on the corner of I-75 and Corkscrew Road in Estero.

STORM SMART INDUSTRIES

Intelligent Protection

We Service All Types of Hurricane Shutters.



Impact-Resistant Windows • Rolling Shutters • Accordion Shutters • Storm Panels
Storm Catcher® Hurricane Wind Abatement Screens • Storm Catcher® Rolling Screen
Bahama and Colonial Shutters • Clear Panels

Toll Free: 888-962-7283 • Fort Myers: (239) 278-9092

Naples: (239) 403-9092 • Port Charlotte: (941) 764-9099 • www.StormSmart.com



If you go

- ▶ **What:** Poker Runs of America
- ▶ **Where:** Fort Myers Beach
- ▶ **When:** Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6 beginning at 10:30 am
- ▶ **Marina:** Salty Sam's Marina, 2500 Main St, Fort Myers Beach, www.SaltySamsMarina.com
- ▶ **Launch sites:** Salty Sam's Marina, Cape Coral Yacht Club, and Lovers Key/Carl Johnson Park
- ▶ **Registration:** 800-354-9145 or www.pokerrunsamerica.com

* Financing program provided through GE Capital. Ask a Storm Smart Industries sales associate for full details and qualification requirements.

CRC056857