

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Highfield Boats Partners with Elite America's Cup Sailor and Premier Dealer to Expand Network in the Northeast

CADILLAC, MI – May 15, 2026 – Highfield Boats, America's leading Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) brand, is proud to announce that Kirby Marine in Newport, R.I., the sailing capital of the Northeast is a new Highfield Dealer/Partner. Kirby Marine was founded in 2020 by Rome Kirby, a world champion professional sailor and America's Cup veteran. A one-stop marine center that offers boat and engine sales and service, storage, winterization, hauling and launching, electronics installation, refits and repowers, Kirby Marine represents Highfield Boats exclusively throughout Rhode Island.

"Highfield has set the global gold standard for the inflatable market, and Kirby Marine is proud to bring that caliber of performance to Southern New England. We are excited to partner with a brand that shares our commitment to excellence and look forward to establishing Highfield as the premier RIB choice across the region," Rome Kirby said.

"A legendary American sailing family is joining the Highfield adventure. Growing up around the boating industry, I still vividly remember the

legendary America's Cup battles of the 1980s and watching sailor Jerry Kirby compete and win at the highest level against international challengers like *French Kiss*. Those were unforgettable years for sailing fans around the world. Now his son, Rome Kirby – an America's Cup winner and Volvo Ocean Race veteran – is joining the Highfield dealer network. To have a sailor and competitor of Rome's caliber joining the Highfield family in the USA is something truly special. Passion, performance, offshore experience, racing DNA, and a true boating lifestyle – this is exactly what Highfield is all about,” said Highfield Boats USA President Christophe Lavigne.

Media Contact: Louisa Beckett, louisa@turnkeywords.com, 954-599-9355

About Highfield Boats

Highfield Boats is the world's leading aluminum-hulled RIB manufacturer. Established in 2011, Highfield Boats has grown into a worldwide boat builder with a complete line of rigid-inflatable hull boats (RIBs) featuring exclusive high-tensile, powder-coated aluminum hulls from 6' to 30', including tenders and heavy-duty RIBs at home on any ocean. With dealers and distributors in 46 countries, Highfield Boats has become the top choice worldwide for families, international mariners and yacht clubs. Highfield's state-of-the-art production facility is located in Weihai, China. In 2023, Highfield Boats USA opened a new Rigging & Distribution facility in Cadillac, Mich. For more information about Highfield Boats, please visit

www.highfieldboats.com.