**Gomphurus vastus**  
**Walsh**

**Cobra Clubtail**

**Uncommon - S3**

**Cobra Clubtail**

**47-57 mm (1.9-2.2 in.)**

**16 Jun - 10 Jul**

**Medium**

**MALE:** Eyes: dark green. Face: greenish w/ black cross stripes. Thorax: yellowish-green w/ brown stripes. Abdomen: blackish w/ yellow markings; S7-9 strongly clubbed w/ half-length middorsal yellow marking, S9 also has lateral broad, full length yellow marking. Legs: black. Wings: basal ¼ flavescent.

**FEMALE:** Similar to M; abdomen stouter.

**Habitat:** Large rivers. Lakes. Alternating sand/gravel; brush near water’s edge. Sun-shade interface, hovers 8 – 20 inches above water w/ abdomen raised. Range <0.5 mile. from water.

**Reproduction:** Male patrols fast over water. Mating in trees or shrubs. Female oviposits by dipping abdomen in water to wash off eggs. Exuviae on sunny side of tree trunks/logs coming directly out of the water; emergence takes 20 min, 10 minutes more for wings to harden; tenerals then fly 10-20 m up into trees along river bank; typically nymph crawls across sand/gravel at river’s edge, climbs 3’ to vegetated part of bank, stops at base of grasses, sedges, roots, etc.

**Similar Species:** *G. fraternus* (Midland C.; not in Howard County) face does not have stripes.

**Locations:** Old Frederick

**Phenograms** (pages 2 – 6).

**Locations** (in Howard County)

**Identification features and odonate anatomy**