



# TAG & RELEASE

Volume 11, No. 2 May 2006



## 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S CUP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE...

- May 3-6**      *Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4813
- May 17-20**    *39<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament*  
*Contact:* Ricky Ferdon  
P.O. Box 1704  
Georgetown SC 29442  
843-546-1776    FAX 843-546-7832
- May 31-June 3**    *Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4813
- June 14-17**    *Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4813
- June 28-  
July 1**      *HMY/Viking MegaDock Billfishing Tournament*  
*Contact:* K.C. Rennie  
P.O. Box 759  
Charleston SC 29402  
843-278-4914    FAX 843-577-7704

For more information contact:

**Tom DuPré**  
*Office of Fisheries Management*  
843-953-9365    email: dupret@dnr.sc.gov  
<http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/etc/govcup/govcup.html>

**A RELEASE TODAY IS A FISH TOMORROW!**  
**Fish Responsibly!**

## FIRST ROUND RESULTS OF GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES

The South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series opened its 18th season with the Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament over the weekend. The Series features five tournaments along the coast beginning May 3rd at Edisto Island and ending July 1 at the Charleston City Marina's HMY/Viking MegaDock Billfishing Tournament.

"The first tournament in this year's Series went very well, with good weather and relatively calm seas. Tournament Coordinator Deidre Menefee and marina owner Buddy Smith assembled an extremely helpful and accommodating tournament staff and put on a first class event," said Tom DuPré of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, who coordinates the tournament series.

A total of five billfish, all blue marlin, were released during the tournament. The thirty-five boats entered fished 2 out of 3 days.

Points for Governor's Cup tournaments are awarded as follows: 300 points for a tagged or released blue marlin, 150 points for a tagged or released white marlin, and 100 points for a tagged or released sailfish. In addition, boats are awarded 25 participation points for each Series tournament entered up to a maximum of three events.

The Best Billfish Boat was awarded to "Cookie Monster," owned by Chris Ravenel of Mt.Pleasant. Ravenel caught and released the blue marlin at 11:03 a.m. on Thursday to take the first place award and garner 300 points. "Cookie Monster" also won the Conservation Award by being the first to catch and release a marlin.

Finishing in second place at the Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament for releasing a blue marlin was "Hatta

Dream,” owned by Kyle Christiansen of Richmond Hill, Georgia. Christiansen caught the blue marlin at 11:58 a.m. on the opening day of the tournament for “Hatta Dream’s” 300 points.

Third place billfish was awarded to “Legal Holiday,” owned by Fred Bergen of Savannah. Angler Perry Wilson, of Columbia, caught and released the blue marlin, for 300 points, at 1:28 p.m., also on the opening day of the tournament.

Richard Coen of Mt.Pleasant caught a 73.8-pound wahoo aboard his boat “Aggressor,” to earn top honors for the Largest Wahoo Award.

The Largest Dolphin Award went to angler Capers Barr of Charleston, who reeled in a 41.9- pound dolphin on “Risky Business,” owned by Ken Cannon, also of Charleston.

Angler Jim Martin took the Largest Tuna Award for reeling in a 14.4-pound blackfin tuna on “Ali L,” owned by Jerry Lockwood of Mt.Pleasant.

Outstanding Female Angler Award went to Keegan Kennedy of Hollywood, for reeling in a 53.0-pound wahoo on “Sea Trace,” owned by A.J. Kennedy, also of Hollywood.

The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to Brooks Griffin, age 11, from Mt. Pleasant, for a 23.0-pound dolphin aboard “Sportsman,” owned by Bubba Simmons of Mt.Pleasant.

For more information on the South Carolina Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series contact Tom DuPré of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources by e-mail at dupret@dnr.sc.gov.

*written by Anna Martin*



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## **THE SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR’S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

There are some changes to report in the makeup of the Advisory Board. Eric Burn and Graham Eubank of Charleston, Frank Gibson of Beaufort, Jim Johnston of Georgetown, and Foster McKissick of Greenville were approved by Governor Sanford to fill the expiring terms of Furman Cullum, Mike Larrow, Bony Peace, Bert Pooser, and Smyth McKissick. Also approved were one-year extensions of the terms of Sam Hiott and Francis Johnson of Charleston. Board member Larry Duncan of SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism has retired and Ray Stevens, also of SCPRT, was nominated to fill that seat.

These fine folks have and continue to contribute great amounts of their personal time to keep the program running smoothly and moving forward. These gentlemen care a great deal



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about the conservation of our wonderful bluewater fishes and their efforts and accomplishments, past and present, are notable. When you see them, thank them. Without their support, we wouldn’t have a Series.

## **CAROLINAS SHOOTOUT**

The Carolinas Shootout is an annual, all-release billfish event pitting the top boats from North Carolina and South Carolina. The winning team gets bragging rights and a worn and battered trophy.

The Shootout dates have been finalized. The 2005 Governor’s Cup Shootout will be held June 28-July 1 during the HMY/Viking MegaDock Billfishing Tournament.

“Everybody here at the City Marina is excited about hosting the 2005 Carolinas Shootout during the HMY-Viking MegaDock Billfishing Tournament. Adding the top boats from North Carolina to this first class Billfishing competition will certainly add to the excitement,” said tournament coordinator K.C. Rennie.

Our 2005 team:	<i>Rascal</i>	51’ Bertram
	<i>Chicora</i>	61’ Buddy Davis
	<i>Petrel</i>	53’ Sportsman
	<i>Rookie IV</i>	63’ Monterey
	<i>Top Billing</i>	54’ Taylor Made
	<i>Houdini (alt)</i>	61’ Gwaltney

The North Carolina team:	<i>Commi\$\$ion\$</i>	46’ Bertram
	<i>Desperado</i>	58’ Luxton
	<i>Instigator</i>	60’ Hatteras
	<i>Stream Weaver</i>	56’ Taylor Made
	5 <sup>th</sup> boat TBA	

# EDISTO 2006



## MAILING LIST ERRORS

We are having some problems with our mailing list. Several lists were recently consolidated and many previous corrections were overridden. Please continue to let us know of errors or duplications and the list should be corrected soon. Please accept our apologies for the inconveniences this may cause. Thank you.



## CONTACT INFO

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The S.C. Department of Natural Resources' Law Enforcement Division reminds the public of Coast Watch, which was developed to better help citizens report violations of saltwater recreational and commercial fishing laws, as well as marine environmental laws.

The Coast Watch hotline number (1-800-922-5431) is toll-free and available 24 hours a day.