



# TAG & RELEASE

Volume 12, No. 3 July 2007



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

- May 9-12**      ***Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament***  
*Contact: Deidre Menefee*  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4775
- May 23-26**      ***40<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
- June 27-30**      ***Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina Billfish Tournament***  
*Contact: Deidre Menefee*  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4775
- July 11-14**      ***HMY/Viking MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament***  
*Contact: K.C. Rennie*  
P.O. Box 759  
Charleston SC 29402  
843-278-4914    FAX 843-577-7704
- July 25-28**      ***Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament***  
*Contact: Deidre Menefee*  
19 Forde Row  
Charleston SC 29412  
843-345-0369    FAX 843-406-4775

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>

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## GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES THIRD ROUND RESULTS

The third tournament in the 19th season of the South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series took place over the weekend at the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina Billfish Tournament. The Series features five tournaments along the coast and began May 10th at Edisto Island Marina tournament and ends July 25th at the Bohicket Marina Invitational.

Tom DuPré, Series coordinator for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR), said, "The billfishing was pretty hot with 8 blue marlin, 2 white marlin, and 28 sailfish being caught. As is usual, the tournament hospitality was great, with lively entertainment and good food throughout the weekend."

Points for Governor's Cup tournaments are awarded as follows: 600 points for a tagged or released blue marlin, 200 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 tournament's Outstanding Billfish Boat was awarded to "Cerveza," owned by Tom Ruston, of Reston, Virginia and captained by Butch Davis. The winning boat earned 1,000 points for the catch and release of one blue marlin and 4 sailfish over the course of the tournament weekend. "Cerveza" was also awarded the Conservationist Award.

"Juncanewt," owned and captained by John Cagle of Sullivan's Island earned second place Outstanding Billfish Boat, with 800 points, for the catch and release of one blue marlin and 2 sailfish.

Third place honors for Best Billfish Boat went to "RussellHatt," owned by Lee Russell of Salisbury, NC, and cap-

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tained by Robert Mintz. "RussellHatt" caught and released one blue marlin to garner 600 points.

"Summer Girl" was the Blue Water Conservation winner. Owned by Leasure, Smith and Hooker, of Charleston, and captained by Stevie Leasure, "Summer Girl" tagged and released 15 dolphin over the course of the tournament.

Outstanding Billfish was awarded to "Game On," owned by Victor O. Roof, Jr. of Lexington, and captained by Dennis Brookshire. Roof, also the angler, landed a 550.6-pound blue marlin, which was the only landed billfish during the tournament.

"Special Lady," owned by Ed Kosnik, of Columbus, OH, earned honors for the Outstanding Dolphin. Ben Polk captained the boat and caught the 63-pound dolphin.

"Miss Wy IV" took the Outstanding Tuna award. Owned and captained by Ed Holder, of Greenville, a 77.9-pound tuna was caught by Stokely Holder for the win, also of Greenville.

The Outstanding Wahoo award was earned by "My Three Sons," owned by

Hunter Edwards of Cornelius, North Carolina, and captained by Randy Ragland. Angler Richard Sear caught a 61.6-pound wahoo.

Outstanding Youth Angler was awarded to James Johnson, 14, of Mt. Pleasant. Johnson caught and released a sailfish on "Petrel," owned by Harry Johnson, Jr. of Charleston and captained by Thomas Wynne.

Top honors for Outstanding Youth Angler also went to Hunter Clifton, 11, of Lyman. Clifton released a 59-pound dolphin on "YoYo," which also took third place for Best Billfish Boat.

Sue Hardenberg, of Mt. Pleasant, earned top honors as Outstanding Female Angler for a sailfish release on "Data Point," owned and captained by Scott Malindzak of Mt. Pleasant.

Lauren Leasure, 12, of Charleston, won second place as Outstanding Female Angler for a sailfish release onboard "Summer Girl." "Summer Girl" also won the Blue Water Conservation Award.

Polly Poulnot, of Mt. Pleasant, won third place Outstanding Female Angler for a sailfish release on "Patriot," owned

by Gary Early, Jr. of Mt. Pleasant and captained by Mike Hightower.

John Cagle, of Sullivan's Island, dedicated his 2nd place Outstanding Billfish Boat finish to Nan Jenkins, a former DNR fisheries biologist who also worked closely with the Governor's Cup Billfishing Series. Cagle donated \$2,500 to the Charleston City fireman's fund in memoriam to Jenkins. The Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina, and the billfish tournament committee donated \$2,500 to the fireman's fund. Several other boats participating in the tournament donated to the fund as well.

Overall standings for the 19th Annual South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series after the third tournament and with two remaining tournaments are as follows: "Game On" 1225.6 points, "Big Game" 1225 points, "Cerveza" 1025 points, "NorthStar" 875 points, "Juncanewt" 825 points, "Barrier Island Marine" 775 points, "Artemis" 750 points, "YoYo" 725 points, "Dough Boy" 675 points, and "Fin Addict" 650 points.

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## **"MAJOR MOTION" WINS FOURTH ROUND IN GOVERNOR'S CUP SERIES**

"Major Motion" took top honors in the fourth round of the 19th South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series at the Charleston City Marina's HMY/Viking MegaDock Billfish Tournament. The Series features five tournaments along the coast and began May 10th at Edisto Island Marina tournament and ends July 25th at the Bohicket Marina Invitational.

Tom DuPré, Series coordinator for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR), noted that 73 participating boats collectively caught and released 64 sailfish, 9 blue marlin and 4 white marlin over the course of the MegaDock tournament weekend. DuPré said that, "It was a great event that was thoughtfully planned and well-run from top to bottom. Robbie Freeman, KC Rennie, and all of the marina staff get kudos for a wonderful tournament. The air conditioned tent and high-rent port-o-lets were definitely

a plus. The weather was questionable Saturday and made the large crowd of spectators nervous but was not much of a factor."

Points for Governor's Cup tournaments are awarded as follows: 600 points for a tagged or released blue marlin, 200 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 crew of "Major Motion" won top honors and earned 1200 points for the Outstanding Billfish Boat award. Buck Morris, of Charleston, owns "Major Motion," and Wesley Morris, Jr. is captain. The crew caught and released 2 blue marlin and were also recognized as winners of the Outstanding Billfish Conservationist award.

Second place honors for Outstanding Billfish Boat went to "Bentley's Best," owned by Steve Deese, of Lexington, and captained by Jim Moore. They earned 900 points for the catch and release of one blue marlin and 3 sailfish.

"Evans B" won the third place award for Outstanding Billfish Boat, which is owned and captained by Thomas McCook of Macon, GA. The crew garnered 800 points with one white marlin and 6 sailfish caught and released during the tournament.

"Sea Baby," owned by Dixon Pearce of Mt. Pleasant, won the Outstanding Dolphin award. Angler Susie Pearce caught a 62.3-pound dolphin for the award.

Outstanding Tuna was awarded to "Daymaker," owned by Mark Daniels of Greenville for a 16.2-pound tuna catch.

Angler Jerry Broome won the Outstanding Wahoo award for a 56.6-pound catch onboard "Overspray," owned by Foster McKissick of Greenville, and captained by Mike McClamrock.

The Outstanding Youth Angler award went to Cole Malphrus, 13, of Hilton Head Island, for the catch and release of 2 sailfish. Malphrus fished on "Heavy Iron," owned by Malphrus Marine of Hilton Head Island and captained by Robert McMillan.

The second place Outstanding Youth Angler was Jon-Michael Kubu, 10, of Anderson. Kubu caught and released one sailfish onboard "High Maintenance," owned by Jeff Kubu, of Anderson and captained by Dennis Brookshire.

Matthew Nettles, 10, of Charleston, won the third place Outstanding Youth Angler award. Nettles caught and released one sailfish on "Short People," owned and captained by Aaron Nettles, also of Charleston.

Hope Hanckel, of Johns Island, won the Outstanding Female Angler award. Hanckel caught and released a blue marlin on the Outstanding Billfish Boat winner, "Major Motion."

Michelle Elsey, of Mt. Pleasant took home second place honors for Outstanding Female Angler. Elsey caught and released a sailfish on "Due Course," owned by Richard Gatton, of Irmo and captained by Jamie Brown.

Ellen K. Cordle, of Dublin, Ohio won the third place Outstanding Female Angler award. Cordle also released a sailfish on "Special Lady," owned by Ed Kosnik of Columbus, Ohio and captained by Ben Polk.

DuPré tallied the overall points standings for the 19th Annual South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series after the fourth tournament and with one remaining tournament as: "Game On" 1425.6 points, "Dough Boy" 1375 points, "Big Game" 1225 points, "Major Motion" 1225 points, "Bentley's Best" 1075 points, "Juncanewt" 1050 points, "Cerveza" 1025 points, "Northstar" 975 points, "Artemis" 975 points, and "Evans B" 875 points.

For more information on the South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series contact Tom DuPré by e-mail at [dupret@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:dupret@dnr.sc.gov) or check the Website at <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>.

The remaining tournament date and point of contact for the final Series tournament in the 2007 19th Annual South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series is July 25-28 - Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament (contact Deidre Menefee, 19 Forde Row, Charleston, SC 29412, (843) 345-0369, Fax 406-4775, [dpmenefee@aol.com](mailto:dpmenefee@aol.com));

By encouraging live tag and release, the Series has focused attention on the sharp decline of Atlantic billfish and encouraged conservation of all marine resources.



## SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES LEADERS (AFTER MEGADOCK)

### Outstanding Billfish Boat

**Points:** 1 Blue marlin released, 1 Blue landed, 2 sailfish released  
1425.6 pts.

**Boat:** *Game On*

**Owner:** Victor O. Roof, Jr.

**Captain:** Dennis Brookshire

### Outstanding Billfish

#### Conservationist

**Points:** 2 Blue marlins released  
1225 pts

**Boat:** *Big Game*

**Owner:** Terrell Rhye

**Captain:** Charles Kersey

### Blue Water Conservation

**Points:** 15 Dolphin (tagged)  
750 pts

**Boat:** *Summer Girl*

**Owner:** Leasure, Smith, and Hooker

**Captain:** Stevie Leasure

### Outstanding Billfish

**Points:** 1 Blue marlin released, 1 Blue landed, 2 sailfish released  
1425.6 pts.

**Boat:** *Game On*

**Owner:** Victor O. Roof, Jr.

**Captain:** Dennis Brookshire

### Outstanding Dolphin

**Weight:** 63.0 lbs

**Boat:** *Special Lady*

**Owner:** Ed Kosnik

**Angler:** Ben Polk

### Outstanding Yellowfin Tuna

**Weight:** 77.9 lbs

**Boat:** *Miss WY IV*

**Owner:** Ed Holder

**Angler:** Stokely Holder

### Outstanding Wahoo

**Weight:** 61.6 lbs

**Boat:** *My Three Sons*

**Owner:** Hunter Edwards

**Angler:** Hunter Edwards

### Outstanding Youth Angler

**Fish:** 1 Blue marlin released

**Boat:** *Dough Boy*

**Owner:** Ben & Cynthia Dantzler

**Angler:** Kasey Dantzler

### Outstanding Lady Angler

**Fish:** 1 Blue marlin released

**Boat:** *Fin-Addict*

**Owner:** Danny Massalon

**Angler:** Ginger Speaks



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in Mt. Pleasant  
For more information  
call 843-953-9103 or visit  
[www.diamptonwildlifefund.org](http://www.diamptonwildlifefund.org)



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Good Luck in the 2007 Governor's Cup

**GREYSTAR**

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.