



# TAG & RELEASE

Volume 12, No. 5 September 2007



**CAROLINA FIRST**

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## 2007 SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES FINAL STANDINGS

**Outstanding Dolphin** - 63.0 lbs., Ben Polk (Mt. Pleasant), aboard *Special Lady* owned by Ed Kosnik (Columbus, OH), Captain Ben Polk

**Outstanding Tuna** - 77.9 lbs., Stokely Holder (Greenville), aboard *Miss Wy IV* owned by Ed Holder (Greenville), Captain Matt Wilkinson

**Outstanding Wahoo** - 61.6 lbs., Hunter Edwards (Cornelius, NC), aboard *My Three Sons* owned by Hunter Edwards, Captain Randy Ragland

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler** - 1 sailfish released (Charleston), James Johnson (14) aboard *Petrel* owned by Harry Johnson, Jr. (Charleston), Captain Thomas Wynne

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler** - 1 blue marlin released (Edisto), Kasey Dantzler (15) 600 pts. aboard *Dough Boy* owned by Ben and Cynthia Dantzler (Elloree), Captain Ben Dantzler

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler** - 7 sailfish released (2 – MegaDock and 5 - Bohicket), Cole Malphrus (13) aboard *Heavy Iron* owned by Malphrus Marine (Hilton Head Island), Captain Robert McMillan

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Lady Angler** - 1 blue marlin released (MegaDock), Hope Hanckel 600pts. aboard *Major Motion* owned by Buck Morris (Johns Island), Captain Wesley Morris

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Lady Angler** - 1 blue marlin released (Edisto), Kasey Dantzler (15) 600 pts. aboard *Dough Boy* owned by Ben and Cynthia Dantzler (Elloree), Captain Ben Dantzler

**1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Lady Angler** - 1 blue marlin released (Edisto), Ginger Speaks (Rembert) 600 pts. aboard *Fin-Addict* owned by Danny Massalon (Camden), Captain Danny Massalon

**Blue Water Conservation** - 15 dolphin (tagged), *Summer Girl* owned by Leasure, Smith, and Hooker (Charleston) Captain Stevie Leasure, Points: 750

**Outstanding Billfish** - 1 Blue marlin landed (550.6 lbs.) Victor O. Roof, Jr., *Game On* owned by Victor O. Roof, Jr. (Lexington), Captain Dennis Brookshire

**Outstanding Billfish Conservationist** - 4 Blue marlin, 4 sailfish released, *Artemis* owned by John Darby (Mt. Pleasant), Captain David Colpeston, Points: 2875.0

**Outstanding Billfish Boat** - 4 Blue marlin released, 4 sailfish released, *Artemis* owned by John Darby (Mt. Pleasant), Captain David Copleston, Points: 2875.0

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

## EDISTO 2007 WINNERS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Northstar</i> ; Owner Anthony McAlister; Captain John McNamara; 1 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released - 700 pts.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Artemis</i> ; Owner John Darby; Captain David Copleston; 1 blue marlin released - 600 pts.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Fin-Addict</i> ; Owner and Captain Danny Massalon; 1 blue marlin released - 600 pts.
<b>Outstanding Billfish Conservationist</b>	<i>Northstar</i> ; Owner Anthony McAlister; Captain John McNamara; 1 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released
<b>Blue Water Conservation</b>	<i>Rapid Pace</i> ; Owner SHSR Enterprises, LLC; 11 Dolphin tagged and released
<b>Outstanding Billfish</b>	None Landed
<b>Outstanding Dolphin</b>	<i>Overspray</i> ; Owner Foster McKissick; Angler John Cleveland; 35.2 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Tuna</b>	<i>Boatyard Blue</i> ; Owner Mark Parish; Angler Cliff Altman; 42.7lbs.
<b>Outstanding Wahoo</b>	<i>Southern Accent</i> ; Owner James Martin; Angler Matt Martin; 52.6 lbs.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Dough Boy</i> ; Owners Ben and Cynthia Dantzer; Angler Kasey Dantzer; 1 blue marlin released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Contractor 4</i> ; Owner Newton Hornsby; Angler Brett Wood; 25.9 lb. dolphin
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>L'il Bit</i> ; Owner Pete Loy; Angler Griffie Loy; 20.4 lb. dolphin
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Fin-Addict</i> ; Owner Danny Massalon; Angler Ginger Speaks; 1 blue marlin released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Dough Boy</i> ; Owners Ben and Cynthia Dantzer; Angler Kasey Dantzer; 1 blue marlin released
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Costa-Lot</i> ; Owner Matthew Costa; Angler Debbie Costa; 30.9 lb. wahoo

## GEORGETOWN 2007 WINNERS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Big Game</i> ; Owner Terrell Rhye; Captain Charles Kersey; 2 blue marlin released - 1200 pts.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Syked Out</i> ; Owner David Sykes; Captain Therrell Williams; 1 blue marlin released - 600 pts.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Hat Trick</i> ; Owner Harry Oxner; 1 blue marlin released - 600 pts.
<b>Outstanding Billfish Conservationist</b>	<i>Big Game</i> ; Owner Terrell Rhye; Captain Charles Kersey; 2 blue marlin released
<b>Blue Water Conservation</b>	<i>My Three Sons</i> ; Owner Hunter Edwards; Captain Randy Ragland; 4 dolphin tagged and released
<b>Outstanding Billfish</b>	None Landed
<b>Outstanding Dolphin</b>	<i>Miss Wy IV</i> ; Owner Ed Holder; Angler Peter McCoy; 44.8 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Tuna</b>	<i>Due Course</i> ; Owner Richard Gatton; Angler Edward Stiefel; 50.5 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Wahoo</b>	<i>Y-Knot</i> ; Owner Ben Cox; Angler Jay Blakeley; 53.5 lbs.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Pacemaker</i> ; Owner Howard Henderson; Angler Jacob Henderson; 29.2 lb. wahoo and 14.9 lb. dolphin
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>My Three Sons</i> ; Owner Hunter Edwards; Angler Matt King; 33.1 lb. dolphin
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Benchmark</i> ; Owner Stephen Davis; Angler Thomas Garmany; 23.8 lb. dolphin
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Frenzy 58</i> ; Owner Jamie Walker; Angler Kim Kunze; 40.9 lb. dolphin
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>El Tejano</i> ; Owner John Hill; Angler Kim Rodenberg; 40.1 lb. dolphin
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Reel Jim</i> ; Owner Fred Hobbs; Angler Heather Phipps; 29.3 lb. dolphin

## CHARLESTON 2007 WINNERS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Cerveza</i> ; Owner Tom Ruston; Captain Butch Davis; 1 blue marlin and 4 sailfish released - 1000 pts.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Juncanewt</i> ; Owner and Captain John Cagle; 1 blue marlin and 2 sailfish released - 800 pts.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Yo Yo</i> ; Owner Kenneth Clifton; Captain Cot Smith; 1 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released - 700 pts.
<b>Outstanding Billfish Conservationist</b>	<i>Cerveza</i> ; Owner Tom Ruston; Captain Butch Davis; 1 blue marlin and 4 sailfish released - 1000 pts.
<b>Blue Water Conservation</b>	<i>Summer Girl</i> ; Owner Leasure, Smith, and Hooker; Captain Steve Leasure; 15 dolphin tagged and released
<b>Outstanding Billfish</b>	<i>Game On</i> ; Owner Victor O. Roof, Jr.; Angler Victor O. Roof, Jr.; 550.6 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Dolphin</b>	<i>Special Lady</i> ; Owner Ed Kosnik; Angler Ben Polk; 63.0 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Tuna</b>	<i>Miss Wy IV</i> ; Owner Ed Holder; Angler Stokely Holder; 77.9 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Wahoo</b>	<i>My Three Sons</i> ; Owner Hunter Edwards; Angler Richard Sear; 61.6 lbs.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Petrel</i> ; Owner Harry Johnson, Jr; Angler James Johnson; sailfish released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Yo Yo</i> ; Owner Ken Clifton; Angler Hunter; sailfish released
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Summer Girl</i> ; Owner Leasure, Smith, and Hooker; Angler Lauren Leasure; sailfish released
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Data Point</i> ; Owner Scott Malindzak; Angler Sue Hardenberg; sailfish released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Summer Girl</i> ; Owner Leasure, Smith, and Hooker; Angler Lauren Leasure; sailfish released
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Patriot</i> ; Owner Gary Early, Jr; Angler Polly Poulnot; sailfish released

## MEGADOCK 2007 WINNERS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Major Motion</i> ; owner Buck Morris; Captain Wesley Morris, Jr.; 2 blue - 1200 pts.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Bentley's Best</i> ; Owner Steve Deese; Captain Jim Moore; 1 blue marlin and 3 sailfish released - 900 pts.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat</b>	<i>Evans B</i> ; Owner and Captain Thomas McCook; 1 white marlin and 6 sailfish released - 800 pts.
<b>Outstanding Billfish Conservationist</b>	<i>Major Motion</i> ; Owner Buck Morris; Captain Wesley Morris, Jr.; 2 blue marlin released - 1200 pts.
<b>Blue Water Conservation</b>	<i>Houdini</i> ; Owner Jim Shannon; Captain Corey Hoxter; 1 Dolphin tagged and released
<b>Outstanding Billfish</b>	None landed
<b>Outstanding Dolphin</b>	<i>Sea Baby</i> ; Owner Dixon Pearce; Angler Susie Pearce; 62.3 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Tuna</b>	<i>Daymaker</i> ; Owner Mark Daniels; 16.2 lbs.
<b>Outstanding Wahoo</b>	<i>Overspray</i> ; Owner Foster McKissick; Angler Jerry Broome; 56.6 lbs.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Heavy Iron</i> ; Owner Malphrus Marine; Angler Cole ; 2 sailfish released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>High Maintenance</i> ; Owner Jeff Kubu; Angler Jon-Michael Kubu; 1 sailfish released
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler</b>	<i>Short People</i> ; Owner Aaron Nettles; Angler Matthew Nettles; 1 sailfish released
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Major Motion</i> ; Owner Buck Morris; Angler Hope Hanckel; 1 blue marlin released
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Due Course</i> ; Owner Richard Gatton; Angler Michelle Elsey; 1 sailfish released
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler</b>	<i>Special Lady</i> ; Owner Ed Kosnik; Angler Ellen K. Cordle; 1 sailfish released

## BOHICKET 2007 WINNERS

1 <sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat	<i>Artemis</i> ; Owner John Darby; Captain David Copleston; 3 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released - 1900 pts.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat	<i>Game On</i> ; Owner Victor O. Roof, Jr.; Captain Dennis Brookshire; 2 blue marlin - 1200 pts.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Billfish Boat	<i>Heavy Iron</i> ; Owner Gregg Malphrus; Captain Trey McMillan; 6 sailfish released - 600 pts.
Outstanding Billfish Conservationist	<i>Artemis</i> ; Owner John Darby; Captain David Copleston; 3 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released - 1900 pts.
Blue Water Conservation	None
Outstanding Billfish	None landed
Outstanding Dolphin	<i>Mutts &amp; Jeff</i> ; Owner Tom Stanek; Angler Jason Corley; 41.6 lbs.
Outstanding Tuna	<i>Sea Trace</i> ; Owner A. J. Kennedy; Angler Keegan Kennedy; 29.0 lbs.
Outstanding Wahoo	<i>Northstar</i> ; Owner Anthony McAlister; Angler Palmer Owings; 45.5 lbs.
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler	<i>Heavy Iron</i> ; Owner Malphrus Marine; Angler Cole Malphrus; 5 sailfish released
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler	<i>Legal Holiday</i> ; Owner Fred Bergen; Angler Joseph Barrow, Jr.; 1 sailfish released and 37.8 lb. wahoo
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Youth Angler	<i>Legal Holiday</i> ; Owner Fred Bergen; Angler Caroline A. Turner; 1 sailfish released
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler	<i>Legal Holiday</i> ; Owner Fred Bergen; Angler Caroline A. Turner; 1 sailfish released
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler	<i>Mutts &amp; Jeff</i> ; Owner Tom Stanek; Angler Brooke Dixon; 36.2 lbs. dolphin
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Female Angler	<i>Sea Trace</i> ; Owner A. J. Kennedy; Angler Keegan Kennedy; 29.0 lbs. blackfin tuna





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## 2007 AWARDS RECEPTION

The 2007 South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series awards reception was held Sunday, September 16th at the Governor's Mansion in Columbia. Governor and Mrs. Sanford were again most gracious and welcoming to the 120 guests who attended the reception. It will be a most memorable experience for the children who attended and had the opportunity to meet the Governor and his wife. A special thank you must go to Meg Milne and the mansion staff who coordinated the event. Their hard work was greatly appreciated. The food was particularly delicious this year. Everything from the carving station with marinated grilled pork tenderloin and tarragon encrusted NY strip to crab cakes, baked spinach with garlic crostini, artichoke dip, shrimp, crab and crawfish cakes with red pepper remoulade claws, blueberry-venison sausage with goat cheese in puffpastry, Cajun boiled shrimp and cocktail crab claws, mini shrimp and black bean quesadillas. The delectable sweets tray offered assorted petit fours and chocolate dipped strawberries.

Robert Boyles, Deputy Director for Marine Resources, opening comments described the Series and its successes. He commented on the outstanding catch and release efforts during the 2007 Series. Of the record breaking 175 billfish caught, 174 were released alive. That's an impressive 99% live release rate! Deputy Director Boyles introduced the new Advisory Board Chairman, Francis Johnson, who along with Governor Sanford, presented past Advisory Board Chairmen John Darby with a hand carved and painted blue marlin trophy honoring him for his committed service to the SC Governor's Cup Advisory Board and the Billfishing Series.

The Governor commended owners, captains, crews, and anglers for the success of the Series. SCDNR employees Brent Merritt, Dean Cain, Betty Burn, Vanessa Geddis, and Karen Swanson were recognized for their many years of dedicated service to the Series with carved marlin awards. Chairmen Johnson, with assistance from DNR Board Chairman Mike McShane, presented the winning anglers and boats with their Series awards and trophies. "Artemis", owned by John Darby and captained by David Copleston, received the highest honor, Outstanding Billfish Boat. See the complete list on page 1. It was an excellent evening with great camaraderie, tons of congratulations for all in attendance, and high hopes for 2008. Until next year...

Amy Dukes, Maia Ingle

## SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES 2008 SCHEDULE

- May 14-17** *Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee, 19 Forde Row,  
 Charleston, SC 29412  
 (843) 345-0369, FAX 406-4813  
 dpmenefee@aol.com
- May 28-31** *41st Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament*  
*Contact:* Ricky Ferdon, P. O. Box 1704  
 Georgetown, SC 29442  
 (843) 546-1776, FAX 546-7832  
 glmarina@sc.rr.com  
 www.georgetownlandingmarina.com
- June 25-28** *Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee, 19 Forde Row  
 Charleston, SC 29412  
 (843) 345-0369, FAX 406-4813  
 dpmenefee@aol.com
- July 9-12** *HMY/Viking MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament*  
*Contact:* K. C Rennie, P. O. Box 759  
 Charleston, SC, 29402  
 (843) 278-4914, FAX 577-7704  
 kcrennie@charlestoncitymarina.com
- July 23-26** *Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament*  
*Contact:* Deidre Menefee, 19 Forde Row  
 Charleston, SC 29412  
 (843) 345-0369, FAX 406-4813  
 dpmenefee@aol.com



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## SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES TOP TEN FINAL STANDINGS

Artemis	2875
Game On	2625.6
Bentley's Best	1575
Dough Boy	1375
Major Motion	1250
Big Game	1225
Northstar	1075
Heavy Iron	1075
Juncanewt	1050
Cerveza	1025

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**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.

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## IT'S TIME TO GO

Fifteen years have passed since I worked my first Governor's Cup tournament. The wind blew so hard at Harbour Gate in 1993 that the sixteen boats entered fished just one day. Eighty-six tournaments have been held since then.

I have been fortunate to work with some really good people. Don Hammond taught me the ropes. Kay Davy taught me how to work with people. Wayne Waltz kept me focused. Nan Jenkins was an inspiration. Barclay McCurdy, Shelly Knight, Michelle Cunningham, Daryl Stubbs, Charlie Zemp, Kris Reynolds, Amy Dukes, Dean Cain, Brent Merritt, and Robert Wiggers conducted more interviews than you can imagine...8,292 to be exact. These folks documented 23,937 dolphin, 2,360 wahoo, 3,819 yellowfin tuna, and 1,563 billfish. Without their voluntary support, my job would not have been possible. Ginnie Martin, Karen Swanson, Vanessa Geddis, Betty Burn, Maia Ingle, Tim Snoots, Elizabeth Von Kolnitz, and Anna Martin are the folks behind the scenes at Marine Resources

who keep the Series operating and you informed. Please forgive me if I have left anyone out.

The support runs deep. It started with the late governor Carroll A. Campbell, Jr., and it has continued to the present. SCDNR directors Jim Timmerman, Paul Sandifer, and John Frampton have wholeheartedly supported the Series. I have had the full backing of Marine Resources Division deputy directors John Miglarese and Robert Boyles and Office of Fisheries Management directors David Cupka, David Whitaker, and Mel Bell.

The tournaments have been great. I was often demanding. We certainly get in the way. In spite of our impositions, the tournament directors make our work much easier by having some of the best folks you will ever meet staffing their events. We are always treated well. Please know that we appreciate it.

The backbone of the Series is a group of men and women who guide the Series. The members of the Advisory Board of Directors and the Tournament Committee give their time to support and manage the Series. Past and present members,

under the guidance of the DNR Board of Directors, have ensured that the Series benefits both the resource and the sportsman. They do an outstanding job and have been among my most valued supporters.

The Series is an unqualified success and recognized worldwide. It has changed the way people think about our offshore resources. Fishermen realize their responsibilities in this effort. Be proud of yourselves.

It has been my privilege to work with the finest natural resources department in the nation and with the most outstanding bluewater fishermen in the world. I know I got in the way and asked too many questions, but you always treated me with respect. From the first boat I interviewed, the Large Time, to the last, Bentley's Best, I thank you all. Most especially, I thank my wife Meri for her absolute and total support.

I look forward to retirement and will always have fond memories of the Governor's Cup and all of you. I will see you on the docks next year, but without a patch on my sleeve or a pink tape measure on my belt.

Tom

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## 2007 AWARDS RECEPTION









For more photos visit  
<http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Photos>

