



TAG & RELEASE



<http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov>

Volume 14, No. 1 January 2009

DNR



21st Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2009 Tournament Schedule...

May 13-16

Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament

Contact: Becca Smith
3702 Docksite Road
Edisto Beach, SC 29438
(407) 463-2082, FAX (843) 869-3738
smithbecca@gmail.com

May 27-30

42nd Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: Ricky Ferdon
P. O. Box 1704
Georgetown, SC 29442
(843) 546-1776, FAX (843) 546-7832
glmarina@sc.rr.com www.georgetownlandingmarina.com

June 24-27

Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina Billfish Tournament

Contact: Deidre Menefee
19 Forde Row
Charleston, SC 29412
(843) 345-0369, FAX (843) 406-4813
dpmenefee@aol.com

July 8-11

HMY/Viking MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

Contact: McKenzie Estes
P. O. Box 759
Charleston, SC 29402
(843) 278-4920, FAX (843) 577-7704
mestes@megadock.us

July 22-25

Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Bryan Richardson
1880 Andell Bluff Blvd.
Johns Island, SC 29455
(843) 768-1280 FAX (843) 768-3481
Dockmaster@Bohicket.com

For more information contact:

Amy Dukes
SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator
843-953-9365
dukesa@dnr.sc.gov <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>

Series Reflections...

New Beginnings

Well, another year has passed and I am sure most of us are glad to put 2008 behind us. During this time of year we begin planning for the 2009 Governor's Cup Tournament season and the hope for good fishing with a large turnout at the various tournaments along the coast. As some of you may know, SCDNR receives no state appropriations for overseeing the Governor's Cup Billfish Series. We must rely exclusively on private donations from the fishing community to ensure that the program activities continue. As such I wanted to devote this space to thanking our sponsors from the 2008 season, as well as to ask each of you who receive this newsletter to consider making a donation for the 2009 Series, so that we can maintain the level of quality and support from DNR that the Series has received in the past.

First and foremost I want thank the businesses who stepped forward to make significant financial contributions to the Series. Palmetto Ford was our Corporate Sponsor this year, donating \$10,000; W.W. Williams and HMY Yacht Sales were Benefactor Sponsors, each donating \$5,000; and The Charleston Angler, The Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and Wachovia Wealth Management each added \$2,000 as Patron Sponsors. In addition, this newsletter would not have been possible without the contributions of Albury Brothers Boats, Blanchard Power Systems, Cannon Containers, CCA South Carolina, Haddrell's Point Tackle and Supply, Hanckel Marine, HMY/ Viking-Mega Dock Billfishing Tournament, Palmetto Props LLC, and Spencer Yachts, Inc., each of whom donated \$1,000.

Second, I would like to acknowledge the time and energy that each of our Advisory Board members put into overseeing the program, as well as their



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generous individual donations toward operation of the Series. The five tournaments also made donations to the Wallace Pate Fund, based on the number of paid entries at their respective events. Finally, a number of other businesses also made donations toward the program. All of these sponsors are listed on our web site <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Sponsors/#sustain>. Take a look when you get a chance, and thank them personally by spending your money at their places of business. They support your avocation, so please support them. Through these private contributions, we were able to raise over \$65,000 toward the operational expenses of the Series and finish the year in the black for the first time in several years.

While this year was a great success, both from a fishing and operational standpoint, we can not rest on our laurels. Now we must begin fundraising anew. Each level of support comes with associated perks and benefits. Perhaps most desirable would be that of the Corporate Sponsor that receives 1/2 price entry fees to all tournaments in which they participate. In this day of \$2,000 average entry fees, this incentive could net \$5,000 in savings for those participating in all five tournaments. Corporate sponsors also receive booth space at each event and are included in all tournament advertising, both of which can result in significant cost savings and increased exposure for your company. In addition to the perks of a Corporate Sponsorship, there are many other benefits at each level of sponsorship, all of which are listed later in the newsletter. Please take the time to consider becoming part of the SC Governor's Cup Team's 20-year heritage of excellence and prestige and contact either Amy or me if you are willing to help by making a contribution. I know the summer can not get here fast enough, as we look forward to another successful year of billfish conservation.



We Need Your Help

As I mentioned earlier in my column the Governor's Cup Billfishing Series relies solely on private contributions to cover the cost to DNR for operating the Series. These monies cover salary time, as well as travel expenses associated with attending and monitoring the tournaments. Perhaps more importantly,

the funds are used to obtain the various awards that are handed out annually, as well as to support the publication of this newsletter. Without these donations, much of what you have come to know as the Governor's Cup would not occur. In these tough economic times it is likely that the most generous contributors of the past will not be able to justify the expense of such large donations; however, this newsletter is sent to over 1,400 people five times a year, and a large number of smaller donations could help us reach our annual needs.

There are many levels at which to give. Last year we had 31 donors and received contributions ranging from \$100 to \$10,000. The benefits that accrue to you or your company vary, depending on the level at which you give. Everyone who donates a minimum of \$100 receives an invitation to the annual Awards Reception at the Governor's Mansion. Take my word for it; this is a very nice event. Those donating \$500 also get mentioned on our website and in the program of the awards ceremony. Those who donate \$1,000 (Newsletter Sponsor) get their logo in every newsletter. Anyone who donates \$2,000 (Patrons) also gets to use the Governor's Cup logo in their own advertising are included in all Series advertising. Their company brochures are also included in boat registration packets for all tournaments, and they receive a Recognition and Appreciation Award at the reception. At the \$5,000 level (Benefactors), companies get all of the above, plus a place to put an advertisement banner at each tournament and three passes to each tournament and series event they choose to attend. Finally, at the \$10,000 level (Corporate) your company will also be eligible for 50% discount on boat registration for all five series tournaments, six tickets to all Series events they choose to attend, booth space at each tournament, and inclusion in

GREYSTAR

WANTED - Billfish Catch Reports

Attention SC Billfishing Anglers, please report released billfish caught in SC waters throughout the 2009 fishing season. Anglers that release a billfish will receive a SCDNR Billfish Release Certificate. Who will be named this year's "TOP CONSERVATIONIST BOAT OF THE YEAR" by reporting the most billfish releases...will it be you! To report billfish releases or to request billfish release cards, please contact Amy Dukes at 843-953-9365, or email dukesa@dnr.sc.gov. The winning boat will receive a special award to be presented at the end of the 2009 fishing season. *Good Fishing!*

individual tournament brochures and advertising as Corporate Sponsor of the Series. How can you afford not to take advantage of this opportunity to associate your company with the heritage and prestige of the SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series? All you need to do to get started is fill out the pledge form included in this newsletter and mail it in! We look forward to your continued support.



Did You Know?

Have you ever seen the actual perpetual Governor's Cup trophy in person? How about any of the individual trophies that are given out annually to the winners of the various Series awards? Well, they are individually hand carved from wood and have been made by the same family since the Series inception back in 1989. Individuals receiving the Series awards today are tied back through the whole history of the Series by this unbroken chain of awards. The original trophy was commissioned in 1989 by Peter Costello of Port St. John, Florida. Today, his son, Chris, carries on the tradition, making all the hand carved trophies for the Series each year down in Cocoa, Florida. Peter continues to work on nautical themed jewelry and



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custom-made cabinet hardware. Private donations received annually have made this tradition of quality and consistency possible. Finally, if you would like to order trophies for your own event or surprise your wife with something nice, please visit the Costello's website at www.costellostudios.com. But don't try to copy the SC Governor's Cup trophies; we have exclusive rights to that design!



Getting prepared for your 2009 Fishing Season:

We thought we would provide everyone with a brief list of some of the permits, licenses and documentation that you will need to have so that the boat owner's, captain's and crew are ready for a successful fishing season.

- 1) **Purchase your Atlantic HMS Angling Permit (Recreational) or Charter/Headboat Permit-** All owners/operators of vessels fishing recreationally or of charter/headboat vessels for and/or

retaining regulated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish and billfish) in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, must obtain an Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) permit. Similar to Atlantic tunas permits, 2009 Atlantic HMS permits cost \$16.00, and will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2009. Visit the NMFS website at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/PermitList.asp> to apply for your permit.

- 2) **Purchase your Dolphin Wahoo Permit-** All owners/operators of charter/headboat vessels, are required to obtain an Atlantic Charter/Headboat Permit for Dolphin/Wahoo. The permit is \$25.00, and will be valid for one calendar year. Visit the NOAA Southeast Region website at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/forms/eezappwithshrimpmoratorium21.pdf> to apply for your permit.

- 3) **Purchase your Operator Card-** All owners/operators of charter/headboat vessels, are required to obtain an operator card when fishing for Atlantic Dolphin and/or Wahoo. The Operator Card fee is \$50.00, and will be valid for three years. Visit the NOAA Southeast Region website at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/forms/OPCard.pdf> to apply for your operator card.
- 4) **Purchase you SC Saltwater Fishing License -** All anglers (over age 16) fishing from a privately-owned vessel must obtain a SC Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License. Charter/headboat vessels are exempt from having anglers purchase individual fishing licenses, as long as the fishing trip is documented in accordance to SC law under the vessels Charter License. SC Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License can be purchased at <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/licensing.html> or call 1-866-714-3611.



How to Join the Billfishing Team South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series

Fill out Donor Form below and forward to:

Wallace Jenkins / Amy Dukes
SCDNR
PO Box 12559
Charleston SC 29422-2559

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Street Address/PO Box: _____

City: _____ State/ Zip Code: _____

Donor Level \$ _____



DNR

After receiving your pledge, an invoice will be sent to you for payment. When payment has been received, we will forward the appropriate promotional items for the donor level you have chosen and request an electronic copy of your business logo for use in the Governor's Cup Newsletter, website Sponsor list, and other publications as appropriate.



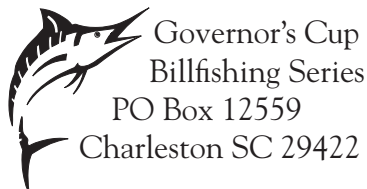
Albury Brothers Boats



Major Sponsors



W.W.Williams
Consider It Done.



Governor's Cup
Billfishing Series
PO Box 12559
Charleston SC 29422

What's New...

The SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Website has a New Look!
Go check out the new and improved SCGC website at <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>.
While you are there...visit the newsletter sign-up page to provide us with your e-mail address to receive future Newsletters electronically, <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Newsletter/>.



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M-F 7am-7pm	M-F 7am-7pm
Sat 7am-6pm	Sat 6am-6pm
Sun 7am-3pm	Sun 7am-5pm



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.

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, gender, religion or age. Direct all inquiries to the Office of Human Resources, PO Box 167, Columbia, South Carolina, 29202.

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