



TAG & RELEASE

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



DNR

Volume 20, No. 1 March 2015



Please accept our sincerest apologies for the previous Tag & Release Newsletter. The 2013 template was used to create the Newsletter by mistake and went unnoticed. Although the Series is ultimately grateful for all our Sponsors, both past and present, we would like to especially apologize to our 2014 Series Sponsors, Participants, and Billfish Enthusiasts for this error!

27th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2015 Tournament Schedule...

May 20 - 23 48th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: John Horton
P. O. Box 1704
Georgetown, SC 29442
(843) 546-1776, FAX (843) 546-7832
jhorton@georgetownlandingmarina.com

June 3 - 6 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

June 18 - 20

Contact: Deidre Menefee
1625 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407
(843) 345-0369, FAX (888) 758-3950
dm@fishcbc.com

Carolina Billfish Classic

July 8 - 11

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

MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

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

As we enter our 27th year, it is important to thank the businesses that made the 2014 season such a success! As most of you know, the Series is a unique public/private partnership overseen by SCDNR. All expenses related to the operation of the Series are funded through private donations. First and foremost, I want thank the businesses who stepped forward to make significant financial contributions to the Series in 2014. Superior Diesel/VolvoPenta (Jim Reed) and Wells Fargo (Bill Ingram) were our Corporate Sponsors last year, donating \$10,000 each; The APEX Automotive Group (Greg Smith), HMY Yachts (Steve Moynihan and Tom Sanders) The Island House/Ross Marine (Swygert and Speights Families) Prospec Electronics /Harman (David Sykes), Sea Hunt Boats (Bubba Roof) and Southern Lumber and Millwork (The Albrecht and Shuler Families) were our Benefactor Sponsors, donating \$5,000 each; while Atlantic Game and Tackle (Jeremy Burnham), Frank's Carwash (Mike Hutchins), SeaStar Solutions (Chris Conard) and Sportsman Boats (Tommy Hancock) were our Patron Sponsors, donating \$2,000. In addition, the Newsletter which you are reading now would not have been possible without the contributions from AWOL (Gregg Combos), Bergen and Bergen Law Firm (Fred Bergen), Blanchard Power Systems (Joey Coble), Carpet Baggers (Stevie Leasure), Citadel Enterprises (Pete Loy), Fairway Ford (Foster McKissick), Palmetto Props (Suzi and Nelson Durant), Pearce Law Firm (Dixon Pearce), Rascal Fishing Team (Norman Pulliam, Foster McKissick and Mark Rogers) and Spencer Yachts (Paul, Daniel and Stacey Spencer), each of whom donated at least \$1,000. Second, I would like to acknowledge not only the time and energy that each of our Advisory Board of

Directors (some of whom are listed above) put into overseeing the program, but also their generous individual donations that were made toward operation of the Series. Advisory Board members not listed above that we would like to also extend our appreciation to include: Harry Johnson, Jr., Mark Daniels, James Zachrich, Jr., Bucky Morris, and Chris Jennings. The five tournaments also made donations to the Wallace Pate Fund, based on the number of boat entries at their respective events. A number of other businesses also made varying donations toward the program. All of these Sponsors are listed on our web site, <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Sponsors/#sustain>. Take a look, and when you get a chance, thank each of them personally by giving your patronage at their place of business.

While 2014 was a great success, both from a fishing and operational standpoint, we cannot rest on our laurels and must begin fundraising anew. Each level of support comes with associated benefits. There are many levels at which to give; last year we had 36 donors and received contributions from \$100 to as large as \$10,000. Of course, there are varying benefits that you or your company accrue depending on the level at which you donate. First, everyone who donates a minimum of \$100 gets an invitation to the Annual Awards Reception. Those donating \$500 also get mentioned on our website and in the Awards Reception program. Those donating \$1,000 (Newsletter Sponsor) get their logo in every Newsletter, in addition to the benefits mentioned above. Those donating \$2,000 (Patron Sponsor) are also included in all Series advertising, are allowed the use of the Governor's Cup logo in their own advertising, are given the opportunity to include their company brochures in boat registration packets for all tournaments, and they receive recognition of appreciation at the Awards Reception. At the \$5,000 level (Benefactor Sponsor) companies get all of the above, plus a place to put an advertisement banner at each tournament and 2 passes to all tournament and Series events they choose to attend. Finally, at the \$10,000 level (Corporate Sponsor) your company will also be eligible for a 50% discount on a single boat registration for all 5 Series Tournaments, or 6 tickets to all Series events they choose to attend but do not wish to register a boat, booth space at each tournament, and will be included in individual tournament brochures

and advertising as a 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 card included in this Newsletter and mail it in; it couldn't be easier!

The 2014 season also included the deployment the Memorial Reef Barges at the Charleston Deep Reef Marine Protected Area. While the barges did not land exactly where they had planned, the good news is that the Army Corp of Engineers recently approved moving the permit boundaries to include both barges' final resting places. Furthermore, the South Atlantic Fishery Management

Council has been petitioned to move the MPA boundary to overlay the permitted area. Hopefully within the next year this will be approved so that the reefs can serve the purpose for which they were originally intended.

Finally, for those of you who may not know, longtime GC Tournament Committee member and boat captain Bobby Garmany's wife Susan passed away unexpectedly in January. Unfortunately as I know from personal experience, Bobby and his boys Robert, William and Thomas will need our support and prayers as they navigate this difficult time in their lives.

Amy, Kayla and I are excited for another fishing season and look forward to seeing each of you on the docks this summer!

Wallace Jenkins



Wells Fargo Securities is proud to support the South Carolina Governor's Cup

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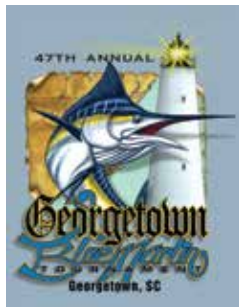
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VOLVO PENTA

Good Luck in 2015

**Mark Your Calendars for the
2015 South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series!**



May 20 - 23



June 3 - 6



June 18 - 20



July 8 - 11

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A Look Back at the 2014 Tournaments



Getting prepared for your 2015 Fishing Season:

It's that time again, and we thought we would provide everyone with a brief list of some of the permits, licenses and documentation that you will/may need to have in your possession so that the boat owners, captains and crew are ready for a successful fishing season. Please Double Check Your Expiration Dates!!!

1) Purchase your Atlantic HMS Angling Permit (Recreational) or Charter/Headboat Permit – All owners/operators of vessels fishing recreationally, or owners/operators of Charter/Headboat vessels fishing 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. 2014 Atlantic HMS permits cost \$20.00, and will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2015. Visit the NMFS website at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/> to apply for your permit.

2) Purchase your SC Saltwater Fishing License – All anglers (over age

16) must obtain a SCDNR Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License. SC Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License can be purchased at <https://dnrlicensing.sc.gov/DNRLicensingSales/SalesCategories.aspx> or call 1-866-714-3611. Be reminded that now, SC Saltwater Recreational Fishing Licenses are issued on a 365 day basis, and will expire one-year from the issue date.

**** All Series participating vessels and recreational fishermen will at minimum need the two above mentioned permits/licenses. If you are operating a Charter/Headboat vessel, then the vessel must possess a current SCDNR Charter/Headboat license. These vessels are exempt from having anglers purchase individual saltwater fishing licenses, as long as the fishing trip is documented in accordance to SC law under the vessels Charter License. The vessel can only have six anglers, captain and crew on board. In addition, the owners/operators of these vessels must also possess the following two permits/licenses: ****

3) 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 (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/permit_apps/index.html) Application #1 to apply for your permit.

4) Purchase your Operator Card– All owners/operators of Charter/Headboat vessels are required to obtain an operator card when fishing for Dolphin and/or Wahoo. The Operator Card fee is \$50.00, and is valid for three years. Visit the NOAA Southeast Region website (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/permit_apps/index.html) Application #2 to apply for your operator card.



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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.

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. Total cost - \$515.00 • Total copies - 1,500 • Total cost per copy - \$0.32

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