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Volume 21, No. 5 November 2016



Series Reflections

I would like to start by recognizing the service of our outgoing Advisory Board members whose terms expired in July 2016. First is Mr. Pete Loy, who with 8 years under his belt, is the longest-serving GC Board member since the Series was reorganized in 1998 under its current Executive Order. Pete could always be counted on for his constructive input. I also want to thank our outgoing Chairman Mr. Gregg Smith, who has been a major Series supporter during his 3 years as Chairman and 6 total years on the Board. We will miss his leadership and council. I know we will continue to see both of these guys in the future on the docks, and that makes their departure from the Advisory Board somewhat more palatable. During this period of transition, we are happy to have Mr. Mark Rogers down in the trenches with us as our new Chairman. In just a few short months, he has already demonstrated his commitment to this leadership position. Finally, we welcome Mr. Fred Bergen and Mr. Hunter Edwards who started their first terms on the Board this past July, as well as Mr. Steve Mungo who will start in July 2017. If you run into any of these people please thank them for their willingness to serve and keep the Series running strong!

As many of you know, our annual Awards Reception was once again held at the Island House on Johns Island. We cannot thank Ross Marine, especially Paul Speights and Lynn Gottlieb, and their entire organization enough for their hospitality. The catering was provided by Mike Altine, Ryan Collins and crew with A&P Catering with the Marina Variety Store. The meal consisted of marinated filet mignon and their "secret recipe" loaded mashed potatoes, both of which I personally love. They also had a delicious vegetable entrée, but I skipped that of course, in favor of more potatoes. During the event we presented the Series awards for the year and we you will see photos of the recipients throughout this newsletter. I personally want to highlight three of these awards. First, the Top Billfish Boat went to *Sportin' Life*, owned by Manly and Graham Eubank and captained by Bobby

29th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2017 Tournament Schedule

May 10 - 13 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

May 24 - 27 50th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

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

June 21 - 24

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

Carolina Billfish Classic

July 5 - 8

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

MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

July 19 - July 22

Contact: Brian Bell
3702 Docksite Road
Edisto Beach, SC, 29438
(843) 631-5055, FAX (843) 631-5065
Bkbell1@bellsouth.net

Edisto Invitational Billfish 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/>
PO Box 12559
Charleston, SC 29422

Garmany. With this win, *Sportin' Life* joins Bob Faith's *Caramba* as the only boat to have won three times in the 28 year history of the Series. Another special significance is that this is Bobby's first win as a captain. To quote myself from the last newsletter, "Here comes the judge!"

The second award I would like to mention is the Mate of the Year award. This is a new award for the Series in an attempt to recognize these unsung heroes of offshore fishing. The award is based upon characteristics including integrity, sportsmanship, reliability, leadership, fishing success, and willingness to go the extra mile. The 2016 recipient was Harrison Hughes from *Sportin' Life*.

Finally, four years ago, we reestablished the Carroll A. Campbell Jr. Award, originally given to the late Governor Campbell back in 2004. It was created to recognize and honor individuals and families who have been leaders in billfish conservation. This year's award went to Mr. Buck Morris, who started fishing offshore long ago in a 21 foot Robalo named *Princess*. He has been part of the Series and its conservation efforts since the beginning. Members of his family have won Series awards in virtually every category we recognize. In fact in 2002, at the age of 80, Mr. Morris' boat, *Major Motion*, won the Series by releasing three blue marlin and one sailfish. He was previously honored by the Series, along with Ross Swygert and Freddy Glazner, as a pioneer in SC billfishing. Mr. Morris is a veteran of World War II and a survivor of Pearl Harbor. The best part about presenting this award was the surprise element, as he did not know he was going to receive the award until I started reading his accomplishments, and virtually every member of the Morris extended family was on-hand for the celebration! All of the Series award recipients are to be congratulated for their outstanding achievements this season.

The event was held on September 30th, less than a week before Hurricane Matthew hit and damaged much of the South Carolina coast. The good news is that it could have been much worse, and most of our host marinas escaped without major damage. Unfortunately, our friends down in Beaufort and Jasper counties were not so lucky, and we hope that recovery efforts will soon be completed.

In conclusion, the schedule has been set for the 2017 season and again there have been some minor changes in the lineup. Please reference the front page of the newsletter and mark your calendars. We are already busy making plans for next summer and we hope to see many of you on the docks!

Wallace Jenkins



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Awards Summary: Official Series Winners

AWARD	OFFICIAL SERIES WINNERS
Outstanding Billfish Boat 1st Place	<i>Sportin' Life</i> Owners: Manly and Graham Eubank Captain: Bobby Garmany 2 blue marlin and 13 sailfish released 3875 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 2nd Place	<i>Electric Bill</i> Owner: Chad Sanders Captain: Phillip Fender 3 blue marlin and 10 sailfish released 3875 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 3rd Place	<i>Rascal</i> Owners: Norman Pulliam and Foster McKissick Captain: Mark Rogers 3 blue marlin and 9 sailfish released 3675 points



OUTSTANDING BILLFISH BOAT 1ST PLACE



OUTSTANDING BILLFISH BOAT 3RD PLACE



OUTSTANDING BILLFISH BOAT 2ND PLACE

AWARD	OFFICIAL SERIES WINNERS
Outstanding Billfish (landed)	<i>Game On</i> Owner: Bubba Roof Captain: Trey "Cricket" McMillan Angler: Kelli Ann Roof 477.2 pounds 478 points
Outstanding Billfish Conservation	<i>Sportin' Life</i> Owners: Manly and Graham Eubank Captain: Bobby Garmany 2 blue marlin and 13 sailfish released 3875 points



OUTSTANDING BILLFISH (LANDED)



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Awards Summary: Official Series Winners

AWARD	OFFICIAL SERIES WINNERS
Outstanding Dolphin	<i>Houdini</i> Owner: Jim Shannon Captain: Wren Fogle Angler: Jeffrey Frohock 54.0 pounds
Outstanding Tuna	<i>Miss Wy</i> Owner: Ed Holder Captain: Matt Wilkinson Angler: Robert Rodelsperger 24.3 pound blackfin
Outstanding Wahoo	<i>Bad Becky</i> Owner: Claude Burns Captain: Chase Merriman Angler: Robert Gill 64.9 pounds
Blue Water Conservation	<i>Caramba</i> Owner: Bob Faith Captain: Dale Lackey Tag and release of 2 dolphin 100 points



OUTSTANDING DOLPHIN



BLUE WATER CONSERVATION



1ST PLACE LADY ANGLER



2ND PLACE LADY ANGLER



3RD PLACE LADY ANGLER

AWARD	OFFICIAL SERIES WINNERS
Outstanding Female Angler 1st Place	<i>Game On</i> Owner: Bubba Roof Captain: Trey "Cricket" McMillan Angler: Kelli Ann Roof 2 blue marlin and 4 sailfish released and 1 landed blue marlin 2478 points
Outstanding Female Angler 2nd Place	<i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany 1 blue marlin and 3 sailfish released 1400 points
Outstanding Female Angler 3rd Place	<i>Dough Boy</i> Owner: Ben Dantzler Captain: Ben Dantzler Angler: Kasey Dantzler 1 blue marlin and 1 sailfish released 800 points

Awards Summary: Official Series Winners

AWARD	OFFICIAL SERIES WINNERS
Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place	<i>Micabe</i> Owner: Mike Larrow Captains: Chris Jennings and Emerson Read Angler: Rance Jennings, age 12 7 sailfish released 1400 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place	<i>Gryphon</i> Owner: Colby Griffin Captain: Chucky Moore Angler: Chandler Griffin, age 14 5 sailfish released 1000 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place	<i>Rascal</i> Owners: Norman Pulliam and Foster McKissick Captain: Mark Rogers Angler: Graham Rogers, age 13 3 sailfish released 600 points



1ST PLACE YOUTH ANGLER



3RD PLACE YOUTH ANGLER



2ND PLACE YOUTH ANGLER



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Special Recognition Awards



This year the Series created a new award, the Mate of the Year, to recognize the dedication and hard work of individuals whose efforts are not sufficiently acknowledged for going the extra mile. The first recipient of this award goes to Harrison Hughes on Sportin' Life!



A special recognition and thank you goes out to Mr. James E. Reed with Superior Diesel for his exemplary efforts and dedication to the Series and its participants over the past several years.



We would like to recognize and honor Mr. Peter M. Loy for his eight years of service to the SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board of Directors.

The Carroll A. Campbell, Jr. Award was created to honor individuals and families who have been leaders in billfish conservation in our state. Congratulations to this year's recipient Mr. Buck Morris, and thank you for all you have done for the fishery and for the Series!



Thank you to Mr. Gregg W. Smith for your six years of service to the SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board of Directors, including three years as Chairman.

forever blue



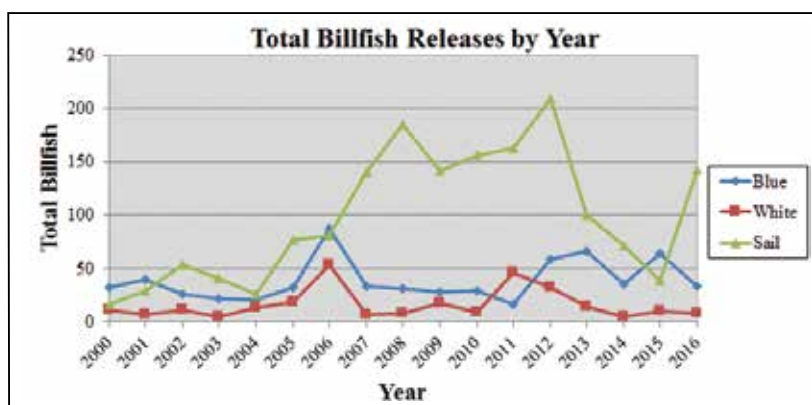


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Billfish Release Numbers					
Tournament Name	Number of Boats	Blue Marlin	White Marlin	Sailfish	Total Released
CBC	24	3	1	4	8
Georgetown	38	8*	4	15	25
Bohicket	19	0	2	19	21
Megadock	28	6	1	71	78
Edisto	27	16	0	33	49
Total	136	31	8	142	181
*2 of these were landed Total Series Billfish: 183					



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Billfish Per Boat	
CBC	0.33
Georgetown	0.71
Bohicket	1.11
Megadock	2.79
Edisto	1.81



Each year The Island House at Ross Marine are such wonderful hosts and provide a beautiful venue for our Annual Awards Reception. We would like to thank the Suygert and Speights families and Lynn Gottlieb for their efforts each year to make this such a successful event!

Top Series Boats	Points
Sportin' Life	3875
Electric Bill	3875
Rascal	3675
Syked Out	3075
Game On	2528
Micabe	2075
Hammer Time	2025
Mister Pete	1675
Rookie IV	1675
Anticipation	1475

W.W.Williams

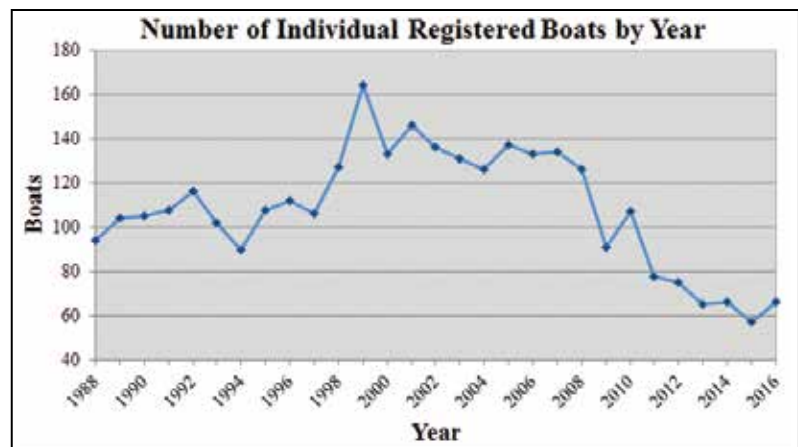
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Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) for Billfish and Meatfish (2012-2016)					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Billfish CPUE (Released and Landed)	1.09	0.65	0.50	0.59	0.74
Total Meatfish CPUE (Landed Only)	2.55	3.64	2.57	1.98	3.28

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2017 Tournaments



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July 5 - 8



July 19 - 22

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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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