



TAG & RELEASE

Volume 23, No. 4



September 2018

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



Series Reflections

I started the last newsletter column with, "The season started off with a bang..." Well, it also literally ended with a bang! After the CBC, the weather and fishing began warming up considerably. During the Megadock tournament, a severe lightning storm hit the fleet ~50 miles offshore on Friday, July 13th. Two boats in particular, *Miss Wy* and *Blue Sky* sustained significant damage, with *Miss Wy* being completely disabled. The *Blue Sky*, captained by Jay Weaver, was able to get underway and take *Miss Wy* under tow, even though many of their electrical systems were not operating properly (the crew had to run the throttles from the engine room), leading to a long slow slog toward shore. Around 10:30 that night just off the Megadock, the *Miss Wy* hitched up to the *Sea Tiger*, who safely maneuvered her to a slip. This event basically knocked *Miss Wy* and *Blue Sky* out of contention for the Series. They were not the only boats effected that day, but most of the others were able to complete the tournament. We were very lucky and thankful that no one was hurt on any of the fleet's vessels. The tournament itself went well, with 24 boats releasing 70 billfish, for a 2.92 billfish per boat catch rate, doubling those of the three previous events. Relative newcomers to the Governor's Cup scene, the Gressette family aboard *Man Cave* won the tournament, with Sara Gressette catching all the billfish (1 blue marlin and 6 sailfish) and also winning Lady Angler for Megadock.

Heading into Edisto, we thought our luck had changed, with a strong number of boats signed up. Then lighting struck again during a late afternoon thunderstorm Tuesday afternoon. *Artemis*, which up to that point was in contention for Series awards, took a direct hit at the dock, with others also receiving damage. The



HOLDER
PADGETT
LITTLEJOHN+
PRICKETT LLC



CHARLESTON | COLUMBIA | GREENVILLE

31st Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2019 Tournament Schedule

May 8 - 11 Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Beau Anderson marinamanager@bohicket.com
1880 Andell Bluff Boulevard (843) 768-1280
Johns Island, SC 29455

May 22 - 25 52nd Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: Ed Keelin ed@georgetownlandingmarina.com
P.O. Box 1704 (843) 546-1776
Georgetown, SC 29442

June 19 - 22 Carolina Billfish Classic

Contact: Deidre Menefee dm@fishcbc.com
20 Patriots Point Road (843) 345-0369
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

July 17 - 20 Edisto Invitational Billfishing Tournament

Contact: Brian Bell bkbell1@bellsouth.net
3702 Docksie Road (843) 631-5055
Edisto Beach, SC 29438

The Megadock will be under construction during the summer of 2019 and will be unable to host a tournament, yet will return in 2020.

For more information, contact:

Amy Dukes, SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator
DukesA@dnr.sc.gov • <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/> • (843) 953-9365
PO Box 12559 • Charleston, SC 29422

tournament had 36 boats that fished hard, releasing 107 billfish, resulting in 2.98 billfish per boat, which I believe is one of the highest in Series history. The fight for both Edisto and the Series Cup came down to the wire, including additional drama of a qualifying blue marlin coming to the dock aboard *Anticipation* only minutes before the scales closed on the final day. I am sure by now you have all seen the Facebook post by Meg, Captain Harvey Shiflet's wife, of the boat coming to the weigh station. At last count, it had received 3.26 million views. The landed fish weighed 484.4 lbs. and was the only landed blue marlin this year, and the first landed at Edisto in 15+ years. The tournament was won with another strong showing from *Mister Pete*, captained by Alan Neiford, with 1 blue marlin and 8 sailfish released. *Mister Pete* had a great year, winning 3 out of 5 Series events. They accumulated 7,875 points for releasing 9 blue marlin and 12 sailfish, surpassing the highest total

ever recorded in the 30 year history of the Series. It sure was an "electrifying" summer.

We hope to see many of you at the Awards Reception on Friday, September 28th. I will be making it just in time, after I pick up and deliver the trophies from Coco Beach, Florida. So...I might not be too lively for the event, but will be looking forward to a great steak dinner and my "signature" potatoes, compliments of A&P Catering after my 10 hours on the road. Thanks for 30 great years! *Mic drop*

~Wallace Jenkins





sdi
SUPERIOR DIESEL, INC.

VOLVO
PENTA

SALES - PARTS - SERVICE

843-553-8331

superiordieselengines.com
superiordiesel.net

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the docks for the 2018 Governor's Cup Series



AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Billfish Boat 1st Place	Boat: <i>Man Cave</i> Owner: Billy Gressette Captain: Billy Gressette Catch: 1 blue marlin & 6 sailfish released 1800 points	Boat: <i>Mister Pete</i> Owner: Bob & Rusty McClam Captain: Alan Neiford Catch: 1 blue marlin & 8 sailfish released 2200 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Catch: 7 sailfish released 1400 points	Boat: <i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Catch: 10 sailfish released 2000 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Sportin' Life</i> Owner: Graham Eubank Captain: Mike Glaesner Catch: 7 sailfish released 1400 points	Boat: <i>Reel Passion</i> Owner: Bill Ingram Captain: Gary Richardson Catch: 1 blue marlin and 4 sailfish released 1400 points
Outstanding Billfish Conservationist	Boat: <i>Man Cave</i> Owner: Billy Gressette Captain: Billy Gressette Catch: 1 blue marlin & 6 sailfish released 1800 points	Boat: <i>Mister Pete</i> Owner: Bob & Rusty McClam Captain: Alan Neiford Catch: 1 blue marlin & 8 sailfish released 2200 points
Outstanding Billfish (landed)	N/A	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Angler: Drew Wilkinson Catch: 484.4 pound blue marlin 485 points




AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Dolphin	Boat: <i>Legacy</i> Owner: Kevin Branigan/Jim Shannon Captain: Wren Fogle Angler: Charlie Branigan Catch: 35.7 pounds	Boat: <i>Tighten Up</i> Owners/Captains: Kevin Overstreet & Rick Burke Angler: Riley Overstreet Catch: 23.1 pounds
Outstanding Tuna	Boat: <i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: David Sykes Catch: 17.4 pound blackfin	Boat: <i>Rookie IV</i> Owner: Eddie Buck Captain: Jay Champlin Angler: Eddie Buck Catch: 23.4 pound blackfin
Outstanding Wahoo	Boat: <i>Man Cave</i> Owner: Billy Gressette Captain: Billy Gressette Angler: Sara Gressette Catch: 19.4 pounds	Boat: <i>Voodoo Child</i> Owner: Dale Daly Captain: Zack Adams Angler: James Daly Catch: 40.3 pounds
Blue Water Conservationist	N/A	N/A

**DIGEST
YOUR PROBLEM,
NOT YOUR BUDGET!**

OUR GREEN DOWNSTREAM®
SOLUTIONS REDUCE

**FOG • Sludge
Odor • Ammonia**

ECO-FRIENDLY
DIGESTERS,
NOT EMULSIFIERS



SOMETHING
BUGGING YOU?

GO INCOGNITO!



INCIGNITO MOSQUITO

NATURAL DEET-FREE INSECT REPELLENT SPRAY

**ALLERGEN-FREE
SAFE FOR
CHILDREN + PETS**

**MOSQUITOES
GNATS
TICKS
CHIGGERS**

SC GOVERNOR'S CUP SPONSOR 2013-2018

Martech Research, LLC • 803 428 2000 • MARTECHenvironmental.com





AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Female Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Man Cave</i> Owner: Billy Gressette Captain: Billy Gressette Angler: Sara Gressette Catch: 1 blue marlin & 6 sailfish released 1800 points	Boat: <i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany Catch: 8 sailfish released 1600 points
Outstanding Female Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Syked Out</i> Owner: David Sykes Captain: Dan Woody Angler: Holly McAlhany Catch: 5 sailfish released 1000 points	Boat: <i>Legal Holiday</i> Owner: Fred Bergen Captain: Lawrence Bradham Angler: Eugenie Barrow Catch: 1 blue marlin and 3 sailfish released 1200 points
Outstanding Female Angler 3rd Place	N/A	Boat: <i>Flybuoy IV</i> Owner: Gary Davis Captain: Todd Baxley Angler: Kathy Baxley Catch: 3 sailfish released 600 points



EAST COAST HONDA • VOLKSWAGEN | MYRTLE BEACH, SC



A P E X
AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

PIEDMONT HONDA • CHRYSLER • JEEP • DODGE • RAM • AEV | ANDERSON, SC



AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Sola Fide</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Will Frederick Angler: Ansley Wyatt Catch: 2 sailfish released 400 points	Boat: <i>Tighten Up</i> Owners: Kevin Overstreet & Rick Burke Captain: Rick Burke Angler: Riley Overstreet Catch: 3 sailfish released 600 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Rascal</i> Owners: Foster McKissick & Norman Pulliam Captain: Mark Rogers Angler: Chappell Miller Catch: 2 sailfish released 400 points	Boat: <i>Sola Fide</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Will Frederick Angler: Ansley Wyatt Catch: 3 sailfish released 600 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Sola Fide</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Will Frederick Angler: Merritt Davis Catch: 1 sailfish released 200 points	Boat: <i>Rookie IV</i> Owner: Eddie Buck Captain: Jay Chanplin Angler: Edgar Buck Catch: 23.4 pound blackfin

The record breaking continues!

Year	BOAT	SERIES POINTS
2018	MISTER PETE	7,875
2017	GRYPHON	7,475
2011	REEL PASSION	6,075




"...an 'electrifying' summer..."



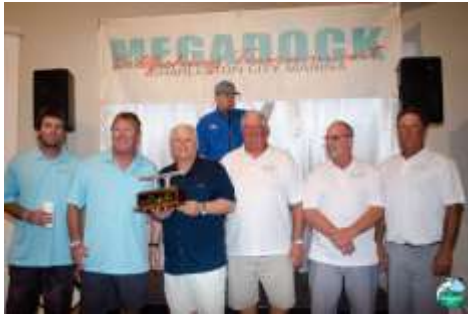
seahuntboats.com
803-755-6539



 BOH GT CBC MD ED Totals						
Boats	43	58	55	24	36	86
Blues	24	17	17	76	8*	72
Whites	1	2	3	2	0	8
Spears	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sails	8	11	49	62	99	229
*One of these was landed						



Megadock Winners



Edisto Winners





Year	Total Boats	Blues	Whites	Spears	Sails	Total Billfish	Blues Landed	Release Rate
2018	86	71	8	1	229	309	1	99.7 %
2017	82	76	5	2	254	335	4	98.8 %
2016	66	31	8	N/A	142	181	2	98.9 %
2015	57	64	10	N/A	39	113	0	100 %
2014	125	35	5	N/A	72	112	1	99.1 %
2013	144	64	14	N/A	100	178	2	98.9 %
2012	153	58	32	N/A	210	300	1	99.7 %

Cheers to 30 Years!
 1989 - 2018
 1% release rate → 1% landing rate





Mister Pete




Rascal



*Not affiliated w/ Gov Cup



Thanks, Dr. Seuss



Sola Fide



Rascal

One fish

Two fish

Live fish

Dead fish



Stadium



Kappa

Introducing the all new Luxury Series from Harman. Available in 6 1/2", 8", and 10" subwoofer, the sound alone will keep the fish dancing. Add in RGB illumination as standard, and the whole crew will be rockin'. The 8" speaker is particularly unique-with a removable 3 1/2" mid tweeter- and this versatility allows you to raise the soundstage in your boat or act as smaller satellite speakers. Forward thinking, from Harman.



Distributed exclusively by Prospec Electronics, a Mount Pleasant, SC company

Release
MARINE



RELEASEMARINE.COM

Welcome to Maximum Uptime

Your solution for engine
maintenance, repairs, overhauls
and all replacement part needs.



W.W. Williams
CONSIDER IT DONE.



843.225.7121

WWW.WWWILLIAMS.COM

HPL+P_{LAW}

CHARLESTON | COLUMBIA | GREENVILLE

HOLDER
PADGETT
LITTLEJOHN+
PRICKETT_{LLC}



PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES



www.hplplaw.com


SEAKEEPER
DEMO DAYS
@  **ROSS**
MARINE

SEPTEMBER 28TH & 29TH

FRIDAY : 12-6pm, SATURDAY : 9-1pm



Seakeeper is an actively controlled gyroscope that eliminates 70-90+% of boat roll completely from within the hull

- Experience the Seakeeper Demo Boat
- Seakeeper and Ross Marine Retrofit Staff on hand both days
- Same day & place as SC Governor's Cup Awards banquet (9/28)*
- Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments provided

*this invitation is not for the banquet

Please **RSVP** to schedule your Demo: paul@grossmarine.com



TOP SERIES BOATS

- | | |
|------------------|-------|
| 1. Mister Pete | 7,875 |
| 2. Sportin' Life | 6,275 |
| 3. Syked Out | 5,175 |
| 4. Artemis | 4,275 |
| 5. Bad Becky | 4,075 |
| 6. Reel Passion | 3,775 |
| 7. Anticipation | 3,360 |
| 8. Grander | 3,275 |
| 9. Rascal | 2,975 |
| 10. Man Cave | 2,875 |

Our sights are set on our next endeavor! The Harbor Island Bridge in Beaufort is set to be replaced, and we need your help to start fundraising once again to put this awesome structure at the bottom of the ocean! We've seen so much life and productivity from the structures already sunk in the Charleston Deep Reef area - imagine the benefits of having this beauty attracting even more activity!



Credit: Eat Sleep Play Beaufort



C O N T R A C T I N G

The SC Memorial Reef

DONATE TODAY!

There's more than one way you can make a charitable contribution to the SC Memorial Reef fund. Please see below to find out how you can help! Remember, the Harry Hampton Wildlife fund is a 501 (c)-3 organization, and your donation is tax-deductible!

Make checks payable to:
Harry Hampton Fund - The SC Memorial Reef, C/O Amy Dukes, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422

Or:

Visit www.HamptonWildlifeFund.org and click the "DONATE NOW" button (via PayPal) on the left side of the page. After specifying donation amount, please write "SC Memorial Reef" in the instructions box to make sure it is accredited to the appropriate project. A tax-deductible receipt will be provided for your records.

Major Sponsors



Corporate Sponsors



2019 TOURNAMENTS



MAY 8 - 11



MAY 22 - 25



JUNE 19 - 22



Under construction 2019



JULY 19 - 22

This Newsletter is brought to you by:



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.