Series Reflections

Wow, what a whirlwind this SC Governor’s Cup Billfishing Series Season was. After nearly 4 weeks with no tournament on the schedule, things got back underway at the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina. Weather forecasts had been iffy in advance, but 42 boats made their way to the Carolina Billfish Classic. Unfortunately, the first day of fishing had to be called off due to sea conditions. That night a most impressive front came through right around dinner, and I ended up having to run over a half mile back to my car in an effort to keep from being out in the middle of a lightning storm that came on very quickly. My knees are still paying for that trot, but it’s better than getting electrocuted. The second day started with a severe thunderstorm coming though Charleston around 6:30 am and capsizing boats fishing at the jetties. That afternoon, I saw several pictures from boats showing me what that storm looked like when it passed over the fleet later that morning. As usual, I was glad I was on land. While sea conditions of Friday were marginal, people had a good day of fishing while catching and releasing good numbers of sailfish and blue marlin. During the final day of fishing, it came down to a shootout between Blue Sky and Jackpot. Blue Sky was the eventual winner after having released two blue marlin and three sailfish to Jackpot’s one blue marlin and five sailfish. Just like clockwork, around the time scales were closing on Saturday another front was headed
our way, which necessitated moving the awards ceremony into the Reel Bar instead of under the tent. The room was packed, but somehow we and Deidre pulled it off without any serious issues. With no Megadock tournament this year, we had three weeks to get ready for Edisto; it was much needed. Edisto had perhaps their largest turnout in quite some time with 46 boats fishing. While the theme at CBC had been thunderstorms, at Edisto it was just plain hot with actual temps approaching 95°F every day. However, the fishing was good with catches of 14 blue marlin and 54 sailfish which was by far the highest total for any of the tournaments held this summer. With numerous boats fishing out of other marinas, it kept the crew working until late to reconcile all the photos and release affidavits each evening. When the dust settled on Saturday evening, Trash Man was declared the winner on time for releasing three blue marlin. The boat owner, Mr. Burke Wall, could not have been more gracious in acknowledging both the tournament and the Series during his comments at the awards ceremony. Jackpot came in second for releasing one blue marlin and six sailfish while Bench Mark was third after releasing one blue marlin and four sailfish.

Next week we will meet with the Tournament Committee to begin the process of certifying the results for this summer. Jackpot was the overall winner with 4,075 points, followed by Blue Sky with 3,075 points and Home Run took third, on time, with 3,075 points. For the first time since 2015, no blue marlin were landed. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in September at the Awards Reception at Founders Hall, the indoor air-conditioned venue owned and managed by our partners at SC Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Peace out!!

~ Wallace Jenkins
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>CBC</th>
<th>EDISTO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Outstanding Billfish Boat | Boat: *Blue Sky*  
Owner: Greg Smith  
Captain: Jay Weaver  
2 blue marlin & 3 sailfish released  
1,800 points | Boat: *Trash Man*  
Owner: Burke Wall  
Captain: Shelby Myrick  
3 blue marlin released  
1,800 points |
| 1st Place                 |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| Boat: *Jackpot*  
Owner: Joe Mc Kinney  
Captain: Sean Dooley  
1 blue marlin & 5 sailfish released  
1,600 points | Boat: *Jackpot*  
Owner: Joe Mc Kinney  
Captain: Sean Dooley  
1 blue marlin & 6 sailfish released  
1,800 points |
| 2nd Place                 |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| Boat: *Glazed*  
Owner: Miles Herring  
Captain: Miles Herring  
2 blue marlin & 1 sailfish released  
1,400 points | Boat: *Bench Mark*  
Owner: Stephen Davis  
Captain: Bobby Garmany  
1 blue marlin & 4 sailfish released  
1,400 points |
| 3rd Place                 |                                                                      |                                                                        |
| Boat: *Blue Sky*  
Owner: Greg Smith  
Captain: Jay Weaver  
2 blue marlin & 3 sailfish released  
1,800 points | Boat: *Trash Man*  
Owner: Burke Wall  
Captain: Shelby Myrick  
3 blue marlin released  
1,800 points |
| Outstanding Billfish Conservationist | N/A                                                                 | N/A                                                                   |
| Boat: *Blue Sky*  
Owner: Greg Smith  
Captain: Jay Weaver  
2 blue marlin & 3 sailfish released  
1,800 points | Boat: *Trash Man*  
Owner: Burke Wall  
Captain: Shelby Myrick  
3 blue marlin released  
1,800 points |
| Outstanding Billfish (landed) | N/A                                                                 | N/A                                                                   |

**El Tejano Partners**  
Thanks Team  
El Tejano for your 2019 sponsorship!
### TOP BOATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boat Name</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jackpot</td>
<td>4075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Sky</td>
<td>3075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Run</td>
<td>3075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bench Mark</td>
<td>2875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inappropriate</td>
<td>1875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trash Man</td>
<td>1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mister Pete</td>
<td>1675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syked Out</td>
<td>1475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glazed</td>
<td>1450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man Cave</td>
<td>1275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWARD</td>
<td>CBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Dolphin</td>
<td>Boat: Full Pull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owner: John Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Captain: Ryan Riggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angler: John Warren Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44.0 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Tuna</td>
<td>Boat: Hydrosphere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owner: Peter Lorris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Captain: Geoff Rosenberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angler: Sean Pendarvis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24.0 pound Blackfin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Wahoo</td>
<td>Boat: Mister Pete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owners: Bob &amp; Rusty McClam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Captain: Alan Neiford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angler: George Campsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38.7 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Water</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservationist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The South Carolina Memorial Reef

Make checks payable to:
Harry Hampton Fund - The SC Memorial Reef, C/O Amy Dukes, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422
Or:
Donate online:
- [https://scmemorialreef.com/](https://scmemorialreef.com/) - Blue Donate button on top right and fill out the form.
- [http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org/](http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org/) - 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 for both online sources.

Thanks for your 2019 sponsorship,
Team Tighten Up!
### Outstanding Female Angler

#### 1st Place
- **Boat:** *Home Run*
- **Owner:** Steve Mungo
- **Captain:** Grant Bentley
- **Angler:** Hope Bentley
- 2 blue marlin released
- 1,200 points

#### 2nd Place
- **Boat:** *Syked Out*
- **Owner:** David Sykes
- **Captain:** Dan Woody
- **Angler:** Holly McAlhany
- 2 sailfish released
- 400 points

#### 3rd Place
- **Boat:** *Tina’s Trippin’*
- **Owner:** Tripp Rice
- **Captain:** Brett Wood
- **Angler:** Mackenzi Truluck
- 1 sailfish released
- 200 points

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### CBC

#### Boat: *Home Run*
- **Owner:** Steve Mungo
- **Captain:** Grant Bentley
- **Angler:** Hope Bentley
- 2 blue marlin released
- 1,200 points

#### Boat: *Syked Out*
- **Owner:** David Sykes
- **Captain:** Dan Woody
- **Angler:** Holly McAlhany
- 2 sailfish released
- 400 points

#### Boat: *Tina’s Trippin’*
- **Owner:** Tripp Rice
- **Captain:** Brett Wood
- **Angler:** Mackenzi Truluck
- 1 sailfish released
- 200 points

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### EDISTO

#### Boat: *El Tejano*
- **Owner:** John Hill
- **Captain:** David Redd
- **Angler:** Kathy Baxley
- 2 sailfish released
- 400 points

#### Boat: *Legal Holiday*
- **Owner:** Fred Bergen
- **Captain:** Lawrence Bradham
- **Angler:** Eugenie Barrow
- 1 sailfish released
- 200 points

---

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>CBC</th>
<th>EDISTO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Youth Angler</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Man Cave</em>&lt;br&gt;Owner: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Captain: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Angler: Will Gredick, age 12&lt;br&gt;3 sailfish released&lt;br&gt;600 points</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Bad Becky</em>&lt;br&gt;Owner: Claude Burns&lt;br&gt;Captain: Chase Merriman&lt;br&gt;Angler: Addie Burns, age 8&lt;br&gt;1 sailfish released&lt;br&gt;200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Man Cave</em>&lt;br&gt;Owner: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Captain: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Angler: Julia Gressette, age 9&lt;br&gt;1 sailfish released&lt;br&gt;200 points</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Man Cave</em>&lt;br&gt;Owner: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Captain: Billy Gressette&lt;br&gt;Angler: Leila Gressette, age 7&lt;br&gt;1 sailfish released&lt;br&gt;200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Youth Angler</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Tighten Up</em>&lt;br&gt;Owners: Rick Burke &amp; Kevin Overstreet&lt;br&gt;Captain: Rick Burke&lt;br&gt;Angler: Riley Overstreet, age 13&lt;br&gt;9.1 pound dolphin</td>
<td>Boat: <em>Tighten Up</em>&lt;br&gt;Owners: Rick Burke &amp; Kevin Overstreet&lt;br&gt;Captain: Kevin Overstreet&lt;br&gt;Angler: Riley Overstreet, age 13&lt;br&gt;1 sailfish released&lt;br&gt;200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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.