



Tag & Release

A newsletter following the South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series



Thank you to our 2021 sponsors!

February 2022
Vol. 27 No. 1

2021 Corporate Sponsors:



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Series Reflections:

Before we jump into a new year of tournaments, we want to take another opportunity to thank our 2021 sponsors. We are so grateful for the support we have received. Our three Corporate Sponsors, Aire Serv Climate Professionals LLC, Martech Research, and Western Branch Diesel/Volvo Penta, have each contributed funds at the highest level for multiple years. We want to extend a special thanks to Western Branch Diesel/Volvo Penta (formerly Superior Diesel) for sponsoring the Series at the Corporate Level for over ten years.

We also want to thank our Benefactor Sponsors, including APEX Automotive, Haddrell's Point Tackle and Supply, HMY Yacht Sales, Sea Hunt Boats, Southern Lumber and Millwork, Sportsman Boats, Units Moving and Portable Storage of Charleston, and W.W. Williams/MTU.

Additionally, we are sincerely grateful to our Patron Sponsors, including Blazon Apparel +

Print; El Tejano Fishing Team; Founders Hall; Frierson Financials LLC; Holder, Padgett, Littlejohn, & Prickett LLC; Huk Performance Fishing; McClam & Associates Inc.; Palmetto State Armory; ProSpec Electronics; QEI Security & Technology Inc.; and Yarborough Applegate LLC.

And lastly, we want to thank our Newsletter Sponsors, including Bergen, Bergen, & Thomas; Carbet Baggers Floorcoverings; Coastal Conservation Association; Fairway Ford; Frank's Car Wash; Mungo Homes; and Spencer Yachts Inc. Contributions from sponsors, as well as SC Governor's Cup Advisory Board of Directors members and Series participants, totaled around \$70,000.

The Series would not be possible without the support of each of these individuals. We want to express our sincerest gratitude. As we begin our 2022 season, we hope you will thoughtfully consider a sponsorship. Included is a sponsor form and additional information regarding each contribution level at the end of the newsletter. We are looking forward to this year's tournaments, and we greatly appreciate your continued support!

Please remember to register for the three scheduled tournaments as soon as possible. Information regarding each event is included below. We are excited for the 2022 season!



Haddrell's Point

Tackle and Supply

34th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2022 Tournament Schedule

May 25 - 28

54th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament



Contact: David Black
P.O. Box 1704
Georgetown SC 29442
(843) 546-1776 Fax (843) 546-7832
dblack@georgetownlandingmarina.com

June 22 - 25

Carolina Billfish Classic



Contact: Loyd Weston
20 Patriots Point Road
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 568-5230
td@fishcbc.com

July 20 - 23

Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament



Contact: Brian Bell
3702 Docksite Road
Edisto Beach, SC 29438
(843) 631-5055 Fax (843) 631-5065
bkbell2009@gmail.com

For more information, contact GovCup@dnr.sc.gov.



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JOIN OUR TEAM!

Those who donate a minimum of \$100 get an invitation to the annual awards reception. Those donating \$500 also get mentioned on our website and in the Awards Reception program.

◆ Newsletter Sponsor: \$1,000

- All benefits mentioned above
- Logo in every newsletter
- Linked corporate logo on the website

◆ Benefactor Sponsor: \$5,000

- All benefits mentioned above
- Advertisement banner at each tournament
- Large Governor's Cup flag
- Two passes to all Series events you choose to attend

◆ Patron Sponsor: \$2,000

- All benefits mentioned above
- Allowed the use of Governor's Cup logo in your own advertising
- Opportunity to include your company brochures in boat registration packets for all tournaments
- Receive recognition of appreciation at the awards reception

◆ Corporate Sponsor: \$10,000

- All benefits mentioned above
- Eligible for a 50% discount on a single boat registration for all 4 Series tournaments **OR** 6 tickets to all Series events you choose to attend but do not register a boat
- Booth space at each tournament
- Included in all tournament brochures and advertising as a Corporate Sponsor of the Series
- Ex-officio member of the Advisory Board of Directors

To become a sponsor, please fill out the donor card and mail to
SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29412
or email GovCup@dnr.sc.gov.

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES SPONSOR DONOR FORM

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address/P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ \$ _____

☐ \$50

☐ \$100 (Contributor)

☐ \$500 (Donor)

☐ \$1,000 (Newsletter)

☐ \$2,000 (Patron)

☐ \$5,000 (Benefactor)

☐ \$10,000 (Corporate)

Please visit govcup.dnr.sc.gov for more information. SCGC, in partnership with Harry Hampton, is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

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.

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for your 2022 fishing season!

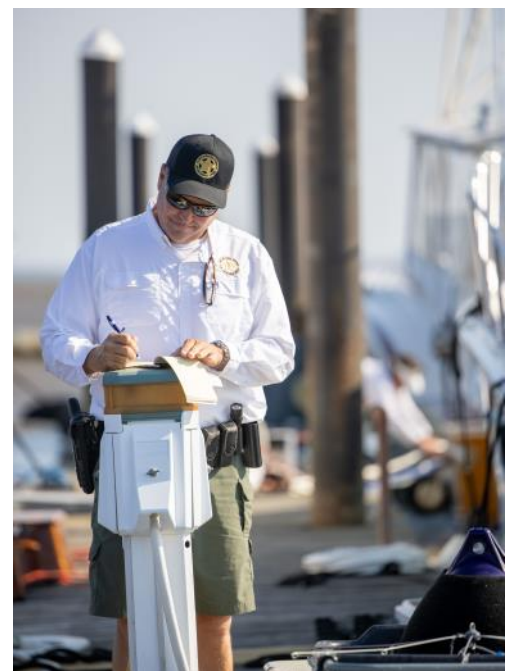
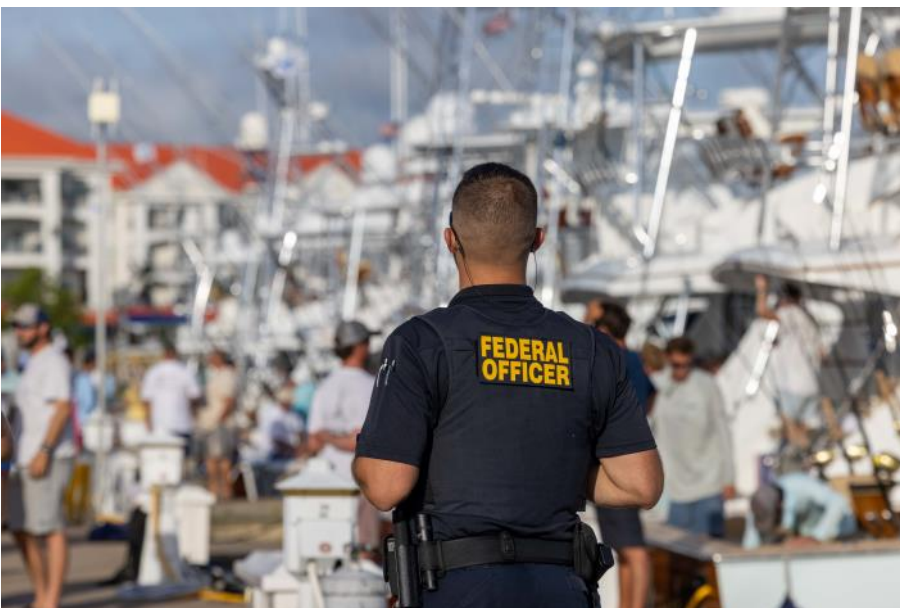


Below is a list of some of the permits, licenses and documentation that you will need to have in your possession so that boat owners, captains, and crew are ready for a successful fishing season. (NOTE: Double Check Your Expiration Dates!)

1) SC Saltwater Fishing License – Every individual (age 16 and above) aboard the vessel must have a valid, official SC Saltwater Recreational Fishing License in their possession. These licenses can be purchased at <https://dnrlicensing.sc.gov/DNRLicensingSales/SalesCategories.aspx> or by calling 1-866-714-3611, and expire one year from the issue date.

2) Current vessel documentation or state registration – All vessels must possess current and valid state registration or US Coast Guard documentation in addition to being titled in the owner's name/business.

3) Atlantic HMS [Angling (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 (HMS; 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 permit. These permits cost \$26.00, and will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2022. Visit the NMFS website at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/> to apply.



THE SC MEMORIAL REEF



Current Project: M/V *Coastal Venture*



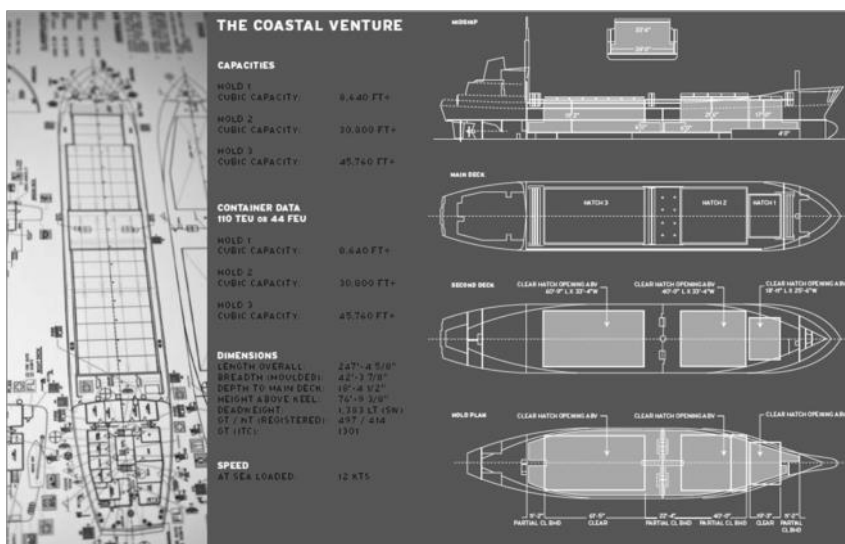
The current SC Memorial Reef project includes plans to sink the 247-ft M/V *Coastal Venture* in the Charleston Deep Reef MPA. The vessel (70-ft keel to top of the mast) will provide habitat for a diversity of species. Its complex structure will offer refuge for finfish and other marine organisms, as well as provide areas on which invertebrates can settle and grow. Additionally, the upwelling that will result from such a large structure will release nutrients into the water column and increase the overall productivity of the area. We plan to deploy the vessel in 350 feet of water about a mile south of the sunken Highway 41 bridge.

Fundraising goal: \$500,000

The transporting and sinking of the M/V *Coastal Venture* are scheduled to occur around late February, early March. Fundraising will continue following deployment.

Please consider making a donation. We truly appreciate the support.

Funds raised: \$389,949



Donate now:

- * Make checks payable to: Harry Hampton Fund - The SC Memorial Reef, c/o Amy Dukes, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422
- * Donate online:
 - <https://scmemorialreef.com/> (See for additional information about the M/V *Coastal Venture* project)
 - <http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org/> (Write "SC Memorial Reef" in the instructions box to ensure it's accredited to the appropriate project and include the name of the person being recognized and remembered, if applicable)

A tax-deductible receipt will be provided for both sources!

Save the date!

SC Governor's Cup Series Awards Reception



**Founders Hall at Charles Towne Landing
Friday, September 30, 2022**



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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.