



# Tag & Release



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

## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2024 Tournament Schedule

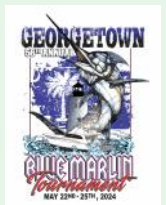
**May 8 - 11**



### Charleston Billfish Invitational

Contact: Stan Jones  
49 Immigration Street  
Charleston, SC 29403  
843-790-4001  
[billfish@seabreezemarina.com](mailto:billfish@seabreezemarina.com)

**May 22 - 25**



### 56<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dblack@georgetownlandingmarina.com)

**June 19 - 22**



### Carolina Billfish Classic

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

**July 3 - 6**



### HMY Lowcountry Cup

Contact: Tia Mazziotta  
7 Lockwood Drive  
Charleston, SC 29401  
843-998-1637  
[tmazziotta@HMY.com](mailto:tmazziotta@HMY.com)

**July 17 - 20**

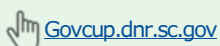


### Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Charles Yeomans  
P.O. Box 598  
Edisto Beach, SC 29438  
843-631-5055; fax: 843-631-5065  
[themarinaeb@gmail.com](mailto:themarinaeb@gmail.com)

**For more information, contact:**  
[GovCup@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:GovCup@dnr.sc.gov) • [govcup.dnr.sc.gov](http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov)  
PO Box 12559 • Charleston, SC 29422

**May 2024**  
Vol. 29 No. 2



# 2024 Gold Sponsors:

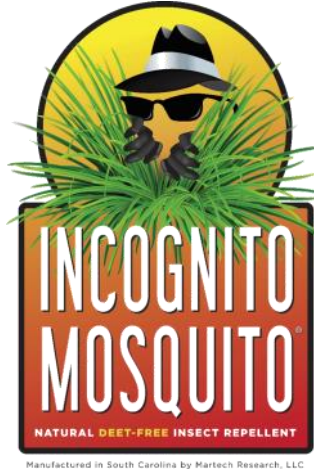
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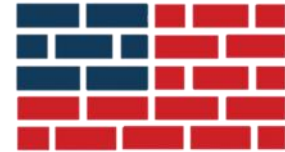


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## Series Reflections

The 2024 Series is here, and we hope everyone is excited for five tournaments this season! None of this would be possible without the support of our generous sponsors. We are so thankful for the many folks who have contributed to ensure each year is a success. Please note our many sponsors, highlighted throughout the newsletter. We truly appreciate the support, commitment, and dedication.

This year, we are excited to welcome the HMV Lowcountry Cup to the Series! After conducting a very successful qualifying event in 2023, the tournament is now officially part of the Series and will take place out of Toler's Cove Marina. We are looking forward to kicking off the season with the Charleston Billfish Invitational (formerly the Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament), which

will be hosted out of Seabreeze Marina. The 56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament, hosted by Georgetown Landing Marina, will follow at the end of May, and then the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina will host the Carolina Billfish Classic as the third Series tournament in June. In July, we'll celebrate Independence Day during the HMV tournament and then head down to the Marina at Edisto Beach for the Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament. Additional details regarding these events can be found on the first page of the newsletter. Be sure to register early to ensure docking space at the marinas, as most have limited slips available!

We're looking forward to seeing you on the docks!





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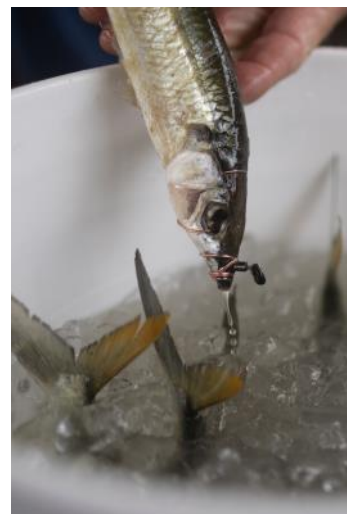


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# BE PREPARED

for your 2024 fishing season!

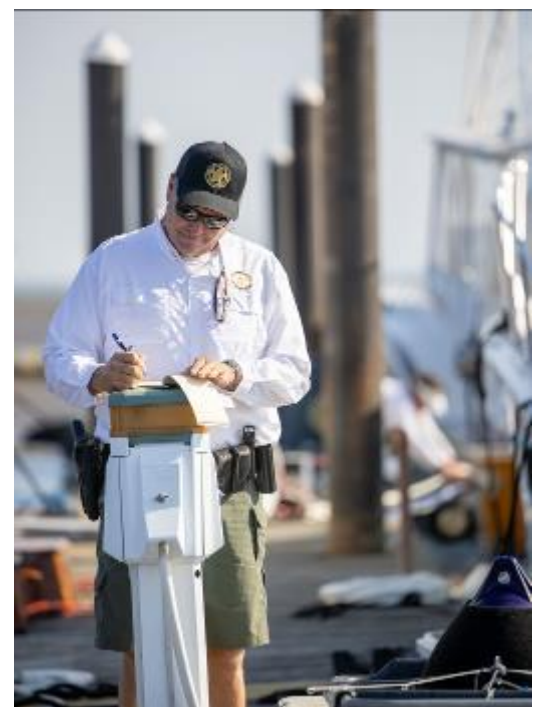


Below is a list of some of the permits, licenses and documentation that you will need to have in your possession so that boat owners, captains, and crew are ready for a successful fishing season. (NOTE: Double Check Your Expiration Dates!)


**1) SC Saltwater Fishing License** – Every individual (age 16 and above) aboard the vessel (regardless of intention to fish) must have a valid, official SC Saltwater Recreational Fishing License in their possession. These licenses can be purchased through [Go Outdoors South Carolina](https://www.gooutdoorsouthcarolina.com) and can be accessed through the GoOutdoorsSC app.

**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, 2024. Visit the NMFS website at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/> to apply.








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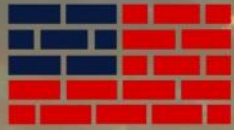
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## SC Governor's Cup Series Awards Reception

Founders Hall at Charles Towne Landing  
Friday, September 27, 2024



# Save the date!








**HMY**  
YACHTS

Charleston City Marina  
15 Lockwood Drive  
Charleston, SC 29401

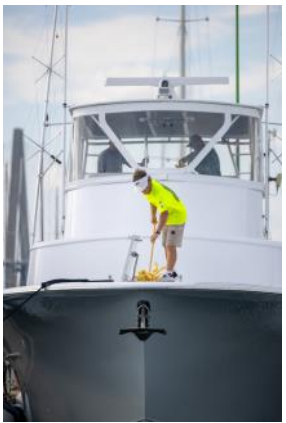
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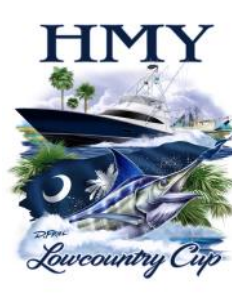
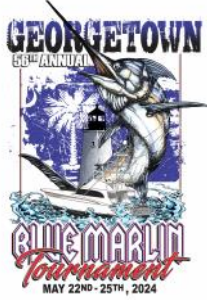


# See you on the docks!

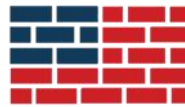
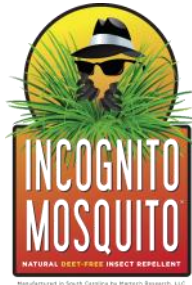




# 2024 TOURNAMENTS



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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.