



TAG & RELEASE

Jim Goller, Editor Email: wildlife@sc.rr.com

Volume 7, No. 2 July 2002

2002 14TH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE...

- May 1-5** *Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Susie Bost
3702 Docksite Rd.
Edisto Beach SC 29438
843-869-3504 FAX 843-869-3738
- May 15-19** *Bohicket Invitational Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Damien Zanetti
1880 Andell Bluff Blvd.
Johns Island SC 29455
843-768-1280 FAX 843-768-3481
- May 29-
June 2** *Georgetown Landing Blue Marlin Tournament*
Contact: Ricky Ferdon
P.O. Box 1704
Georgetown SC 29442
843-546-1776 FAX 843-546-7832
- June 5-9** *Marlin Quay Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Charles Stone/Lori Bryngelson
P.O. Box 549
Murrells Inlet SC 29576
843-651-4444 FAX 843-651-7795
- June 26-
July 1** *Isle Of Palms Marina Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Brian Berrigan
P.O. Box 550
Isle of Palms SC 29451
843-886-0209 FAX 843-886-0058
- July 10-14** *HMY - Viking Charleston Harbor
Marina Billfish Tournament*
Contact: Deidre Menefee
19 Forde Row
Charleston SC 29412
843-345-0369
FAX 843-406-4775

For more information contact:

Tom DuPre',
Office of Fisheries Management
843-762-5094 email: dupret@mrd.dnr.state.sc.us
<http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/etc/govcup/govcup.html>

A RELEASE TODAY IS A FISH TOMORROW!

Major Motion Wins Isle Of Palms... Leads 2002 Series...

The 14th Annual Governor's Cup wrapped up its fifth out of six tournaments at Isle of Palms Marina June 26-30.

"Major Motion," owned by Buck Morris of Johns Island captured the Best Billfish Boat award with 400 points earned on Thursday, the first day of the tournament. Angler Hope Hanckel of Johns Island tagged and released a blue marlin to earn "Major Motion" 300 points. Hanckel's uncle, Bucky Morris of Johns Island, tagged and released a sail fish within the same hour, earning their boat another 100 points. Hanckel's blue marlin also earned the 21-year-old the Outstanding Female Angler Award in this tournament.



Hope Hanckel, current 2002 Lady Angler of the Year leader after five events. Photo by Jennie Davis.

"Major Motion" now leads all boats going into the final 2002 event, the HMY-Viking Charleston Harbor Billfish Tournament scheduled for July 10-14.

"A good number of billfish were tagged and released the Isle of Palms tournament," said Tom DuPré of SCDNR, who coordinates the Series. "The weather was accommodating, and the marina hosted a festive tournament."

During the tournament 17 billfish were
Isle of Palms continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1...

tagged and released, including six blue marlin, three white marlin and eight sailfish with 38 boats participating. Finishing second for tagging and releasing a blue marlin and a sailfish was "Juncanewt," owned by John Cagle of Sullivans Island. The blue marlin's angler was 13-year-old Newt Cagle of Sullivans Island, who also won the youth angler award for his marlin. The sailfish angler was Anthony Prizzi of Mount Royal, New Jersey. The blue marlin was tagged on Thursday, June 27, and the sailfish on Saturday, June 29.

"Rookie IV," owned by Eddie Buck of Charleston came in third when Eddie Buck, Jr., also of Charleston, tagged and released a blue marlin on Thursday, June 27. "Rookie IV" was the first boat in the tournament to tag a blue marlin, earning third place.

A 46.8-pound wahoo caught aboard "Sportin' Life," earned owner and angler Manly Eubank of Charleston the Biggest Wahoo Award. The Biggest Tuna Award went to Craig Nimmons for a 95.6-pound yellowfin aboard "Lazy Daze," owned by Alex Ebert of Atlanta, Georgia. Angler Thomas Anderson of Charleston caught a 36.9-pound dolphin aboard "Hot Shot," owned by Dick Vance and Eric Burn, both of Charleston, to earn the Biggest Dolphin Award.

The last tournament in the 2002 Series will be held July 10-14 at Charleston Harbor Marina. For more information, contact Deidre Menefee at (843) 354-0369.

CINDERELLA

By Charlie Boykin...

The 2001 Carolina's Shootout held in the beautiful, historic city of Georgetown and hosted by Georgetown Landing Marina on April 18-20, is history. As most know, Georgia, participating for only the second time, took the Cup by successfully tagging and releasing a Blue Marlin on the second and final fishing day. What went wrong for the South Carolina team? What went right for the Georgia team? This is how the event played out.

By Thursday afternoon just about all the participants were in their slips. Charters, fishing that day, were bringing in nice yellowfin tuna caught just north of the hole. Georgia's "Rockin' Robin"

owner by Eddie Perry and accompanied by veteran fishermen Tommy Williams, blew her transmission about 12 miles from the Georgetown sea buoy and had to limp in. Replacement parts were on the way but for all practical purposes "Rockin' Robin" was out of the event.

With no alternate, it looked like Georgia would only be fishing with 4 boats. Despite this turn of bad luck, the spirits of the Georgia team were high as they consistently proclaimed that they did not need 5 boats to "kick our butts."

The captain's meeting was held Thursday afternoon with the usual questions regarding the rules and use of the camera. Cameras were used for the first time this year to document the tag and release in lieu of observers.

As always seems to be the case, out-of-state fishermen seem surprised when they are told that they need a saltwater fishing license and there was subsequently a mad rush to order the license over the phone. The temperatures had been in the 80's all week and seas had been calm ... predicted conditions for Friday were looking good with winds 15-20 knots out of the southwest and seas running 3-5ft.

This year's Shootout had some interesting match ups. North Carolina's "Honey Hush" was fishing in the event for the 4th time. The "Honey Hush", owned by Bob Warren, one of the founding members of the NC Governor's Cup, had been part of the 1992 and 1993 team when the Tarheels dominated this event. Manly Eubank's "Sportin' Life" of the Palmetto State was making its latest appearance. Manly's earlier "Sportin' Life" had been part of the 1995 team when SC won its first event.

As predicted, Friday was beautiful, but Georgia's bad luck continued. The "Evans B" had damage to her tower and the crew was unable to fix it. They were now out of the race, leaving Georgia with only 3 boats. Fishing was slow on Friday and no billfish were caught. A total of 7 dolphin and 3 tuna were weighed-in, the most notable a 99.3 lb yellowfin caught on the "Anticipation" fishing for North Carolina. South Carolina's only contribution was a small tuna and dolphin caught by the "Home Run"

and "Bulldog." With no billfish being caught, technically, North Carolina was in the lead based on the weight of their fun fish.

Saturday was less than perfect. Seas were running about 6' with an occasional 10'. Ricky Toone, fishing on Georgia's "Buckaroo," said "it was like flying from one wave to the next, waves were breaking over the cockpit...we were knee deep in water at our stern when we realized our bucket was blocking the drain." Fishing was spotty.

Mike Glaesner, captain of the "Sportin Life" had information that the fish were being caught off Charleston, so it was his intent to go south, but the seas were just too rough and he ended up at the Georgetown Hole. Georgia's "Lonesome Dove," captained by Hilton Head's Frank Boyd, took a different tack and fished shallow in about 200'. At about 9:42 am it payed off and they were hooked up to their first blue which they successfully tagged and released. They hooked up on a second fish around 2:30 but lost it. "Anticipation", fishing for North Carolina, successfully tagged and released a sailfish.

And so the story goes. Georgia, fishing with only 3 boats, took the Shootout. North Carolina finished second and South Carolina third (note: I prefer third to "dead last"). As Mike Glaesner summed it up; "It was pot luck fishing, there were so few fish out there you had to be in the right place and we just weren't there." Despite the outcome, everyone had a great time. As always, Ricky Ferdon and his staff at Georgetown Landing Marina did a great job. Plus...there's always a next time.

Charlie Boykin



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**2002
SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING
SERIES LEADER BOARD
(Results through Isle of Palms...)**

TOP TEN BOATS

MAJORMOTION	1075
GRANDSLAM	675
OVERSPRAY	561.2
MISTRESS	500
ROOKIEIV	500
COMPROMISEIV	475
JUNCANEWT	425
BIG KAHUNA	400
POINTRUNNER	400
DRAGONLADYIII	350

TOP BOAT

POINTS: 1075
BOAT: MAJOR MOTION
OWNER: BUCK MORRIS
CAPTAIN: WESLEY MORRIS JR

LARGEST BILLFISH

WEIGHT: 361.2
BOAT: OVERSPRAY
OWNER: FOSTER MCKISSICK

BILLFISH CONSERVATIONIST

POINTS: 1000
BOAT: MAJOR MOTION
OWNER: BUCK MORRIS

BLUEWATER CONSERVATION

POINTS: 750
BOAT: PETREL IV
OWNER: HARRY JOHNSON

LADY ANGLER

FISH: BLUE MARLIN T&R
BOAT: MAJOR MOTION
ANGLER: HOPE HANCKEL
OWNER: BUCK MORRIS

TOTAL

YOUTH ANGLER

FISH: BLUE MARLIN T&R
BOAT: JUNCANEWT
ANGLER: NEWT CAGLE, 13
OWNER: JOHN CAGLE

LARGEST WAHOO

WEIGHT: 109.2 lbs.
BOAT: RAINMAKER
ANGLER: CHRIS BECH
OWNER: RODNEY PROX

LARGEST TUNA

WEIGHT: 104.4 lbs.
BOAT: GRAND SLAM
ANGLER: DAN EDENS
OWNER: TOM EDENS

LARGEST DOLPHIN

WEIGHT: 61.4 lbs.
BOAT: POINT RUNNER
ANGLER: GREG LEE
OWNER: DALE PROX



INSURANCE CORNER...

Liability Insurance...

A question often asked by boaters regards liability coverage, "Who needs it and how much is enough?" Liability coverage is a crucial part of your insurance coverage. This is especially true for

charter boat people to stay in compliance with the 'Jones Act. If you have a full-time captain and mate, both need liability coverage. Even if you utilize different mates from trip to trip, you still need full-time coverage for

both captain and mate.

How much is enough? Unfortunately, there are no set guidelines on how much liability coverage to carry. Whether to carry \$300,000 or \$1,000,000 is typically up to the individual boater. Many marine underwriters suggest a "personal umbrella." With \$1,000,000 coverage, you may need only \$300,000 in liability and your personal umbrella will, in most cases, pick up any excess coverage needed. A personal umbrella can result in substantial savings in premium costs.

If you have questions regarding liability coverage or would like to review your present yacht policy, please call Charles Riley in Charleston at 843-216-8263 or Laddie Stover in Greenville at 864-271-8080.

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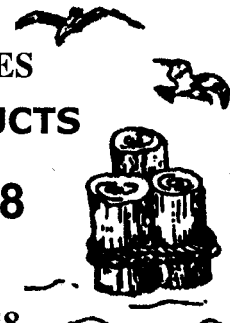


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2002 14TH ANNUAL S.C. GOVERNOR'S CUP Tournament Recap...page one

(articles & photos by Jennie Davis, SCDNR, Marine Resources)

MISTRESS WINS EDISTO...

The 14th Annual Governor's Cup Billfishing Series kicked off with the May 1-4 tournament at Edisto Beach. Three of the 29 boats registered to fish caught, tagged and released billfish. A total of three sailfish were tagged and released.

"Mistress," owned by Scott Boyd of Columbia, captured the Best Billfish Boat award. Angler Thomas S. Russell of Reston, Virginia tagged and released a sailfish to earn "Mistress" 100 points. Although three sailfish were caught during the tournament, Russell's fish was tagged and released at 8:25 a.m. on Friday of the tournament. Because it was the first sailfish to be tagged, it won "Mistress" the tournament.

Finishing second with 100 points for tagging and releasing a sailfish was "Compromise IV," owned by Bobby Hood of Charleston. The angler was Robert H. Hood Jr. of Mt. Pleasant, who tagged his fish at 9:54 a.m. on Friday.

"Summertime Blues," owned by Ron Wallschlager of Kiawah Island came in third in the tournament with 100 points. Angler Ken Kirby of Ormond Beach, Fla., tagged and released a sailfish at 10:25 a.m. on Friday. Kirby's fish was the last one to be tagged and gain points during the tournament.

A 60.7-pound wahoo caught aboard "Rascal," owned by Norman Pulliam of Spartanburg, earned angler John Coker of Columbia the Biggest Wahoo Award. The Biggest Tuna Award went to Michael Larrow, Jr. of Ridgeland, who reeled in a 74.2-pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Micabe," owned by Mike Larrow, also of Ridgeland. The Biggest Dolphin Award went to angler Jennifer Stipp of Charles-

ton caught a 45.8-pound dolphin aboard "Popeye II," owned by Peter Stipp of Greenville.

Edisto's Outstanding Female Angler Award went to Eugenie Barrow of Savannah, Ga., who caught a 47.7-pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Legal Holiday," owned by Fred Bergen, also of Savannah. The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to 10-year-old Thomas Plumb of Orangeburg, who caught a 37.6-pound dolphin aboard "Gamecock," owned by Fisher Walter of Edisto Beach. The tournament's Conservation Award went to "Micabe," which tagged and released two dolphin, one on Friday and one on Saturday.

Edisto's Hard Luck Award went to "Compromise IV," which had a sailfish at the transom and was preparing to tag it when it got off the hook. "They would have won the tournament if they had tagged this sailfish because it would have been the first one tagged in the tournament," DuPre' said. "They did get a prize - a pop and a can of beans."

MAJOR MOTION TAKES BOHICKET...

The 2002 Governor's Cup wrapped up its second of six tournaments, the Bohicket Invitational, May 16-18.

"Major Motion" captured the Best Billfish Boat award in the Bohicket tournament. Owner Buck Morris of Charleston and his grandson, Milo Hanckel, also of Charleston, each tagged and released a blue marlin on Friday, earning "Major Motion" 600 points for the win. A total of seven billfish were tagged and released including three blue marlin, three white marlin and one sailfish. All but four of the 34 boats that participated in the tourna-



Major Motion tags another...

ment fished two out of the three days.

Finishing in second place with 300 points for tagging and releasing a blue marlin on Friday was "Big Kahuna," owned by Rhett Spencer of Florence. The angler was Chris Duffee, also of Florence. "Legal Holiday" placed third in the tournament when owner Fred Bergen of Savannah, Ga., tagged and released a white marlin for 150 points.

A 49.7-pound wahoo caught aboard "My Time Out," owned by Frank Gibson of Beaufort, earned angler Tom Redding of Charleston the Biggest Wahoo Award. The Biggest Tuna Award went to Jack Cantey of Columbia who reeled in an 87.8-pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Mistress," owned by Scott Boyd of Columbia. Angler Mack McIntosh of Charleston captured the Biggest Dolphin Award with a 43.5-pound dolphin caught aboard "Palmetto Pride," owned by Anthony McAlister of Mt. Pleasant.

The Outstanding Female Angler Award went to Keegan Kennedy of Charleston who caught a 45-pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Sea Trace," owned by A.J. Kennedy of Hollywood. The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to Austin Wyatt of New Market, Tenn., who caught a 16.5-pound dolphin on "Marlin Luhr," owned by Gary Wyatt, also of New Market.



2002 14TH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP TOURNAMENT RECAP...page two

(articles & photos by Jennie Davis, SCDNR, Marine Resources)

OVERSPRAY TOPS AT GEORGETOWN...

This weekend, the 14th Annual South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series wrapped up its third out of six tournaments, the 35th Annual Georgetown Landing Blue Marlin Tournament.

A total of ten billfish were tagged and released including six blue marlin, three white marlin and one sailfish. All but two of the 64 boats that participated in the tournament fished two out of the three days.



"Overspray," owned by Foster McKissick of Greenville captured the Best Billfish Boat award. McKissick landed a 361.2-pound, 106-inch long blue marlin to earn his boat 361 points and first place in the tournament. Finishing in second place at Georgetown for tagging and releasing a blue marlin on Friday was "Compromise IV," owned by Robert H.



Hood of Charleston. The angler was James B. Hood also of Charleston. "Dragon Lady III," owned by Don Crocker of Mt. Pleasant came in third in the tournament when Ed Heavner of Concord, North Carolina tagged and released a blue marlin later in the day on Friday.

A 109.2-pound wahoo, the fourth largest wahoo ever reported in South Carolina, caught aboard "Rainmaker," owned by Rodney Prox of Georgetown, earned angler Chris Bech also of Georgetown the Biggest Wahoo Award.

The Biggest Tuna Award went to Dan Edens of Columbia who reeled in a 104.4 pound yellowfin tuna aboard "Grand Slam," owned by Tom Edens also of Columbia. The tuna is the largest yellowfin ever been landed in a SCGCBS event.

As for the Biggest Dolphin Award, angler Tom Goodson of Hartsville caught a 48.8-pound dolphin aboard his boat, "Good Buddy."

The Outstanding Female Angler Award went to Heather Gehlken of Charleston, who reeled in a 33.2-pound dolphin. Gehlken hooked the fish aboard "Billistic," owned by Dale Martin and William Hulseberg of Ridgeville.

The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to Bruce McNamara of Charleston who caught a 38.8-pound dolphin. McNamara hooked the fish aboard "Palmetto Pride," owned by Anthony McAlister of Mt. Pleasant.

Georgetown's Tag and Release Award went to "Mistress," owned by Scott Boyd of Columbia for tagging and releasing a blue marlin and three dolphin.

Georgetown Landing's Marina annual Wallace F. Pate Award for outstanding work in fisheries conservation was presented to captain Mike McClamrock of Georgetown, captain of "Overspray."

MINDSET WINS MARLIN QUAY...

"Mindset," owned by Robert Goff of Sumter, captured the Best Billfish Boat award at the fourth Governor's Cup event held at Marlin Quay Marina June 6-8. Angler David Croft of Sumter tagged and released a sailfish at 8:40 a.m. June 7 to earn "Mindset" 100 points.

Only half of the 16 boats that participated in the tournament fished two out of the three days, because of a small craft advisory on Saturday. A total of two billfish, both sailfish, were tagged and released during the tournament.

Finishing in second place at Marlin Quay for tagging and releasing a sailfish at 12:05 p.m. on June 7 was "Overspray," owned by Foster McKissick of Greenville. The angler was John Cleveland of Easley. There was no third place boat in the tournament.

A 42.05-pound wahoo caught aboard "Point Runner," owned by Dale Prox of Murrells Inlet, earned angler Chuck Power of Myrtle Beach the Biggest Wahoo Award. The Biggest Dolphin Award went to angler Greg Lee of Myrtle Beach, who caught a 61.4-pound dolphin aboard "Point Runner." This is the biggest dolphin caught so far in the 2002 South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series. No Biggest Tuna Award was given out as no tuna were caught.

The Outstanding Female Angler Award went to Dianne Williams of Garden City who reeled in a 32.9-pound dolphin. Williams hooked the fish aboard "Insane-O," owned by Denton Williams, also of Garden City. The Outstanding Youth Angler Award went to 14-year-old Reid McLaughlin of Knoxville, Tennessee who caught a 31.9-pound dolphin. McLaughlin hooked the fish aboard "Carolina Girl," owned by Charles Stone of Johnsonville.

- Written by Jennie R. Davis -