

A RELEASE TODAY IS A FISH TOMORROW!

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place position. For the release of their four billfish, "Major Motion" also received the Top Billfish Conservationist award.

The other top boats in the 2002 Series are as follows:

"Grand Slam," owned by Tom Edens of Columbia, with 700 points.

"Risky Business," owned by Ken Cannon of Johns Island, with 625 points.

"Overspray," owned by Foster McKissick of Greenville, with 561.2 points.

"Juncanewt," owned by John Cagle of Sullivans Island, with 550 points.

"Houdini," owned by Jim Shannon of Isle of Palms, with 550 points.

These six boats will represent South Carolina in the annual Carolinas Shootout against North Carolina's and Georgia's top Governor's Cup anglers.

A total of 87 billfish including 25 blue marlin, 12 white marlin, and 50 sailfish were tagged and released during the tournament series. Two blue marlin and two sailfish were released alive without tagging, and only one blue marlin was brought to the docks to be weighed.

The Bluewater Conservation award went to "Petrel IV," owned by Harry Johnson of Charleston for tagging and releasing 12 dolphin and one wahoo.



Outstanding Female Anglers, left to right, Kate Creech and Hope Hanckel.

Outstanding Female Angler is Hope Hanckel of Johns Island. Hanckel tagged and released a blue marlin to earn "Major Motion" 300 points. Second place for the Outstanding Female Angler went to Keegan Kennedy of Hollywood who tagged and released a blue marlin aboard "Sea Trace," owned by A.J. Kennedy, also of Hollywood. The third place Outstanding Female Angler is Kate Creech of Mt. Pleasant, who tagged and released a sailfish on "Gusto IV," owned by Dennis Lee of Mt. Pleasant.

Outstanding Youth Angler goes to 13-year-old Newt Cagle of Sullivans Island, who tagged and released a blue marlin on "Juncanewt," owned by John Cagle of Sullivans Island. The second place Outstanding Youth Angler is Brice McNamara, age 15, who caught a 38.8pound dolphin on board "Palmetto Pride," owned by Anthony McAlister of Mt. Pleasant. The third place award for the Outstanding Youth Angler goes to 10-year-old Thomas Plumb of Orangeburg, who landed a 37.6-pound dolphin on "Gamecock," owned by Fisher Walter of Edisto Beach.

The Largest Blue Marlin was reeled in by Foster McKissick of Greenville who owns "Overspray." McKissick landed a 361.2-pound, 106-inch long blue marlin to earn his boat 361.2 points and first place in the Georgetown tournament.

Zan Edens of Columbia reeled in the Largest Yellowfin Tuna, a 104.4-pound fish, on "Grand Slam," owned by Big Stick Inc. of Columbia. It was the largest yellowfin tuna that has ever been landed in a South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series tournament. The Largest Dolphin award went to Greg Lee of Myrtle Beach, who caught a 61.4-pound dolphin aboard "Point Runner," owned by Greg and Chris Lee of Murrells Inlet. A 109.2pound wahoo caught aboard "Rainmaker," owned by Rodney Propps of Myrtle Beach, earned angler Chris Bech of Georgetown the Largest Wahoo award. Bech's fish is the fourth largest wahoo ever reported in South Carolina.

Jennie R. Davis, SCDNR

## **NEWPHONE NUMBERS...**

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## BANQUET AND AWARDS CEREMONY

"What a great Series South Carolina had this year! From Edisto up to Marlin Quay and back to Charleston, with stops at Bohicket, Georgetown and the Isle of Palms, all involved did a super job and are to be commended," said Tom DuPré of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR), who coordinates the tournament series. "The conservation ethic embraced by the anglers was evident with a 99% live release rate. Competition was keen, and enthusiasm was high for the 136 boats that participated. Even the weather cooperated with only two fishing days canceled due to weather."

The Series ended with the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Awards Reception. About 146 people showed up for this grand finale! The banquet and awards reception was held on August 22 at Charles Towne Landing in Charleston.

The Hawaiian/tropical theme was apparent through the decorations and floral arrangements around the building. Nancy Hutson of Nancy's Exotic Plants took care of the decorations, including large arrangements dotted with paper fish and balloons, and potted plants and palm trees. Table centerpieces consisted of shells and plants, and were made so the guests could take them home at the end of the evening.

The reception's catering was by Mike Altine at AP Catering through the Variety Store Restaurant. Altine's menu included beef and pork tenderloin, braised scallops, crab claws, boiled shrimp, fresh salmon, artichoke dip, brie, vegetable rolls and assorted pastries.

The Governor's Cup Board specially recognized three S.C. offshore fishing pioneers, Fred Glaesner, Buck

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# 2002 SC GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES FINAL RESULTS

1100

800

700

625

550

550 525

500

500

TOP TEN BOATS
MAJOR MOTION
COMPROMISE IV
GRAND SLAM
RISKYBUSINESS
OVERSPRAY
JUNCANEWT
HOUDINI
ROOKIEIV
MISTRESS
BIG KAHUNA

## **TOP BOAT**

POINTS:	1100
BOAT:	MAJOR MOTION
OWNER:	BUCK MORRIS
CAPTAIN:	WESLEY MORRISJR

## LARGEST BILLFISH

WEIGHT:	361.2
BOAT:	OVERSPRAY
OWNER:	FOSTER MCKISSICK

### **BILLFISH CONSERVATIONIST**

POINTS: 1000 BOAT: MAJOR MOTION OWNER: BUCK MORRIS

#### **BLUEWATER CONSERVATION** POINTS: 950

BOAT: PETREL IV OWNER: HARRY JOHNSON

## LADY ANGLER

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

#### TOTAL YOUTHANGLER BLUE MARLIN T&R FISH: BOAT: JUNCANEWT ANGLER: NEWT CAGLE.13 OWNER: JOHN CAGLE 561.2 LARGEST WAHOO WEIGHT: 109.21bs

The first of the second	107.2105.
BOAT:	RAINMAKER
ANGLER:	CHRIS BECH
OWNER:	RODNEY PROPPS

## LARGEST TUNA

WEIGHT:	104.4 lbs.
BOAT:	GRAND SLAM
ANGLER:	ZAN EDENS
OWNER:	BIGSTICKINC.

## LARGEST DOLPHIN

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

## banquet continued...

Morris and Ross Swygert. The men were recognized for their many years of contributions to offshore fishing.

Glaesner, 69, served in a number of capacities with fishing events in the Charleston area and headed up billfish tournaments at Charleston Yacht Club and James Island Yacht Club. He also served as president of both organizations, as well as president of the South Carolina Saltwater Sportfishing Association (SCSSA) and the Trident Fishing Tournament.

Morris, at the age of 80, fishes off his family's 51-foot Monterey "Major Motion," the 2002 winner, captained by grandson Wesley Morris.



Left to right, Buck Morris, Fred Glaesner and Ross Swygert.

Swygert, 76, got hooked fishing for billfish in 1973, shortly after buying a 28foot Bertram for his son Arthur. Over the years, he became involved in tournaments as far north as Ocean City, Maryland, andhelped found the Atlantic Billfish Club.

Jennie R. Davis, SCDNR



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