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DNR

Volume 17, No. 1 February 2012



24th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2012 Tournament Schedule...

May 23 - 26 45th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: John Horton
P. O. Box 1704
Georgetown, SC 29442
(843) 546-1776, FAX 546-7832
gmarina@sc.rr.com

June 6 - 9 Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Bryan Richardson
1880 Andell Bluff Blvd
Johns Island, SC 29455
(843) 768-1280, FAX 768-3481
Dockmaster@Bohicket.com

June 27 - 30

Contact: Deidre Menefee
1625 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407
(843) 345-0369, FAX 888-758-3950
dm@fishcbc.com

Carolina Billfish Classic

July 11 - 14

Contact: McKenzie Hutaff
P. O. Box 759
Charleston, SC, 29402
(843) 278-4920, FAX 577-7704
mhutaff@megadock.us

MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

July 25 - 28

Contact: Becca Smith Jones
3702 Docksites Road
Edisto Beach, SC, 29438
(407) 463-2082, FAX (843) 869-3738
smithbecca@gmail.com

Edisto Marina Billfish Tournament

For more information, contact:

Amy Dukas
SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator
843-953-9365
dukesa@dnr.sc.gov <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>

Series Reflections

Planning is well underway for this summer's suite of Series events! There is still some ongoing discussion of dropping the Series Weather Rule and allowing individual tournaments to establish their own weather rules; however no resolution has been made as we go to press. In addition, the Series schedule has been tweaked a little, with the Bohicket Marina Tournament moving to an early June date. Since schools will be out for summer break, our hope is that more participants can bring their families to Bohicket, whether to fish (boosting Lady and/or Youth participation!), or to simply enjoy a long weekend while your spouse fishes! Perhaps more importantly, we have had a change of leadership in the Advisory Board of Directors. Foster McKissick stepped down after two years as Chairman, and Mr. Ed Holder of Greenville was elected Chairman at our October meeting. Foster will remain on the Board through this summer's Series and continue to provide much needed advice and support. In addition, Mr. Greg Smith of Pawley's Island was elected Vice Chairman, to replace outgoing Board member Mr. Jim Johnston. Finally, I recently received an email from Mr. Norman Pulliam, owner of the RASCAL, which included a link to a YouTube video that showcased the incredible fishing aboard Chairman Holder's boat, MISS WY IV, at last year's Georgetown Tournament. The reason I bring this up is because the crew handled the release of the three fish (1 Blue and 2 White Marlin) they caught in a professional manner that left no doubt about the catch, subsequent release and condition of each fish. The video is a virtual tutorial documenting the catch, handling, and release of billfish in a way that protects the safety of both the fish and the boat crew. Please watch this video (www.youtube.com/watch?v=diVR4As_HiM) with your boat crew to help determine the best method you can utilize for documenting and handling your billfish releases in the 2012 Series.

As we enter our 24th season, it is important that we take a moment to thank the businesses that made the 2011 season such a success. As most of you should know, the Series is a unique public/private partnership overseen by SCDNR. All expenses related to operation of the Series are covered through private donations. First

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and foremost, I want thank the businesses who stepped forward to make significant financial contributions to the Series in 2011. Atlantic Game and Tackle (Jeremy Burnham) in partnership with the Rock and Reel Fishing Team (Allen Bell), and Palmetto Ford (Graham and Manly Eubank) were our two Corporate Sponsors last year, donating \$10,000 each; The APEX Automotive Group (Greg Smith), The Charleston Angler (Caroline and Malcolm Rhodes), Haddrell's Point Tackle and Supply (Mike Able) and Southern Lumber and Millwork (The Albrecht Family) were our Benefactor Sponsors, donating \$5,000 each; while Citadel Enterprises (Pete Loy) was our Patron Sponsor donating \$2,000. In addition, the Newsletter which you are reading would not have been possible without the contributions of Blanchard Power Systems, Bergen and Bergen Law Firm, CCA South Carolina, Frank's Carwash, Palmetto Props, and Spencer Yachts each of whom donated \$1,000. Second, I would like to acknowledge not only the time and energy that each of our Advisory Board of Directors put into overseeing the program, but also their generous individual donations that were made toward operation of the Series. The five tournaments also made donations to the Wallace Pate Fund, based on the number of boat entries at their respective events. A number of other businesses also made varying donations toward the program. All of these Sponsors are listed on our web site, <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Sponsors/#sustain>. Take a look, and when you get a chance, thank each of them personally by spending your money at their place of business.

While 2011 was a great success, both from a fishing and operational standpoint, we can not rest on our laurels and must begin fundraising anew. Each level of support comes with associated perks and benefits. There are many levels at which to give; last year we had 29 donors and received contributions from \$50 to as large as \$10,000. Of course, there are varying

benefits that accrue to you or your company depending on the level at which you give. First, everyone who donates a minimum of \$100 gets an invitation to the annual Awards Reception. Those donating \$500 also get mentioned on our website and in the Awards Reception program. Those donating \$1,000 (Newsletter Sponsor) get their logo in every Newsletter, in addition to the benefits mentioned above. Those donating \$2,000 (Patron Sponsor) are also included in all Series advertising, get to use the Governor's Cup logo in their own advertising, and their company brochures are included in boat registration packets for all tournaments, plus they receive recognition of appreciation at the Awards Reception. At the \$5,000 level (Benefactor Sponsor) companies get all of the above, plus a place to put an advertisement banner at each tournament and 3 passes to all

tournament and Series events they choose to attend. Finally, at the \$10,000 level (Corporate Sponsor) your company will also be eligible for 50% discount in boat registration for all 5 Series Tournaments or 6 tickets to all Series events they choose to attend if a boat is not registered, booth space at each tournament, and will be included in individual tournament brochures and advertising as a Corporate Sponsor of the Series. How can you afford not to take advantage of this opportunity to associate your company with the heritage and prestige of the SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series? All you need to do to get started is fill out the pledge card included in this Newsletter and mail it in; it couldn't be easier (we even sprang for postage)! Thank you and we look forward to your continued support.

Wallace Jenkins

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To the right of this text you will find the logos and contact info for the various tournaments that will be part of the 2012 Series. The tournament organizers are working diligently to plan for these events, and the sooner you let them know you plan to participate the better. Every event has its own character and charm. Your summer would not be complete without experiencing the swaying piers at Georgetown, the No Wake Zone at Bohicket, the intimacy of Tolers Cove, long strolls on the MegaDock, or Mrs. Smith singing "God Bless America" at Edisto. Amy and I look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones in the docks this summer...Wally

GEORGETOWN
Blue Marlin Tournament
GEORGETOWN, S.C.
May 23- May 26 2012
(843) 546-1776
glmarina@sc.rr.com

BOHICKET
MARINA & MARKET
June 6 - 9, 2012
843-768-1280
Marina@bohicket.com

CAROLINA BILLFISH CLASSIC
Tolers Cove Marina
June 27th - 30th, 2012
(843) 345-0369
dm@fishcbc.com

The **MEGADOCK**
BILLFISHING TOURNAMENT
THE CITY MARINA
CHARLESTON, SC
July 11 - 14, 2012
(843) 278-4920
mhutaff@megadock.us

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The Coast Watch hotline number (1-800-922-5431) is toll-free and available 24 hours a day.



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