



TAG & RELEASE

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DNR

Volume 21, No. 1 March 2016



Series Reflections

As we enter our 28th year, it is important to thank the businesses that made the 2015 season such a success! As most of you know, the Series is a unique public/private partnership overseen by SCDNR. All expenses related to the operation of the Series are funded through private donations. First and foremost, I want thank the businesses who stepped forward to make significant financial contributions to the Series in 2015.

Superior Diesel/VolvoPenta (Jim Reed, Marcia Kull and John Garvey) and Wells Fargo (Bill Ingram) were our Corporate Sponsors last year, donating \$10,000 each. The APEX Automotive Group (Greg Smith), HMY Yachts (Steve Moynihan and Tim Gredick), Martech Research/Marine Products (Benny and Amie Maresca), The Island House/Ross Marine (Swygert and Speights Families), ProSpec Electronics/Harman (David Sykes), Sea Hunt Boats (Bubba Roof) and Southern Lumber and Millwork (The Albrecht and Shuler Families) were our Benefactor Sponsors, donating \$5,000 each, while Frank's Carwash (Mike Hutchins), Johnson and Johnson (Harry and Fran Johnson), The Pate Foundation (Wallace Pate) and Sportsman Boats (Tommy Hancock) were our Patron Sponsors, donating \$2,000 or more. In addition, the newsletter which you are reading now would not have been possible without the contributions from Atlantic Game and Tackle (Jeremy Burnham), Bergen and Bergen Law Firm (Fred Bergen), Blanchard Power Systems (Joey Coble), Carpet Baggers (Stevie Leasure), Citadel Enterprises (Pete Loy), Fairway Ford (Foster McKissick), On the Fly Fishing Consignments (Kirk Leaphart), Pearce Law Firm (Dixon Pearce), Rascal Fishing Team (Norman Pulliam, Foster McKissick and Mark Rogers), Spencer Yachts (Paul, Daniel and Stacey Spencer), and Dr. T. Rhett Spenser, each of whom donated at least \$1,000. Second, I would like to acknowledge not only the time and

28th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2016 Tournament Schedule

May 11 - 14

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

Carolina Billfish Classic

May 25 - 28 49th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

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

June 1 - 4 Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

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

June 29 - July 2 MEGADOCK Billfishing Tournament

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

July 20 - July 23 Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Brian Bell
3702 Docksite Road
Edisto Beach, SC, 29438
(843) 631-5055, FAX (843) 631-5065
Bkbell1@bellsouth.net

For more information, contact:

Amy Dukes • SC Governor's Cup Tournament Coordinator
843-953-9365 • dukesa@dnr.sc.gov • <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/>
PO Box 12559 • Charleston, SC 29422

energy that each of our Advisory Board of Directors (some of whom are listed above) put into overseeing the program, but also their generous individual donations that were made toward the operation of the Series. Advisory Board members not listed above that we would like to also extend our appreciation to include: Mark Daniels, Stokely Holder, Chris Jennings and Bucky Morris. The four participating 2015 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 website at <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Sponsors/#sustain>. Take a look, and when you get a chance, thank each of them personally by giving your patronage at their place of business.

While the 2015 season was a great success, both from a fishing and operational standpoint, we cannot rest on our laurels and must once again begin fundraising. Each level of support comes with associated benefits. There are many levels at which to give; last year we had 36 donors and received contributions from \$100 to as large as \$10,000. Of course, there are varying benefits that you or your company accrue depending on the level at which you donate. 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, are allowed the use of the Governor's Cup logo in their own advertising, are given the opportunity to include their company brochures in boat registration packets for all tournaments, and 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 2 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 a 50% discount on a single boat registration for all 5 Series Tournaments, or 6 tickets to all Series events they choose to attend but do not wish to register a boat, 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 on

page 5 of this Newsletter and mail it in; it couldn't be easier!

The 2015 fishing season also saw the inclusion by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council of the Memorial Reef Barges' final resting places, within the boundary of the Charleston Deep Reef Marine Protected Area. Now, the reefs created by this project can serve the purpose for which they were originally intended.

Finally, during the last several months, we lost several individuals who have been longtime supporters



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of and participants in the Series. In early December, former Governor's Cup Advisory Board member Mr. Edgar A. Buck (*Rookie IV*) passed away, and later that month another former Advisory Board member, Mr. Sumner Pingree, also passed away. In early March, a longtime Edisto Marina captain who fished the Series annually, Jim Bost, also lost his life. I never had the opportunity to meet Mr. Pingree, but I have many fond memories of both Mr. Buck and Captain Bost; they will be sorely missed this summer and in the future. Please keep each of these gentlemen's families in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this difficult time in their lives.

One final note, the Advisory Board of Directors has recommended that we go to a completely online format for this newsletter going forward. Please take the time to like our Facebook page, or if you are not on Facebook, send us your email address to GovCup@dnr.sc.gov so that you can be sent the link or a PDF of the newsletter electronically. We will likely publish one more newsletter after this one that will be mailed out and available in print. However, after that we will need your email address to make sure we can keep you up to date on all the exciting things going on with the Series, including nearly real time catch and release updates during each tournament and a Series Leader board throughout the summer.

Amy, Kayla and I are excited for another fishing season and look forward to seeing each of you on the docks!

Wallace Jenkins

Getting prepared for your 2016 Fishing Season:

It's that time again, and we thought we would provide everyone with a brief list of some of the permits, licenses and documentation that you will/may need to have in your possession so that the boat owners, captains and crew are ready for a successful fishing season. Please Double Check Your Expiration Dates!!!



fishing trip is documented in accordance to SC law under the vessels Charter License. The vessel can only have six anglers, captain and crew on board. In addition, the owners/operators of these vessels must also possess the following two permits/licenses: **

1) Purchase your Atlantic HMS Angling Permit (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 (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 (HMS) permit. 2016 Atlantic HMS permits cost \$20.00, and will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2016. Visit the NMFS website at <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/> to apply for your permit.

2) Purchase your SC Saltwater Fishing License - All anglers (over age 16) must obtain a SCDNR Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License. SC Saltwater Recreational Fisheries License can be purchased at <https://dnrlicensing.sc.gov/DNRLicensingSales/SalesCategories.aspx> or call 1-866-714-3611. Be reminded that now, SC Saltwater Recreational Fishing Licenses are issued on a 365 day basis, and will expire one year from the issue date.

** All Series participating vessels and recreational fishermen will at minimum need the two above mentioned permits/licenses. If you are operating a Charter/Headboat vessel, then the vessel must possess a current SCDNR Charter/Headboat license. These vessels are exempt from having anglers purchase individual saltwater fishing licenses, as long as the

3) Purchase your Dolphin Wahoo Permit - All owners/operators of Charter/Headboat vessels, are required to obtain an Atlantic Charter/Headboat Permit for Dolphin/Wahoo. The permit is \$25.00, and will be valid for one calendar year. Visit the NOAA Southeast Region website (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/permit_apps/index.html). Application #1 to apply for your permit.

4) Purchase your Operator Card- All owners/operators of Charter/Headboat vessels are required to obtain an operator card when fishing for Dolphin and/or Wahoo. The Operator Card fee is \$50.00, and is valid for three years. Visit the NOAA Southeast Region website (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/permit_apps/index.html). Application #2 to apply for your operator card.

2015 Memories!

SC Governor's Cup is going digital in 2017!

We're saving trees and will only be sending Tag and Release electronically in 2017! If you would like to receive an electronic version of our Newsletter, please send us your email address to GovCup@dnr.sc.gov or subscribe on our webpage <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/Newsletter/Subscribe.php>!



Send this form to: SC Governors Cup Billfishing Series, SCDNR, P. O. Box 12559,
Charleston SC 29422-9909 if you want to become a sponsor or donor

**SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S CUP BILLFISHING SERIES
SPONSOR DONOR FORM**

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Street Address/P.O. Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 (Newsletter Sponsor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 (Patron Sponsor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 (Contributor) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 (Benefactor Sponsor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 (Donor) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 (Corporate Sponsor) |

Please visit <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov> for more information on the benefits associated with each donor level. 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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LOWCOUNTRY OUTDOORS
with Jeff Dennis



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. Total cost - \$550.00 • Total copies - 1,600 • Total cost per copy - \$0.34 Printed on recycled paper. 16-10909