



TAG & RELEASE

Volume 22, No. 4



September 2017

<http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov>



29th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2017 Tournament Schedule

May 10-13 Bohicket Marina Invitational Billfish Tournament

Contact: Bryan Richardson
1880 Andell Bluff Boulevard
Johns Island, SC 29455
(843) 786-1280, Fax (843) 768-3481
Dockmaster@Bohicket.com

May 24-27 50th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Contact: Ed Keelin
P.O. Box 1704
Georgetown, SC 29442
(843) 546-1776, Fax (843) 546-7832
ed@georgetownlandingmarina.com

June 21-24 Carolina Billfish Classic

Contact: Deidre Menefee
20 Patriots Point Road
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 345-0369
dm@fishcbc.com

July 5-8 Megadock Billfishing Tournament

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

July 19-22 Edisto Invitational Billfishing 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
DukesA@dnr.sc.gov • <http://govcup.dnr.sc.gov/> • (843) 953-9365
PO Box 12559 • Charleston, SC 29422

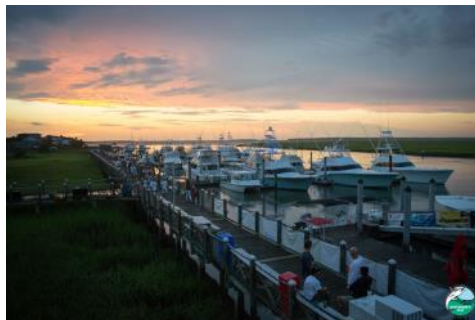
Series Reflections

After a blistering start to the fishing season with 142 billfish being landed or released in the first three tournaments, we rolled into Megadock with high expectations for the strong fishing to continue. While the number of entrants in the tournament (19) was fewer than we would have hoped, the bite was definitely on, and in two days of fishing these vessels managed to release 12 blue marlin and 71 sailfish! This resulted in a record-breaking catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of 4.37 billfish released per boat during the event, blowing the previous record of 2.78 billfish per boat out of the water which was set last year at Megadock. The tournament was won by *Blue Sky*, who released 1 blue marlin and 10 sailfish for 2,600 points. Series leader, *Gryphon*, also had a respectable showing, accumulating 2,200 points after releasing two blue marlin and five sailfish. The event was marred by the loss of the *Sportsmann*, a 56 ft. Paul Mann owned by Gary Wyatt. One positive take away from that afternoon was that the crew were able to grab a big wahoo they had caught that day to win the wahoo category for the tournament. Special thanks are due to all the boats who came to *Sportsmann's* aid, particularly Voodoo Child, who took the ten member crew on board for the ride home. We were again reminded this summer of the true meaning of sportsmanship and that we are all one fleet and one family. During the awards ceremony, Robbie Freeman made a challenge to match up to \$10,000 for the Hwy 41 Bridge/Memorial Reef Project, which when combined with the Johnson family challenge made at the CBC to match up to \$20,000, puts us within striking distance of our fundraising goal! Please see page 7 for more information on how you can donate if you are interested in helping to complete our fundraising efforts. It was then on to Edisto, which again witnessed tremendous community support in every area, from finding extra docking space to handle the overflow of boats, to the big turnouts for the nightly events at the park. The town had also done a marvelous

job managing and completing recovery efforts from Hurricane Mathew last October. Edisto ended up having 38 boats enter, which is the highest participation for this event since 2003. Just as experienced two weeks prior at Megadock, fishing was on the hook with 116 billfish being released, including 99 sailfish, 16 blue marlin and one spearfish, caught by *Bad Becky* on their new vessel acquired from Puerto Rico just days before the event. These release numbers rank the 2017 Edisto Invitational as the second most productive fishing tournament in Series history. Having these two record-breaking events back-to-back could be a simple coincidence of the fish presence in large numbers at this time, or perhaps, as we have witnessed throughout the summer, the Memorial Reef should get some of the credit for the exceptional fishing. The tournament was won by *Wildlife* accumulating 2,200 points for releasing 1 blue marlin and 8 sailfish. At the end of the day, while *Gryphon* did not place in this final tournament, outstanding fishing by the father and son team of Colby and Chandler Griffin yielded 1,600 points, which was more than enough to maintain their overall lead in the Series.

In summary, it was an exciting summer of fishing and participation, and was by far, the highest that we have had in seven years. We look forward to seeing everybody for the end of the season Awards Reception soon! By invitation, all vessels that participated in at least two events, plus all category winners will enjoy food and dancing while celebrating another memorable season. The three top performing boats will even have their own reserved tables and special commemorative gifts. Pray for good weather, remember to RSVP, and we hope to see you there!

Wallace Jenkins





sdi
SUPERIOR DIESEL, INC.

VOLVO
PENTA

SALES - PARTS - SERVICE

843-553-8331

superiordieselmotors.com
superiordiesel.net

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the docks for the 2017 Governor's Cup Series





COASTAL
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION

SOUTH CAROLINA



AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Billfish Boat 1st Place	Boat: <i>Blue Sky</i> Owner: Greg Smith Captain: Jay Weaver Catch: 1 blue marlin and 10 sailfish released 2,600 points	Boat: <i>Wildlife</i> Owner: Ken Strickland Captain: Jamie Brown Catch: 1 blue marlin and 8 sailfish 2,200 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Gryphon</i> Owner: Colby Griffin Captain: Chucky Moore Catch: 2 blue marlin and 5 sailfish released 2,200 points	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Catch: 1 blue marlin and 6 sailfish released 1,800 points
Outstanding Billfish Boat 3rd Place	Boat: <i>Hammer Time</i> Owner: Steve Mozeley Captain: Austin Eubank Catch: 2 blue marlin and 3 sailfish released 1,800 points	Boat: <i>Mister Pete</i> Owner: Bob & Rusty McClam Captain: Alan Neiford Catch: 1 blue marlin and 6 sailfish released 1,800 points
Outstanding Billfish Conservationist	Boat: <i>Blue Sky</i> Owner: Greg Smith Captain: Jay Weaver Catch: 1 blue marlin and 10 sailfish released 2,600 points	Boat: <i>Wildlife</i> Owner: Ken Strickland Captain: Jamie Brown Catch: 1 blue marlin and 8 sailfish released 2,200 points
Outstanding Billfish (landed)	N/A	N/A


AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Dolphin	Boat: <i>Artemis</i> Owner: John Darby Captain: Legare Smith Angler: John Darby 53.8 pounds	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Angler: Whitney Arnold 45.3 pounds
Outstanding Tuna	Boat: <i>Rascal</i> Owner: Norman Pulliam & Foster McKissick Captain: Mark Rogers Angler: Kenny Wise 21.1 pound blackfin	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Angler: Bubba Simmons 12.0 pound blackfin
Outstanding Wahoo	Boat: <i>Sportsmann</i> Owner: Gary Wyatt Captain: Will Frederick Angler: Gary Wyatt 44.2 pounds	Boat: <i>Dealer's Choice</i> Owner: James R. Warner Captain: Jimbo Warner Angler: Richard Warner 73.2 pounds



Top Series Boats/Point Standings

Gryphon	7,475	Blue Sky	4,675
Mister Pete	5,675	Rascal	3,475
Toast	5,475	Home Run	3,314
Anticipation	5,275	Jack Pot	3,075
Artemis	4,875	Electric Bill	2,475






by HARMAN

Your Source for
Legendary
Marine Audio



PROSPEC
ELECTRONICS

Corporate Headquarters-Mount Pleasant, S.C.



Billfish Per Boat	
Bohicket	1.0
Georgetown	0.59
CBC	2.32
Megadock	4.37
Edisto	3.05



Billfish Numbers							
Tournament	# Boats	Blue Marlin Released	Blue Marlin Landed	White Marlin	Spearfish	Sailfish	Totals
Bohicket	28	23	3	1	0	1	28
Georgetown	44	16	1	4	0	5	26
CBC	38	9	0	0	1	78	88
Megadock	19	12	0	0	0	71	83
Edisto	38	16	0	0	1	99	116
Totals	82	76	4	5	2	254	341

AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Youth Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Gryphon</i> Owner: Colby Griffin Captain: Chucky Moore Angler: Chandler Griffin, age 15 Catch: 2 blue marlin and 5 sailfish released 2,200 points	Boat: <i>Tighten Up</i> Owner: B&O Boat, LLC Captain: Kevin Overstreet Angler: E.J. Nettles, age 15 Catch: 6 sailfish released 1,200 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Micabe</i> Owner: Mike Larrow Captain: Chris Jennings Angler: Rance Jennings, age 13 Catch: 2 sailfish released 400 points	Boat: <i>Gryphon</i> Owner: Colby Griffin Captain: Chucky Moore Angler: Chandler Griffin, age 15 Catch: 1 blue marlin and 2 sailfish released 1,000 points
Outstanding Youth Angler 3rd Place	N/A	Boat: <i>Salty Maintenance</i> Owner: Brad Truluck Captain: Brad Truluck Angler: Mackenzie Truluck, age 15 Catch: 5 sailfish released 1,000 points



AWARD	MEGADOCK	EDISTO
Outstanding Female Angler 1st Place	Boat: <i>Home Run</i> Owner: Steve Mungo Captain: Grant Bentley Angler: Hope Bentley Catch: 2 blue marlin and 2 sailfish released 1,600 points	Boat: <i>Legal Holiday</i> Owner: Fred Bergen Captain: Lawrence Bradham Angler: Eugenie Barrow Catch: 2 sailfish released 400 points
Outstanding Female Angler 2nd Place	Boat: <i>Hammer Time</i> Owner: Steve Mozeley Captain: Austin Eubank Angler: Amanda Cofer Catch: 1 blue marlin and 2 sailfish released 1,000 points	Boat: <i>Anticipation</i> Owner: Paul Coury Captain: Harvey Shiflet Angler: Whitney Arnold Catch: 2 sailfish released 400 points
Outstanding Female Angler 3rd Place	Boat: <i>El Tejano</i> Owner: John Hill Captain: David Redd Angler: Kathy Baxley Catch: 2 sailfish released 200 points	Boat: <i>Dealer's Choice</i> Owner: James R. Warner Captain: Jimbo Warner Angler: Katie Smith Catch: 1 sailfish released 200 points

Supporting
**Governor's Cup
Participants**
Since day one



843.559.0379
rossmarine.com



**ROSS
MARINE**



SAVE THE DATE!

**THE ANNUAL AWARDS
RECEPTION WILL BE
HELD ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29TH!**

NEW

SIMRAD
Go With Confidence

**SIMPLICITY.
CLARITY. CONTROL.**

INTRODUCING NSS EVO3 FEATURING 5" LARMAX HD DISPLAYS



NSS EVO3

Precise, reliable control
with greater visibility.

Discover exceptional clarity, wide viewing angles, and enhanced controls for easier display operation in all conditions. Cruise, fish, and experience an unprecedented level of built-in functionality on the all-new NSS evo3.

- All-weather touchscreen
- SolarMax HD™ Display
- Integrated echosounder
- True dual-channel CHIRP
- Highly expandable system
- Built-in GoFree™ Wi-Fi

SELECT FROM 7", 9", 12" AND 14-INCH MODELS.

GOFREE Download and upload maps, software, and apps direct to your fishfinder / chartplotter.

SIMRAD-YACHTING.COM



Welcome to Maximum Uptime

Your solution for engine
maintenance, repairs, overhauls
and all replacement part needs.



W.W. Williams
CONSIDER IT DONE.



843.225.7121

WWW.WWWILLIAMS.COM

The South Carolina Memorial Reef

We are very close to our fundraising goal of \$180,000 for the sinking of the Highway 41 swing bridge! Thank you to all who have donated! We're excited to tell you that the Highway 41 swing bridge has been lifted and placed on the sinking barge, and measures have been taken to prepare the structure for deployment in early October! A very heartfelt thank you goes out to Freeland Construction (Kenneth Canty pictured above), Stevens Towing Co. and all who made this vision a reality! Help us in the final stretch to add invaluable habitat for our imperiled offshore species!

Make checks payable to:

Harry Hampton Fund - The SC Memorial Reef, C/O
Amy Dukes, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422

Or:

Donate online:

- <https://scmemorialreef.com/> - Blue Donate button on top right and fill out the form.
- <http://www.hamptonwildlifefund.org/> and click the "DONATE NOW" button (via PayPal) on the left side of the page. After specifying donation amount, please write "SC Memorial Reef" in the instructions box to make sure it is accredited to the appropriate project. A tax-deductible receipt will be provided for your records for both online sources.



seahuntboats.com
803-755-6539



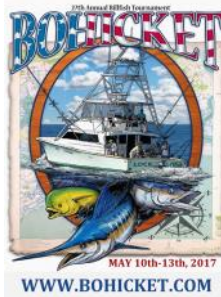
Major Sponsors



Corporate Sponsors



2017 TOURNAMENTS



MAY 10-13



MAY 24-27



JUNE 21-24



JULY 5-8



JULY 19-22

This newsletter is brought to you by:



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.