



Tag & Release

A newsletter following the South Carolina Governor's Cup Billfishing Series



36th Annual SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series 2024 Tournament Statistics

August 2024
Vol. 29 No. 3

May 8 - 11

Charleston Billfish Invitational



36 Billfish Released

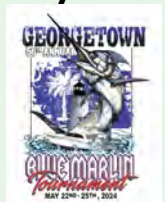
12 Blue Marlin

24 Sailfish



May 22 - 25

56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament



85 Billfish Released

37 Blue Marlin

42 Sailfish

5 White Marlin

1 Spearfish



June 19 - 22

Carolina Billfish Classic



42 Billfish Released

12 Blue Marlin

30 Sailfish



July 3 - 6

HMY Lowcountry Cup



117 Billfish Released

25 Blue Marlin

90 Sailfish

1 White Marlin



July 17 - 20

Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament



144 Billfish Released

30 Blue Marlin

114 Sailfish



For more information, please visit:

Govcup.dnr.sc.gov

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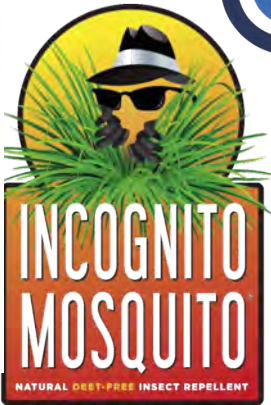
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Series Reflections

This 2024 season, we had amazing fishing! The bite was incredible at each of the five tournaments in the Series. A total of 106 boats fished the 2024 Series, releasing a total of 423 billfish – 116 blue marlin, six white marlin, one spearfish, and 300 sailfish.

During the Charleston Billfish Invitational (CBI), *Mama C* took home the first place award for Outstanding Billfish Boat after releasing one blue marlin and six sailfish. At the 56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament (GBMT), *Genuine Risk* took the win, releasing three blue marlin and four sailfish. Extraordinarily, the last three tournaments within the Series were dominated and won by one top boat: *Buddy Rowe*. Throughout the course of the Carolina Billfish Classic (CBC), HMY Lowcountry Cup (LCC), and Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament (EIBT), *Buddy Rowe* released nine blue marlin and 33 sailfish.

Two lady anglers stood out throughout this year's Series. *Lady-S's* Carson Smith won first place lady angler at the CBC and LCC after releasing a blue marlin during each event. Meanwhile, Holly McAlhany took home the top lady angler honors at the CBI, GBMT, and EIBT while fishing aboard *Sweet Spot*. She released four blue marlin and two sailfish during those three tournaments.

Miles Bentley won first place youth angler during the CBI with a 16.7-pound dolphin on *Home Run*. During the GBMT, Woods Herring, on *Glazed*, won first place with three sailfish releases. Sidney Thomas released one blue marlin and one sailfish which led her to victory at CBC. LCC youth first place was awarded to Hunter Alex on *Can Do* for releasing one blue marlin and two sailfish. Lastly, Leila Gressette landed first place at the EIBT after releasing one blue marlin and

one sailfish.

Billfish weren't the only thing biting throughout the tournaments. Tuna, dolphin, and wahoo were brought in to be weighed for tournament awards as well! During the CBI, Chris Ostrander on *Man Cave* weighed a 27.2-lb dolphin, Brian DeMille on *Trash Man* brought in a 13.9-lb blackfin tuna, and David Scott on *Got Game* weighed a 36.1-lb wahoo. While at the GBMT, Wilson Springs on *Glazed* weighed a near-record 70.0-lb dolphin, Joel Tamsberg on *Mingo* weighed a 31.6-lb blackfin tuna, and Lance Proth on *Reel Therapy* weighed a 29.0-lb wahoo. At CBC Rusty and Bob McClam on *Mister Pete* brought home two top meatfish awards for a 17.0-lb blackfin tuna and a 60.6-lb dolphin. Reid Davis on *Adamada* took home the remaining meatfish award for his 51.1-lb wahoo. During the LCC, Graham Eubank on *Sportin' Life* won heaviest dolphin with a 28.1-lb fish, while Adam Parrish on *At Last* won for heaviest tuna, a 17.9-lb blackfin, and wahoo, 21.7 lb. Ending with the EIBT, Tom Blanchard on *Holy Mackerel* weighed a 20.7-lb dolphin, Mickey Furr on *Old No. 47* weighed a 21.9-lb blackfin, and Larry Mullis on *Kalli Cat* weighed a 49.5-lb wahoo.

This season proved to be a fantastic year with an impressive bite! We want to extend a sincere congratulations to all our tournament and Series winners! Stay tuned for the November newsletter where we will highlight our official Series winners! We are looking forward to celebrating at the Awards Reception on September 27.



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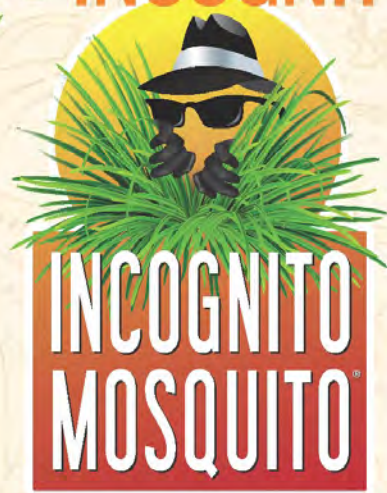


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Charleston Billfish Invitational



Charleston Billfish Invitational

Outstanding Billfish Boat, 1st Place:

Mama C

Owner: Mama C LLC

Captain: Rob Mahoney

1 Blue Marlin, 6 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 2nd Place:

Mister Pete

Owner: Bob and Rusty McClam

Captain: Alan Neiford

1 Blue Marlin, 5 Sailfish



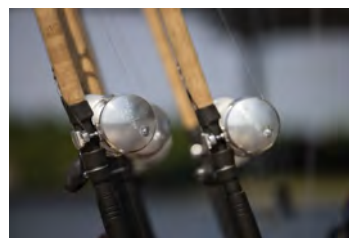
Outstanding Billfish Boat, 3rd Place:

Outlier

Owner: Anomaly Sportfishing LLC

Captain: Ryan Riggs

1 Blue Marlin, 4 Sailfish



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**Charleston Billfish
Invitational**

**Outstanding Female Angler,
1st Place:**

Holly McAlhany

**Boat: Sweet Spot
Owner: Sweet Spot Marine
Captain: Chris Kubik
1 Blue Marlin, 1 Sailfish**



**Outstanding Youth Angler,
1st Place:**

Miles Bentley

**Boat: Home Run
Owner: Steve Mungo
Captain: Grant Bentley
16.7-pound Dolphin**





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**Outstanding Dolphin:
Man Cave**

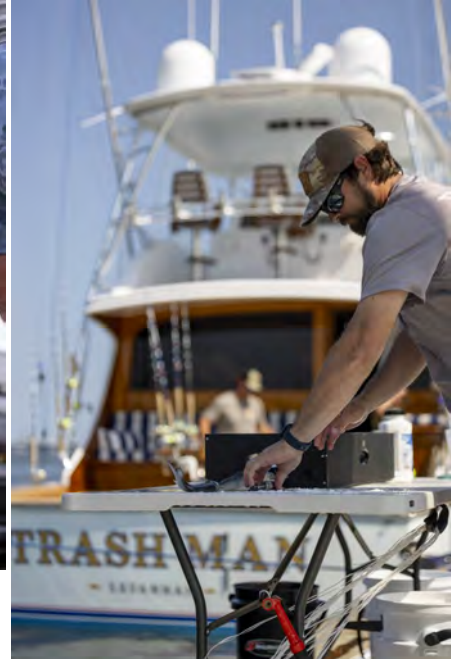
**Owner: Billy Gressette
Captain: Chase Merriman
Angler: Chris Ostrander
27.2 pounds**



**Charleston Billfish
Invitational**

**Outstanding Tuna:
Trash Man**

**Owner: Ben Wall
Captain: Geno Sauers
Angler: Brian DeMille
13.9-pound blackfin**



**Outstanding Wahoo:
Got Game**

**Owner: Sean O'Donnell
Captain: Doug Ortlip
Angler: David Scott
36.1 pounds**




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56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 1st Place:

Genuine Risk

Owner: Derek and Stephanie Nobles

Captain: Glenn Wilson

3 Blue Marlin, 4 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 2nd Place:

Dugga Boy

Owner: Andrew Dupps

Captain: Bobby Garmany

3 Blue Marlin, 3 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 3rd Place:

Outlier

Owner: Anomaly Sportfishing LLC

Captain: Ryan Riggs

2 Blue Marlin, 4 Sailfish



56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Outstanding Lady Angler, 2nd Place:

Skyler Muldrow

Boat: Touchy Subject

Owner & Captain:
Steven Muldrow

1 Spearfish

Outstanding Lady Angler, 1st Place:

Holly McAlhany

Boat: Sweet Spot

Owner: Sweet Spot Marine

Captain: Chris Kubik

1 Blue Marlin



Outstanding Lady Angler, 3rd Place:

Jesse Knowlton

Boat: Sandman

Owner: Richard Knowlton

Captain: Ashton Knowlton

19.5-pound Dolphin




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56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Outstanding Youth Angler, 1st Place:

Woods Herring

Boat: Glazed

Owner & Captain: Miles Herring

3 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 2nd Place:

Miles Bentley

Boat: Home Run

Owner: Steve Mungo

Captain: Grant Bentley

1 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 3rd Place:

Anderson Adams

Boat: Redemption

Owner: Wes McAfee & Lee Ravenel

Captain: Wes McAfee

23.4-pound Dolphin



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56th Annual Georgetown Blue Marlin Tournament

Outstanding Tuna:

Mingo

Owner & Captain: Jody Tamsberg

Angler: Joel Tamsberg

31.6-pound blackfin



Outstanding Dolphin:

Glazed

Owner & Captain: Miles Herring

Angler: Wilson Springs

70.0 pounds



Outstanding Wahoo:

Reel Therapy

Owner: Frank Hill

Captain: Scott Cook

Angler: Lance Proth

29.0 pounds



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Carolina Billfish Classic

Outstanding Billfish Boat, 1st Place:

Buddy Rowe

Owner: Todd Wigfield & Matt Byrd

Captain: Cordes Lucas

1 Blue Marlin, 7 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 2nd Place:

Sportin' Life

Owner: Graham Eubank

Captain: Mike Glaesner

1 Blue Marlin, 2 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 3rd Place:

Outlier

Owner: Anomaly Sportfishing LLC

Captain: Ryan Riggs

1 Blue Marlin, 2 Sailfish



Carolina Billfish Classic

Outstanding Lady Angler, 1st Place:

Carson Smith

Boat: Lady-S

Owner & Captain: Mark Smith

1 Blue Marlin




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Outstanding Lady Angler, 2nd Place:


Holly McAlhany

Boat: Sweet Spot


Owner: Sweet Spot Marine

Captain: Chris Kubik


1 Blue Marlin

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Carolina Billfish Classic

Outstanding Youth Angler, 1st Place:

Sidney Thomas

Boat: Sea Fix

Owner: Harry & Fran Johnson

Captain: John Thomas

1 Blue Marlin, 1 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 2nd Place:

Leila Gressette

Boat: Man Cave

Owner: Billy Gressette

Captain: Chase Merriman

2 Sailfish

Outstanding Youth Angler, 3rd Place:

Reid Davis, Jr.

Boat: Adamada

Owner: Reid Davis

Captain: Grady Chandler

4.5-pound Dolphin



**Outstanding Dolphin:
Mister Pete**

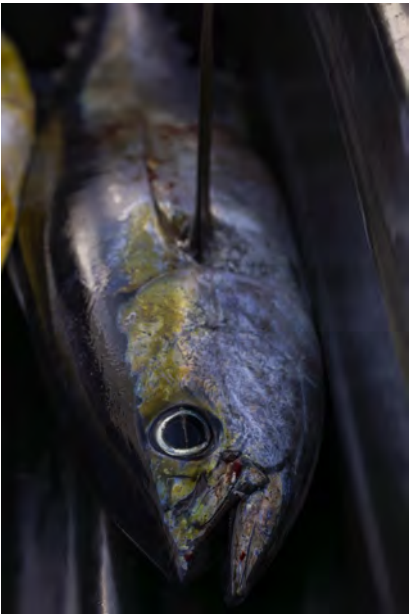
Owner: Bob & Rusty McClam

Captain: Alan Neiford

Angler: Bob McClam

60.6 pounds

**Carolina Billfish
Classic**



**Outstanding Tuna:
Mister Pete**

Owner: Bob & Rusty McClam

Captain: Alan Neiford

Angler: Rusty McClam

17.0-pound blackfin

**Outstanding Wahoo:
Adamada**

Owner: Reid Davis

Captain: Grady Chandler

Angler: Reid Davis

51.1 pounds



HMY Lowcountry Cup



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 1st Place:

Buddy Rowe

Owner: Todd Wigfield & Matt Byrd

Captain: Cordes Lucas

4 Blue Marlin, 12 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 2nd Place:

Outlier

Owner: Anomaly Sportfishing LLC

Captain: Ryan Riggs

2 Blue Marlin, 15 Sailfish



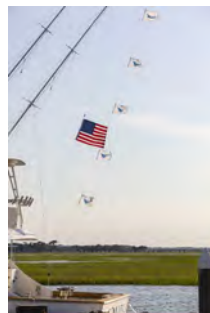
Outstanding Billfish Boat, 3rd Place:

Sportin' Life

Owner: Graham Eubank

Captain: Mike Glaesner

3 Blue Marlin, 9 Sailfish



Outstanding Lady Angler, 1st Place:

Carson Smith

Boat: Lady-S

Owner & Captain: Mark Smith

1 Blue Marlin



HMY Lowcountry Cup

Outstanding Lady Angler, 2nd Place:

Holly McAlhany

Boat: Sweet Spot

Owner: Sweet Spot Marine

Captain: Chris Kubik

3 Sailfish



Outstanding Lady Angler, 3rd Place:

Lauren Edwards

Boat: Dugga Boy

Owner: Andrew Dupps

Captain: Bobby Garmany

1 Sailfish



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Outstanding Youth Angler, 1st Place:

Hunter Alex

Boat: Can Do

Owner: Christopher Alex

Captain: Alex Pennekamp

1 Blue Marlin, 2 Sailfish

HMY Lowcountry Cup



Outstanding Youth Angler, 2nd Place:

Leila Gressette

Boat: Man Cave

Owner: Billy Gressette

Captain: Chase Merriman

2 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 3rd Place:

Julia Gressette

Boat: Man Cave

Owner: Billy Gressette

Captain: Chase Merriman

1 Sailfish



Outstanding Dolphin:
Sportin' Life

Owner: Graham Eubank
 Captain: Mike Glaesner
 Angler: Graham Eubank
 28.1 pounds

HMY Lowcountry Cup

Outstanding Tuna:
At Last

Owner: Ed Parrish
 Captain: Tyler Neal
 Angler: Adam Parrish
 17.9-pound blackfin

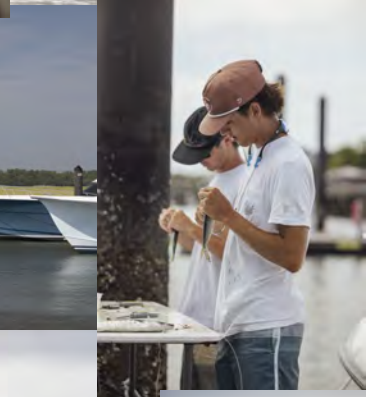


Outstanding Wahoo:
At Last

Owner: Ed Parrish
 Captain: Tyler Neal
 Angler: Adam Parrish
 21.7 pounds



Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 1st Place:

Buddy Rowe

Owner: Todd Wigfield & Matt Byrd

Captain: Cordes Lucas



Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament

Outstanding Billfish Boat, 2nd Place:

Sea Fix

Owner: Harry & Fran Johnson

Captain: John Thomas

3 Blue Marlin, 8 Sailfish



Outstanding Billfish Boat, 3rd Place:

Bench Mark

Owner: Stephen Davis

Captain: Jordan Parker

2 Blue Marlin, 10 Sailfish



Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament



Outstanding Lady Angler, 2nd Place:

Makyla Wyatt

Boat: Reloaded

Owner: Will Sprang

Captain: Wren Fogle

1 Blue Marlin



Outstanding Lady Angler, 3rd Place:

Ashley Sims

Boat: Cha Cha

Owner: VOR Sportfishing LLC

Captain: Bennett Griffin

3 Sailfish



Outstanding Lady Angler, 1st Place:

Holly McAlhany

Boat: Sweet Spot

Owner: Sweet Spot Marine

Captain: Chris Kubik

2 Blue Marlin, 1 Sailfish



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Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament

Outstanding Youth Angler, 1st Place:

Leila Gressette

Boat: Man Cave

Owner: Billy Gressette

Captain: Chase Merriman

1 Blue Marlin, 1 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 2nd Place:

Charlie Walker

Boat: Summer Girl

Owner: Mike Jackson

Captain: Stevie Leasure

3 Sailfish



Outstanding Youth Angler, 3rd Place:

Harper Burke

Boat: Tighten Up

Owner: Kevin & Joanne Overstreet

Captain: Kevin Overstreet

2 Sailfish



Edisto Invitational Billfish Tournament



Outstanding Dolphin:
Holy Mackerel
 Owner & Captain: Tom Blanchard
 Angler: DeVane Batchelor
 Weight: 20.7 pounds



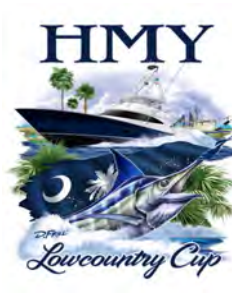
Outstanding Tuna:
Old No. 47
 Owner & Captain: Roy Mcswain
 Angler: Mickey Furr
 Weight: 21.9-pound blackfin



Outstanding Wahoo:
Kalli Cat
 Owner & Captain: Larry Mullis
 Angler: Stephen Westbury
 Weight: 49.5 pounds



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