

Northern Neck Anglers Club

June 2017 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

Summer is an ideal time for family members and friends to enjoy boating and fishing as a temporary break from the stresses of everyday life. Remember to be safe on the water at all times.

The big Rockfish have come and gone (mostly gone early) this year. Cobia are arriving and the Spanish Mackerel are on the way up the Bay. We all have our fingers crossed that good fishing lies ahead the rest of the year.

The Trophy Rockfish Tournament, originally scheduled for the weekend of May 6-7, was re-scheduled for the weekend of May 20-21. The weather and winds resulted in a Small Craft Advisory (SCA) in each of the four tournament fishing zones on Saturday May 20, resulting in cancellation of Saturday as a tournament fishing day. Winds and 2 foot seas continued into Sunday May 21, however no SCAs were posted for Sunday and the tournament was held on Sunday (one day tournament). Below are the final results with four fish weighed in. Congratulations to Tom Smith for his first place finish.

First place - Tom Smith 6 lbs. 7 oz.

Second place - Art Nickerson 6 lbs. 2 oz.

Third place - Jan Jamrog 5 lbs. 2 oz.

Fourth place - John Elkin 4 lbs. 12 oz

The next member meeting will be held at 7pm on Saturday June 10th at the Wicomico Parish Church Hall, 5191 Jessie DuPont Memorial Highway, Wicomico Church. Captain Bob Reed, NNAC Director and operator of Bob-A-Long (on your boat) Charters will be making a presentation on catching Cobia. There will also be a general discussion on fishing for Cobia, Croaker and Flounder. A \$30 gift certificate will be awarded by random drawing as a members only door prize at the end of the meeting. The public is invited and guests are welcome at all NNAC member meetings.

The next scheduled member tournament is the Flounder Bash June 24-25, sponsored by the NNAC. Target species for the tournament will be Cobia, Croaker and Flounder. Prizes will be awarded for the top two fish (by weight) for each species. Angler of the Year points will be awarded for each species, with 4 points

for first place, 3 for second, 2 for third and 1 point for all other entries. Be sure to weigh in any eligible fish you may catch during the tournament.

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) has established the recreational Cobia season in Virginia waters, which opened on June 1 and continues through September 15. Anglers are allowed one Cobia daily with a minimum length of 40 inches and a vessel limit of 3 per boat, only one of which can be over 50 inches. Gaffing is prohibited for recreational anglers. A permit is required for possession of Cobia and a mandatory reporting system (kept or released) has been implemented.

The NNAC Board of Directors has recently approved the following changes to the club's tournament rules, annual Best of Species awards and Club Record Fish:

1. Fishing is now permitted from public piers, private docks and from shore.
2. Fish for the annual Best of Species award plaques, subject to minimum weight requirements specified in the rules and legal restrictions, may now be entered at any time from the third Saturday in April (annual start of Maryland trophy rockfish season) through December 31.
3. Best of Species entries during the year will now be eligible for club weight records for each species, in addition to tournament winning fish and Virginia weight citations.

A recently added Members Reports and Comments Section, within the Members Only section of the website, now allows members to post fishing reports, fishing partner postings, items for sale and information of interest to other club members. This is for information posting only and not a chat room. Posted information will then be available to all members through the website.

Remember to thank and patronize those businesses that sponsor club tournaments and awards and the marinas and weigh in locations that support the club's monthly tournaments during the fishing season. Our success as a club continues to depend upon this support.

Hope to see you at the June 10 meeting.

Tight lines !!

John O'Connor

NNAC President