

Northern Neck Anglers Club

August 2017 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

We have completed three of our seven scheduled member tournaments for 2017. Labor Day is less than a month away now. Children and grandchildren will be back in school soon and summer vacations will be ending. Time flies when you are having fun.

Cobia fishing has been productive again this summer. We included Cobia as a tournament species for the second consecutive year. Reports of Spanish Mackerel and Bluefish catches are now being posted as the Spanish move up the bay and the Bluefish are attacking the trolling lures. Anglers are also catching larger Spot this year.

The Cobia Classic Tournament, sponsored by Surfside Bait and Tackle of Mechanicsville, was scheduled for Saturday July 15 and Sunday July 16. Small Craft Advisories (SCA) were posted at 10:32am (thru 5:00pm) on Saturday for two of the club's four tournament fishing zones, resulting in cancellation of Saturday as a tournament fishing day. No SCAs were posted for Sunday, therefore the tournament was held as a one day tournament on Sunday. Below are the final tournament results:

Cobia -

Tom Smith - 38lbs 4ozs Buzzard's Point Marina

Croaker -

1st place - Stuart McKenzie 14oz Lewisetta Marina

2nd place - Mark Roy 10oz Smith Point Marina

Flounder -

no entries

Congratulations to Tom, Stuart and Mark.

We had an excellent member meeting on Saturday July 29 at the Wicomico Parish Church Hall in Wicomico Church. Mark Roy and Jan Jamrog jointly made an informative presentation on fishing for Spanish Mackerel and Bluefish, including tackle, lures, trolling and locations, followed by group discussion. Dr. John Hoekstra reminded members of the dangers of marine related bacterial infections, stressing the importance of treating wounds, cuts, scrapes and fin pricks with hydrogen peroxide and cleaning the boat with clorox. A \$30 gift certificate was awarded in a members only random drawing at the end of the meeting.

The next scheduled member tournament is the Spanish Lessons Tournament August 19-20, weather permitting. The Spanish Lessons Tournament is sponsored by R.W.'s Sport Shop, Callao. Target species for the tournament will be Spanish Mackerel, Bluefish and Spot. Gift cards will be awarded for the top two fish (by weight) for each species, with the first place winner of each species also receiving a plaque. Angler of the Year (AOY) 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.

Capt Billy Pipkin is sponsoring the 2nd annual BAY BASH Family Fishing Tournament on Saturday August 12. Additional details, tournament rules and registration forms are available at the www.baybash.com or at the Ingram Bay Marina website - www.ingrambaymarina.com. Entry fee is \$75 for the boat (all anglers on board), \$25 for a kayak and \$10 for individual fishing from shore or pier.

The 2017 AOY competition is ongoing with four tournaments remaining. Nine members have recorded one or more AOY points through the first three tournaments. Tom Smith with 14 points and Stuart McKenzie with 8 points hold the top two spots. AOY standings can be found on the club's website.

The Cobia season closes in Virginia waters on September 15. The Cobia season will remain open in Maryland waters of the Bay and the Potomac River as Maryland DNR and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission have no regulations (season, size or possession) for Cobia.

Good luck fishing this month. Be safe out there.

Tight lines !!

John O'Connor

NNAC President