

Northern Neck Anglers Club

October 2017 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

In preparing this month's newsletter, I reviewed the October monthly newsletters for each of the past two years. Each year we have experienced hurricanes off the Atlantic coast during the month of September (Joaquin in 2015, Matthew in 2016 and Jose and Maria this year). Fortunately, these hurricanes each veered away from the mid Atlantic coast and we only experienced windy days and rain in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula as a result. Hopefully, any remaining hurricanes this year will not affect our area and we will be able to enjoy a pleasant fall fishing season.

We held the last member meeting of 2017 on Saturday Sept 30 with 24 members and one guest attending. Susanna Musick, Marine Recreation Specialist, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), the guest speaker, presented an informative overview of the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program and upcoming VIMS Cobia research projects. Those who held Cobia permits this year will be receiving a Cobia Economic Survey by e-mail in the near future for angler input.

Congratulations to the winners of the Grab Bag Tournament September 9-10, sponsored by J&W Seafood, Deltaville. Although several members reported seas too rough to fish on Saturday Sept 9, no Small Craft Advisories (SCAs) were posted between sunrise and noon for any of our four tournament fishing zones, therefore Saturday was a tournament fishing day and all fish weighed in were eligible for tournament awards and Angler of the Year (AOY) points. SCAs were in effect through the morning of Sunday Sept 10 for each of the four zones. Sunday was cancelled as a tournament fishing day and tournament results were based on fish weighed in on Saturday. Below are tournament results:

Spanish Mackerel – no entries

Bluefish – no entries

Spot -

1 st place	Stuart McKenzie	12oz
2 nd place	Lee Pulling	8oz
3 rd place	Tom Smith	7oz

Fall Rockfish season opens in Virginia waters on October 4 and continues in Maryland waters of Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. Minimum length in each jurisdiction is 20 inches and possession limit is two per angler, one of which can be over 28 inches.

The next scheduled tournament is the Octoberfest Saturday Oct 14 and Sunday Oct 15, weather permitting, sponsored by the NNAC. Target species for this tournament are Rockfish, Puppy Drum and Speckled Trout. 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. 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.

Eighteen members have recorded one or more AOY points through the first five tournaments, with two tournaments remaining. Tom Smith with 21 points and Stuart McKenzie with 20 points have turned this year's contest into a two member competition with two tournaments remaining. AOY standings can be found on the club's website.

Good luck fishing. Be safe out there.

Tight lines !!

John O'Connor

NNAC President