

Northern Neck Anglers Club

February 2018 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

February is a month that starts members thinking about the end of winter weather and the upcoming boating and fishing season. The focus now shifts to getting tackle and lures ready for fishing Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

The club's 2017 Best of Species contest ended on December 31. Winners for each species listed below will receive a plaque from the club (* new club record):

Bluefish – Stuart McKenzie (1lb 4ozs); Cobia – John O'Connor (54 lbs 4 ozs*);

Croaker – Stuart McKenzie (1lb 4 ozs); Flounder – Tom Smith (1 lb 13 ozs);

Puppy Drum – Tom Smith (6 lbs 0 ozs*); Rockfish – Jan Jamrog (17 lbs 8 ozs);

Spanish Mackerel – Leroy Bussells (4lbs 8 ozs);

Speckled Trout – Tom Smith (8lbs 1 oz*); Spot – Stuart McKenzie (12 ozs)

During January, the Board of Directors commenced planning for 2018 and took the following six actions:

1. Set member meeting and tournament dates for 2018.

Meetings (Saturdays at 7pm) - April 28, June 9, July 28 and September 29

Tournaments (Saturday and Sunday, weather permitting) -

Trophy Rockfish (Rockfish only) May 5-6

Cobia Classic (Cobia, Croaker and Flounder) June 16-17

Flounder Bash (Cobia, Croaker and Flounder) July 14-15

Spanish Lessons (Bluefish, Spanish Mackerel and Spot) August 18-19

Grab Bag (Bluefish, Spanish Mackerel and Spot) September 8-9

Octoberfest (Rockfish, Puppy Drum and Speckled Trout) October 13-14

Bonus Rockfish (rockfish only) November 24-25

2. Approved the addition of a third place gift certificate award of \$50 for each tournament species. Tournament gift certificates will now be awarded for first (\$100), second (\$75) and third (\$50) places for each tournament species.
3. Approved an increase in Angler of the Year (AOY) tournament points for each tournament species to 5 points for first, 4 for second, 3 for third, 2 for fourth and 1 point each for all other entries.
4. Approved an increase the minimum number of points required for the AOY award from 12 points to 15 points.
5. Added an eighth member fishing tournament on November 3-4, 2018 with Speckled Trout and Puppy Drum as the tournament species.
6. Named the November 3-4, 2018 tournament the Ed Taft Memorial Tournament in memory of former NNAC member Ed Taft. During 2017 we experienced Ed's passing. In lieu of flowers, the family asked that donations in his memory be made to the NNAC or to another organization in which he participated. As a result, the club received over \$600 in donations. With his family's consent, the Nov 3-4 tournament has been named The Ed Taft Memorial Tournament and tournament awards will be paid from donations received in his memory.

Membership dues for 2018 (\$30) are due by March 31. The membership renewal form was included with last month's newsletter and is available at the club's website. Now is a good time to recruit family members, friends and neighbors to join the club. The club's expenses are funded primarily through member dues. Sponsors contribute to the gift certificates awarded to the first and second place finishers for each species targeted during member fishing tournaments during the year. The club's success depends upon a strong membership base and the support of sponsors and participating weigh-in locations.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend member meetings and fish club tournaments this season.

Tight lines !!

John O'Connor

NNAC President