

Northern Neck Anglers Club

August 2018 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

What a crazy season this has been so far. Heavy rains and flooding in the Potomac River watershed have lowered the salinity in the Bay. Windy days and numerous Small Craft Advisories have reduced the number of suitable fishing days. Hopefully, August will bring a favorable change in the weather and the fish will be biting.

The club's Flounder Bash Tournament, the third member tournament of the 2018 season, was held July 14-15. Target species were Cobia, Croaker and Flounder. Saturday July 14 was a tournament fishing day as the weather and winds were favorable. Small Craft Advisories were in effect Saturday evening through 9am Sunday morning for two of the club's four tournament fishing zones. Therefore, in accordance with the club's tournament rules, Sunday was cancelled as a tournament fishing day and tournament results were based on eligible fish weighed in on Saturday. Tournament results (four entries) are as follows:

Cobia

1st place Tom Smith 20lb 4oz - 2nd place Mark Roy 18lb

Flounder

1st place Tom Hedgpeth 3lb 7oz

Croaker

1st place Stuart McKenzie 10oz

Gift certificates from Surfside Bait & Tackle of Mechanicsville, the tournament sponsor, were awarded to the first place tournament winners for each species and the second place cobia entry. First place winners for each species will each receive a plaque from the club. Angler of the Year (AOY) points were awarded for each species as follows - 5 points for first place and 4 points for second.

Congratulations to the winners of each species and the 2nd place Cobia entry.

We had another excellent member meeting on Saturday July 28 at the Wicomico Parish Church Hall in Wicomico Church. Leroy Bussells made an informative presentation on fishing for Spanish Mackerel and Bluefish, including tackle, lures, trolling and locations, followed by group discussion. Dr. John Hoekstra's presentation on medical and boating safety stressed the dangers of marine related bacterial infections and the importance of treating wounds, cuts, scrapes and fin

pricks with hydrogen peroxide or clorox and seeking immediate medical attention if any signs of infection are observed. Thanks to Leroy and Dr. Hoekstra for their excellent presentations. 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 18-19, 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 three 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 5 points for first place, 4 for second, 3 for third, 2 for second and 1 point each for all other entries.

Congratulations to club members Ivor Van Heerden and Andy Huang for their catches of Virginia citation and club record Cobia this season – Ivor 57lbs 6ozs on June 6 (new club record at that time) and Andy 58lbs on July 19 (current club record).

Capt Billy Pipkin is sponsoring the 3rd annual BAY BASH Family Fishing Tournament on Saturday August 11. 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), \$30 for a kayak and \$15 for an individual fishing from shore or a pier.

The 2018 AOY competition is ongoing with five tournaments remaining. Fourteen members have recorded one or more AOY points through the first three tournaments. Tom Hedgpeth and Stuart McKenzie with 10 points each and Scott Gregg with 8 points are leading the standings, which can be viewed on the club's website.

Good luck fishing this month. Be safe out there.

Tight lines !!

John O'Connor

NNAC President

