



# The Newsletter of the ... **The Reel News**

*Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959*



Volume 59 Issue 1

January 2019



## **PRESIDENTS CAST NET**

*Trina Polkey*



Well folks, it is already January 2019 and a fresh new year lies ahead for us all. Many of our members finished the year out with a bang finding some very nice, Sailfish and plentiful Cobia, along with some Wahoo, and of course many were able to take advantage of the few days of Red Snapper fishing NOAA blessed us with last year.

We have had our first club tournament the Triple Challenge, the most boats we have seen in a while. I love seeing you all get involved, that's what this is all about!

Our next tournament is the River Tournament in January. This is a three fish aggregate tournament, and as the name implies, fish must be caught in the river. For a list of eligible species and complete rules please visit <https://jaxfish.com/tournaments/rules/>.

Important to note, this will be our first year that we will have **two Tournament slates, for Captain of the Year. Our regular Captain of the Year that fishes both Inshore & Offshore, and our new Inshore Captain of the Year!** Before you fish any more Tournaments you **MUST** declare which COY you are going for.

You will only be able to earn points toward that COY. This will also be a Tournament slate where non-members will be able to fish with us for a \$30 entry in the Tournament Within a Tournament, (TWT). The club will keep \$10 of their entry, and the other \$20 will go in the pot along with any members that wish to enter the TWT at \$20. Our tournament director, Tom Darga, will manage the pot and you must enter **BEFORE** the tournament. No exceptions, and his final word goes, let's keep this friendly. Non-members will only be eligible for TWT, not club points obviously. Invite your friends and neighbors...let's see if we can break that last tournaments record number of boats!

We look forward to seeing you all at our January meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be opening the building up a little earlier to allow for more time to visit, and don't forget the second meeting in January is our annual club swap meet.

**Major Note - This year the El Cheapo has been scheduled for March 9th, with the Captains meeting the evening of the 8th.**

We had to move it because the Monster Truck show moved to the 2nd and a lot of our participants like to fish the El Cheapo, but have a conflict as they get tickets for the Monster Truck show! This year we have also had to raise entry to the El Cheapo to \$100 / Boat After February 17th it will go to \$120.

## Safety First

Safe boating should begin at home before you trailer your boat to the ramp or leave your dock or marina. To ensure that your outing on the water begins and ends safely, the first thing to do to ensure the safety of your trip on the water is to develop a float plan and leave it with your spouse, significant other, some other reliable person, or your marina. Ask the custodian of the plan to contact the Coast Guard or other local authority if you do not return by the indicated time on the plan.

The float plan should contain your name, address, phone number, name and description of your vessel, names of other persons on board, trip details including geographical location of your destination, the route you will take to get there, and/or GPS numbers if possible, time of return and time to call local authorities or Coast Guard if you do not return

by the scheduled time. A properly executed float plan could be a lifesaver in an emergency if you have to abandon your vessel at sea, or break down, with no power for your radio to communicate your location and notify someone of your need for help.

A properly executed float plan would enable the person in custody of the float plan to initiate a timely search for you if you did not return by the time specified. Time could be a critical factor in saving your life in a real emergency. A sample float plan is available in the boating safety materials rack at the Mayport clubhouse.

File a float plan each time you go boating/

**I KNOW THAT NO ONE IN THIS CLUB NEEDS THIS.  
BUT JUST IN CASE YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES.**

**PASS IT ON!**

## Don't be a Ramp Hog!

**BOAT PRE-LAUNCH IN PARKING AREA  
OR READY LANE ( NOT blocking the  
ramp):**

- Remove tie-downs.
- Remove engine support.
- Disconnect trailer wiring from tow vehicle.
- Load and stow gear to be carried on board.
- Check all boat systems: engine, bilge pump, lights and horn, etc.
- **If equipped, turn on the engine compartment blower.**
- Make ready all dock lines, fenders and boat hook.
- And, last, **DO NOT FORGET TO INSTALL THE DRAIN PLUG.**
- 

**Retrieve your boat: Put your boat on the Trailer, secure the Bow hook and Clear the ramp and then reverse the above.**

**Be courteous to other Boaters.**



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## IT IS NEVER TO LATE TO BE A SPONSOR OF THE EL CHEAPO SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT!

The cutoff for the pamphlet is going to be Mid January, so they need to get in it ASAP!

IF you know someone that you think you might be able to either donate to the Raffle, or step up to be a Prize Sponsor, twist their arm a little!

We really need some cool things to put in the Captain's buckets and Junior Angler bags, not just paper advertisements. Like the year before last, **YETI** really stepped up and gave us **YETI** bottle openers for the bags, **Sea Tow** gave plastic cups, anything that advertises their company will do. It does NOT have to be fishing related. What do they get in return? LOTS of advertising.

Here are some stats to help:

- From January 1st to the day after the Tournament the [jaxfish.com](http://jaxfish.com) website had 7,537 new, unique ( Not the same computer making return visits. ) visits to the El Cheapo information page. ( We have over 45,000 Unique hits per year. )

- The El Cheapo Sponsors page ( Their Logo with a link to their site. ) had 6,809 unique hits.

- The El Cheapo Prizes page had 1147 unique hits,

- The El Cheapo Registration page had 1500 hits!

Not to mention the thousands of pamphlets with sponsors names on them and Radio and news paper AND magazine ads that lead people to their info.

We also list them on the outside of our newsletter we publish over 4,500 throughout the year, to keep their name out in front of people!

Like I said, if you think you can get someone to donate, we have a letter and form for you to give them so that they can have records for their taxes. ( Not tax deductible, but can write off as advertising. )

Now just a few lines to our members, New, and Old like me. ;-)) Please see Greg Wallace, our fishing director and sign up for this years 2019 tournaments. Don't be afraid to go for awards such as Captain of the Year.

We have our second tournament this month called the "River tournament".

Now get a copy of the fishing rules and don't be shy like I was, get in the Tournaments and enjoy them. When the tournament fishing ends everyone watches the fish being weighed in and eat the food provided and have fun. So please come out and enjoy the tournaments! If you don't you will be missing out on a lot of fun.

Do NOT think you don't have a chance. You are fishing against other club members, not some mythical Expert! ( Expert = X - an unknown quantity, Spurt - a drip under pressure. ) So that mythical Expert is nothing more than an "Unknown drip under pressure!"

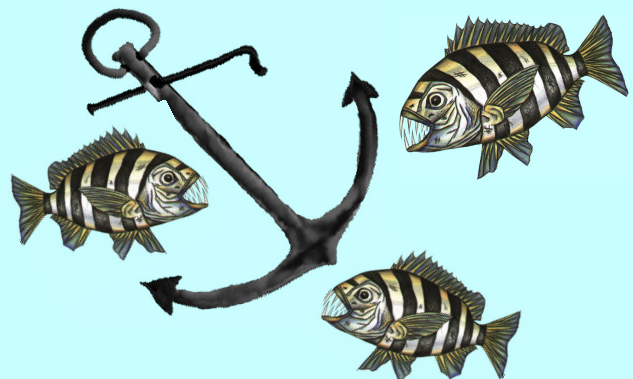
You are fishing against me, or the person sitting next to you! You can get as lucky as they can!

I have seen the Bottom Tournament won with ( 2 ) Two, half pound Whitting! A trolling tournament with 1 Barracuda. The River Tournament with 1 Black Drum!

The Captain of the Year has been won by a member that never WON a single tournament, they fished every tournament, and placed in the top 5 for each of the tournaments! They accumulated enough points to win!

LADIES, YOU can go for the Captain of the Year. It does not have to be a man! You usually out fish us guys anyway, so why not go for it?!

## Just have fun, GO FOR IT!



## Fishing preferred Temps.

Species	Lower Avoidance	Optimum	Upper Avoidance
Amberjack	60	65 - 75	80+
Bonito	60	65 - 75	80+
Barracuda	55	72 - 80	86
Bigeye Tuna	52	62 - 74	80
Black Marlin	68	72 - 82	87
Blackfin Tuna	65	70 - 75	82
Blue Marlin	70	74 - 82	88
Bluefin Tuna	50	60 - 72	82
Bluefish	50	66 - 72	84
Dolphin (Mahi)	70	72 - 78	82
Flounder	56	62 - 66	72
Jack Crevalle	65	70 - 85	90
Kingfish	65	68 - 76	88
Permit	70	75 - 85	92
Pompano	65	70 - 82	85+
Redfish	52	70 - 90	90+
Red Snapper	50	55 - 65	70+
Sailfish	68	72 - 82	88
Snook	60	70 - 82	90
Spanish Mackerel	60	65 - 75	80
Spotted Seatrout	56	66 - 82	90
Striped Bass	42	50 - 65	75
Striped Marlin	61	68 - 76	80
Swordfish	50	60 - 75	80
Tarpon	70	75 - 90	100+
Wahoo	65	68 - 80	88
White Marlin	65	68 - 78	80+
Seabass	58	64 - 68	74
Yellowfin Tuna	64	72 - 82	80



Mahi or Dolphin should be out there by now and boy are they TASTY!



# Gary Newman

## INSURANCE

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• **Auto**

• **Home**

67 E. Sailfish Dr. • Atlantic Beach, FL

**241-0777**

Remember to shop at our sponsors  
and support them as often as you  
can.

Also remember to pull out your JOSFC  
Membership card and ask if they give a club  
discount! They don't all do it, but it lets them  
know we are supporting them as a Club!

It is also not to late fro them to be an El  
Cheapo sponsor, just have them contact  
Rooney @ 904-233-8452

The Wahoo bite is about to light up, and  
the Blackfin Tuna should be knocking on the  
door anytime now in the 140' to 185' areas of  
the Tuna Patch. REALLY!

Now is the time to get to know the new  
and current fishing rules of the J.O.S.F.C. Put  
the rules flyer next to the LAZY BOY, and  
scroll through them during the commercials, you  
will probably find some rules of interest.

# HYPOTHERMIA

As the cold weather moves into our area, we normally think more about staying warm when fishing in the cold, windy weather. Also, with the "El Cheapo" tournament scheduled for February 25, all Captains should be giving some thought to the prevention of hypothermia. Hypothermia can pose a problem for boaters anytime of the year, but should be of greater concern to all Captains as we approach colder weather.

Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce it. As a Captain, have you ever thought about what a life jacket has in common with a blanket relative to hypothermia and safety in boating? Both can save your life when you are facing a major killer in aquatic mishaps such as hypothermia. As a result, you should carry both of these items on your boat. A life jacket is a federal and state requirement, but a blanket is not. However, all boaters should carry a blanket on board.

A life jacket, obviously, will keep you afloat, but can also help ward off hypothermia by trapping warmed water between it and your body. A blanket can help prevent hypothermia by reducing body heat loss. Most boaters do not have a full understanding of hypothermia and how it can impact them. Most people think of hypothermia as "freezing to death" or frost bite. Hypothermia can kill a person at temperatures well above freezing.

Hypothermia occurs most rapidly when your body is immersed in cold water but may occur at anytime especially in windy situations if your clothing is wet. In water at 50 degrees, the predicted time for survival is 1.5 to 3 hours. It can also occur in water as warm as 80 degrees if you are exposed for a long period of time. For instance, in 70 to 80 degree water, a person may become exhausted or unconscious in as little as 2 to 12 hours with an expected time of survival of 3 plus hours. If you should fall overboard with a life jacket on, do not exert yourself. Keep your arms at your side and your legs together to conserve heat.

If you find yourself in the water without a life jacket conserving heat is even more important since you will have to keep yourself afloat. Do not try to swim, but exert as little effort as possible to float until rescued. An individual who falls overboard without a life jacket has virtually no chance of conserving heat loss. In fact, many individuals, who fall overboard, seem to lose the ability

to climb back on board or to hang onto some craft of object, since there is a progressive decline in muscle strength following immersion in cold water. However, if possible, get out of the water as heat loss is less to cold air than to cold water. Always try to get out of the water.

A person's body burns food to give it energy and maintain its temperature. When your body cools, blood moves from the surface area to the vital organs and you burn stored food to generate heat. Shivering is the first sign that your body is telling you that its temperature is below normal and action is required to correct the situation. If nothing is done, your body will begin a systematic shutdown. It is at this point; a blanket can be a lifesaver. A shivering person should be attended to immediately and dried if wet, removed from the wind and covered with a blanket and kept as warm as possible to conserve body heat.

If confronted with a hypothermic person, always remember that hypothermia is a serious medical problem. Make the person as comfortable as possible and seek medical help as soon as possible. If some distance from the shore, inform the Coast Guard by radio and they may send a medivac copter to remove the victim.

The best solution for hypothermia, however, is to prevent it by wearing protective gear, staying dry and out of the wind. Never go into a potentially hypothermic situation without having eaten a good meal and be aware that hypothermia can kill you. Exercise the necessary precautions to prevent hypothermia and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

## The Fatal Scenario

When your body's core Temperature reaches:

96 Degrees Fahrenheit - Violent shivering begins.

95 Degrees Fahrenheit - Rational thought stops.

93.2 Degrees Fahrenheit - Consciousness becomes clouded.

92 Degrees Fahrenheit - Memory loss, hallucinating begins.

91.4 Degrees Fahrenheit - Shivering stops.

90 Degrees Fahrenheit - You become unconscious.

86 Degrees Fahrenheit - Death results from heart failure.

***86 Degrees Fahrenheit is the ambient temperature of a fairly hot summer day. Our water off Jacksonville is rarely that warm!***

***It doesn't have to be freezing out to kill you!***



## Safety First

Safe boating should begin at home before you trailer your boat to the ramp or leave your dock or marina. To ensure that your outing on the water begins and ends safely, the first thing to do to ensure the safety of your trip on the water is to develop a float plan and leave it with your spouse, significant other, some other reliable person, or your marina. Ask the custodian of the plan to contact the Coast Guard or other local authority if you do not return by the indicated time on the plan.

The float plan should contain your name, address, phone number, name and description of your vessel, names of other persons on board, trip details including geographical location of your destination, the route you will take to get there, and/or GPS numbers if possible, time of return and time to call local authorities or Coast Guard if you do not return by the scheduled time. A properly executed float plan could be a lifesaver in an emergency if you have to abandon your vessel at sea, or break down, with no power for your radio to communicate your location and notify someone of your need for help.

A properly executed float plan would enable the person in custody of the float plan to initiate a timely search for you if you did not return by the time specified. Time could be a critical factor in saving your life in a real emergency. A sample float plan is available in the boating safety materials rack at the Mayport clubhouse.

File a float plan each time you go boating/fishing to help ensure your safety on the water.



**Wear these!**  
**They don't work**  
**in the cabin!**



**PLEASE at least wear one**  
**while your boat is underway!**



**This month**  
**the Captain**  
**of the year**  
**race begins**  
**in earnest !**

**Who is it**  
**gonna be?**



What does it take to be the Captain of the Year?  
I have the answer to that, and it isn't what you think!

The answer? LUCK & Persistence!

The main thing that you have to do is just show up and fish all 10 tournaments! Well at least all the tournaments that are not canceled due to weather.

We have had members that never placed over third place, didn't win a single tournament, and they have won the Captain of the Year!

I have seen bottom tournaments won with 2 - half pound Whiting! Trolling tournaments won with 1 Barracuda!

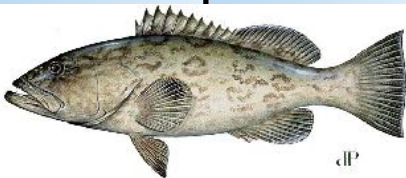
People, you are not fishing against some mysterious magical "Expert", you are fishing against me or the person sitting next to you at a meeting. Average every day fisher people!

By the way, Expert is defined as .....  
X = Unknown quantity, Spurt = A drip under pressure. SO an "Expert is nothing more than a "Drip Under Pressure"!

Let me remind you that you need to participate in 3 of the club tournaments to win a fishing board! By participate we mean either as Captain, or as a crew member OR as weigh-master at a tournament.

You also have to have the most fish on the board when we close the boards at the last meeting in September.

So get off your easy chair and take the family or friends fishing! Club tournaments don't cost anything to enter!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Club Meeting	4	5
6	7 Board Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Club Meeting Swap Meet	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 The River Tournament
27	28	29	30	31	January	



**COMING  
EVENTS:**

January 3rd - Club Meeting.

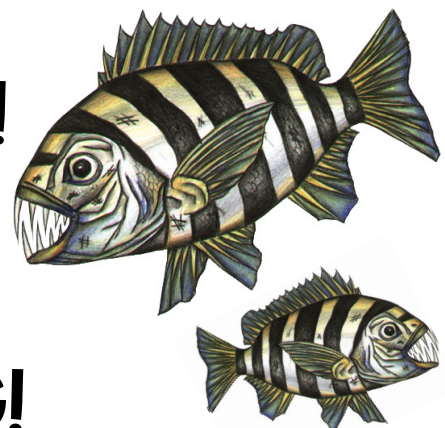
January 7th - Board Meeting.

January 17th - Club Meeting - Swap Meet.

January 26th - The River Tournament.



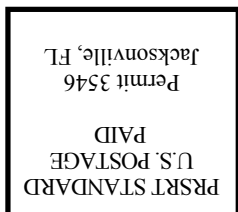
**THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!**  
**THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!**  
**THE EL CHEAP IS COMING!**



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