



The Newsletter of the ...

The Reel News

Serving the Northeast Florida Fishing Community Since 1959



Volume 52 Issue 9

September 2012

PRESIDENTS CASTINGS

Capt. Danny Del Rio



What an awesome August!

Our first meeting was a great pot-luck which everyone really enjoyed. Chris Rooney also passed the Mens 2012 Sailfish Pot Party Tournament Trophy to the winner. The second meeting we were honored again to have Rick Ryles as our guest speaker. He gave us some great information on light tackle fishing.

Inez Higgenbotham proudly presented the Trophy to the winning of the Ladies 2012 Sailfish Pot Party Tournament to her daughter.

ATTENTION EVERYONE! Our first meeting in September will be the nomination for officers and board members for the next year. And following up at our second meeting, will be speech night for the nominees. Please try to attend these important meetings!

Our last tournament will be the Bottom Tournament on September 8th. Please don't forget that the R & H Sailfish Tournament is on September 9th. Information and entry forms will be available at the September 6th meeting.

Speaking of fishing, AJ Proscher has generously given up some new GPS numbers for the JOFSC members, They are located on page 5!

Remember our annual JOFSC banquet is October 20th. For tickets see any of the JOFSC officers. Same location as last year, great food, prizes, music, dancing and a fun filled evening!

*Tight Lines and Safe Boating,
Danny Del Rio, President*



Sunday, September 9, 2012 The R & H Mayport Masters Sailfish Tournament!

This tournament is not a JOSFC tournament, it is open to all who wish to enter it! This is a fun honor tournament that is held in the boundaries of the JOSFC Chart, so it keeps it limited to the local waters, and equal and fun for everyone! It is a Catch and Release Tournament.

Entry fee is \$100 per boat, and there is a Captains Meeting on September 6, 2012 at the JOSFC Clubhouse at 8:00 PM

Prize structure is 100% pay back of the entry fees. 1 fish caught, that captain gets 100% of the money. 2 fish caught, it is a 60% 40% split. 3 caught it goes to a 50%, 30%, 20%.

Live or dead bait is permitted, all releases must be reported to a committee boat (Channel 72) with the time of release. (First release wins, and in case of ties, time of release will determine who wins.)

See page 6 for the Entry Form.

Any questions, contact:

Rick Ryals - 904-251-3026

Charlie Hamaker - 904-725-3775



Atlantic Sailfish

Lstiophorus Albicans

The Atlantic Sailfish is a popular game fish for the Sport Fisherman. It puts on a spectacular aerial display when hooked and is a beautiful fish to look at. Most now practice Catch & Release with Sailfish, and have for many years, so they are not on any threatened list of endangered.

Sailfish prefer coastal waters and quite often venture in to shallow coastal waters. They can be found from the surface down to about 650 feet.

They prefer water that is between 72 degrees Fahrenheit to 82 degrees Fahrenheit, but can be found in

warmer water with their upper avoidance at 88 degrees and lower avoidance at 68 degrees.

The average size is 68 inches to 90 inches long (Tip of lower jaw to fork) but can grow to 124 inches long. (Just over 10 foot.)

Sailfish have been clocked at as high as about 65 Miles per Hour for short burst.

Sailfish eat most species of fish, liking Ballyhoo and most Mackerel species of bait fish, and readily eating Sardines, Cigar Minnows, Ribbonfish and Cephalopods. (Read that as Squid and Octopus.)

Sailfish while not a "School" fish, usually travel in loose packs of from 3 to 8 or 10 fish. With that in mind, when you pick up one, go back and troll back up through the same area to increase your chances of getting another strike.

Sailfish like to strike their prey with their bill, stunning or crippling it, then they leisurely pick up the stunned bait and eat it.

The first thing you will probably see is the tip of the bill break the water right near your bait. When you see that put your reel into free spool and wait for the Sailfish to pick up your bait and swim off with it. If you are using a circle hook, just start slowly reeling your line in and you will hook him in the corner of the mouth.

Don't try to horse the fish in, leave your drag set fairly light and reel it in when it stops it's run or jumping. When it gets near the boat it will take off again, just let it and reel it back in when it stops again.

When you get the fish by the boat, remember to use gloves and grab it by the bill to control it. Use both hands with your thumbs facing each other for the best and safest control. Have a partner undo the hook if possible, if not cut the line as close to the hook as you can, and then hold the fish in the water with the boat at an idle to revive it before releasing your trophy!

Remember fish are NOT smart, the boat is a disturbance in the water and that attracted the fish to you so don't fish your lures to far back, and use teasers to increase the appearance of bait in the water to attract them.

Good luck and tight lines. Bill



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| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
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| Newsletter Editor / Website ... | Bill Breen |
| Newsletter & Marine Radio.... | Mike Murphy |

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My Favorite Tournament

My favorite tournament is coming up on September 9th. I guess I helped start it, but it really began as a bet between Charlie Hamaker and me. You see Charlie and I have been fishing offshore Mayport for almost 50 years. When we started there was no such thing as trolling live baits, or pinpointing some twenty different ledges or wrecks that we could fish in a day. It was a matter of dropping over a spread of 4 ballyhoo, 1 bonita strip, and a split tailed mullet on a wire line, and trolling around a general area until we caught something.

If there were no fish, and we decided to fish another reef some 3 miles away, we trolled that way until we found it. It was easy, it was fun, and it was very effective on my favorite target, sailfish.

I was a proud member of the Jacksonville Offshore Sportfishing Club back then, and we had an annual trophy for the most sailfish releases. I was fishing with Capt Danny Ruby, and we won it in 1969 with 8 releases, and lost it in 1970 with 7 releases.

All that led to a bet between Charlie and I that we would pick a day, troll nothing but naturals over the same reefs we fished in our childhood, and bet \$100 bucks, and dinner with our wives, over who released the most sails. A few other old timers caught wind of it, and the “Mayport Masters” was born.

In my mind, kingfish tournaments changed everything in Northeast Florida. Certainly they’ve been good for the economy, and at the height of their popularity, they brought a whole new level of excitement to offshore fishing. My problems started when what had been a fun family day offshore, became “pre-fishing” and the only fish that mattered was a kingfish. I have seen everything from sailfish, to yellowfin tuna broken off intentionally to get a kingfish bait back in the water. And that’s on the “PRE-FISHING DAYS”!!

Well, you know what? That ain’t happening on my boat. We’re back fishing for the fun of it. Let me say right now, if you’ve ever been a guest on a boat when I got too intense, please let me apologize. I’m finally learning in my old age, fishing is supposed to be fun. I can be intense on my job. On the ocean, we’re gonna have a good time. My radio co-host John Botko said it very well. “I don’t like what big money tournaments do

to me. They make me lie to my friends, and yell at people I care about.”

One of the things I like best about the “Mayport Masters” is the inherent integrity required to win it. I think when you set up a tournament you’ve basically got two choices. You can go on the assumption that the competitors are all honest, and you need a bare minimum of rules, or you can assume the competitors are dishonest, and you have to have every rule ever invented, to try and keep someone from cheating.

In the Mayport Masters, there are no colored ribbons, or secret hand signals that must be photographed to show what you caught when. You go fishing, you come back and tell us how many sails you released, and if you say you caught the most, we’re gonna give you the money. We don’t require proof of your catch because integrity needs few rules. If someone stole the Mayport Masters jackpot, they would still have to look in the mirror on Monday morning. Surely it wouldn’t be worth it.

I also think it’s extremely cool that Charlie and I have pretty much been proven right. Almost every one of our twenty something boats that fish the tourney will report getting at least one shot at a sail. We’ve never had a year where none were caught, and it often takes multiple releases to win it.

I won’t put myself or my crew through the hard work, and intensity that’s required to win a lot of big money tournaments anymore. As my good friend George Labonte says, “I love fishing as much as I ever have. I’m just not mad at them anymore.” I will however, thoroughly enjoy the Prime Rib Charlie’s gonna buy me, at the end of this year’s Mayport Masters.

Rick Ryals





Top's Tips Safety First

Top Ingram
Safety Officer

Rules of the Road

The following was reported last week by the FWC Division of Law Enforcement: "A PWC with one person on board was struck from behind by a second PWC and the operator of the first PWC was killed by the impact." This is yet another example of what can happen when boaters do not follow the rules of the road. It is obvious to me that a lot of boaters do not know, or understand, the rules of the road. I see many boaters in large vessels run aground when they go outside the red or green channel markers. Also, I see many vessels turning in front of other vessels and trying to pass on the wrong side in meeting situations.

I think it is appropriate, at this time, to remind everyone of the need to adhere to the rules of the road when on the water for pleasure or fishing. Many new boaters, and some old ones, do not appear to have a working knowledge of the rules of the road. If you are operating your vessel on inland waters or the high seas, one way to insure a safe voyage is to adhere to the "Navigation Rules".

The rules cover all aspects of Navigation including lights, sounds, shapes, distress and privileged vs giveaway vessel, etc. All vessels, from the smallest PWC to the largest supertanker, must obey the navigation rules. It takes a whole book to cover all the rules, so in this article I want to discuss only the privileged and burdened vessel aspect of the rules.

There are important differences in legal liability between Maritime Law and Civil Law. When driving, one automobile often has the legal right-of-way over another. For instance, at an intersection, if car A has a green light and car B runs through the red light and collides with car A, then car B is usually found to be at fault.

Unlike the highway, at sea no one has the right of way. Depending on the situation, when two vessels are closing one vessel is privileged or the stand on vessel and the other is the burdened or give way vessel. The privileged or stand on vessel must maintain course and speed and the burdened or give way vessel must alter course and/or speed to avoid the privileged vessel. If the

burdened vessel does not take action as required by the rules and the two vessels reach "extremis" (that point where a collision will occur without evasive action by either vessel), the privileged vessel must depart from the rules and take evasive action.

In a crossing situation, you are the privileged vessel if the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your port beam, and you must maintain course and speed. If the other vessel is from dead ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft your starboard beam, you are the burdened vessel and must alter course to pass astern of the privileged vessel. NEVER speed up to pass in front of a privileged vessel. In a meeting head-on situation, both vessels are burdened and must alter course to starboard. In an overtaking situation, the vessel overtaking the other is the burdened vessel and must avoid the other.

Remember, courtesy and common sense is as important as the navigation rules. If the other captain is rude, don't use it for rudeness on your part. If the other vessel does not treat you in accordance with the rules, sound the danger signal (5 or more short blasts on you horn) and yield. More than likely the other captain may be ignorant of the rules. By engaging in brinksmanship, you could win the argument and ruin your whole day and possibly damage your vessel.

Remember, you are in imminent danger of collision when the bearing of another vessel is constant and the range is decreasing and evasive action will be required regardless of who is privileged or burdened. If you are not sure of the federal or state navigation rules, you can check the rules by looking at a copy of the "Federal Requirements & Safety Tips" and/or "The Florida Boater's Guide" in the rack by the door of the clubhouse. Follow these simple navigation rules and continue to enjoy safe boating throughout the year.

Top Ingram
Fish Tales



Here are the Numbers, **THANKS AJ!**

AH 30.32.666/81.03.362
 JW 30.16.603/81.13.642
 BB 30.25.867/81.09.066
 MF 30.17.596/81.04.855
 BR 30.21.713/80.49.975
 MG 30.18.412/81.07.423
 BW 30.10.627/81.14.904
 MR 30.25.807/81.13.372
 CB 30.17.510/80.49.314
 NM 30.23.452/81.10.247
 CC 30.24.652/80.54.167
 NSS 30.17.359/80.57.887
 CH 30.18.608/81.04.343
 PG 30.20.206/81.11.170
 CKC 30.28.640/81.04.935
 PM 30.19.863/81.11.026
 DR 30.16.231/81.08.494
 PV 30.12.317/81.09.847
 EEF 30.22.589/80.57.316
 RL 30.31.548/81.10.231

EF 30.23.424/81.03.509
 SA 30.21.213/81.18.023
 FF 30.17.520/81.00.585
 SS 30.14.711/80.59.333
 HG 30.13.129/81.00.159
 TR 30.27.786/80.56.015
 HH 30.34.135/81.08.618
 TT 30.31.058/81.02.108
 HL 30.22.529/80.53.689
 TW 30.29.547/80.57.631

To Help Keep Us Out Of Trouble

I just spent a couple of hours going through the Fishing Regulations, both Florida and the SAFMC junk.

What I learned is that you need to take a college level class on the combined regulations to even begin to understand them.

What I can say for sure is that NOW if you are going to bottom fish you are required to use non-stainless steel CIRCLE hooks, have an approved DE-HOOKING device, an approved MEASURING Device (The "Tape" molded in the top of a cooler = Citation) and a VENTING TOOL on board. (No Peter K., a venting tool is NOT called a gaff.)

You should also get or download the LATEST Florida Fishing Regulations and have them with you when you go fishing.

The FWC are good guys, but the rules change so often and fast, they may not remember the latest change, and having the latest from their website might help avoid a citation!

Loud Hailings

Newsletter Editor
 Bill Breen

Anyone can submit an article for the Reel News just send or give it to me at any time. I really like to feature PICTURES of club members with some good catches, like these in this issue.

Either give me a hardcopy at a meeting or or E-mail me your pictures at:

breenw@bellsouth.net

PH# 904-254-2791



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Instant Crew, Just Add Water

Our own club member Tim Altman has created the web-site AVAILABLE ANGLER where you can go to find a ride or crew. Just go to:

[http://www.availableangler.com./](http://www.availableangler.com/)



Date: Sunday, September 9, 2012

Time: Lines in at 7:00 am
Lines out at 4:00 pm

Place: Mayport, FL - All vessels
communicate on ch. 72

Cost: \$100.00 per boat

Prizes: 1 fish 100% - 2 fish 60-40 split
3 fish 50-30-20 split

Captain's Meeting: September 6, 8:00 pm

at the JOSFC clubhouse at the Mayport boat ramp

- Live or dead bait
- 10 ft. maximum leader
- Ties will be determined by time of release
- Committee boats are Dos Amigos and Reel Therapy
- Committee boat must be notified at time of release on Ch. 72

Phone: Rick Ryals, 251-3026 • Charlie Hamaker 725-3775

R+H Mayport Masters All-Release Sailfish Tournament

Tournament boundary: Limited to the JOSFC chart.

CAPTAIN'S INFORMATION:

CAPTAIN'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL or PAGER _____

EMAIL _____

BOAT REGISTRATION NO. _____ BOAT NAME _____

YR. & MAKE OF BOAT _____ BOAT LENGTH _____

POWER _____ HULL COLOR _____

Entry Fee @ \$100.00 \$100.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

_____ Date _____

(Captain's Signature REQUIRED.)

Mail to: R+H Mayport Masters • 9020 Heckscher Dr. • Jacksonville, FL 32226

For Office Use Only:

Amount Paid _____ Date Paid _____ Method of Pmt. _____

**Wear your Life Jacket
at least while you are
under way!**



**There's a fine line between fishing and
standing in the boat looking like a idiot**

**Game fish are too much
fun to only be caught
once!**

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|--|
|  <h1>September</h1> | | | | | | 1  |
| 2  | 3 Board Meeting  | 4  | 5  | 6 Club Meeting  | 7  | 8 Club Bottom Fishing Tournament  |
| 9 R & H Sailfish Masters Tournament  | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20 Club Meeting Fishing Boards Close!  | 21  | 22  |
| 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  |
| 30  |  | | | | | |

Coming Events:



Sept. 6 - Club Meeting - Board & Officers Nominations.

Sept. 6 - R & H Sailfish Tourny Capt. Meeting.

Sept. 8 - Club Bottom Fishing Tournament.

Sept. 9 - R & H Sailfish Tournament.

Sept. 20 - Club Meeting, Fishing Boards Close!

October 20, 2012 is the Annual Awards Banquet.



Associate Members

• Academy Sports • *Adam Nichols Artworks* • Advantage signs • *All Aluminum Concepts* • Amelia Island Bait & tackle • *Angie's Sub Shop* • Atlantic Coast Marine • *Atlantic Engraving & Graphics* • Available Angler • *Avid Angler* • B & M Bait & Tackle • *Beach Plaza Auto Care* • Best Western Mayport • *Boat U. S./Angler* • Boathouse Discount Marine • *Boattronics* • BOCA Bearings • *Bonefish Grill* • Bowen Upholstery • *Brown's Creek Fish Camp* • C & H Lures • *Capt. Dave Sipler's Sport Fishing* • Catchin' A Buzz Fishing • *Coastal Angler Magazine* • Common Ground Lawn & Landscaping • *Consignment Boat Sales* • Copperhead • *Dell Marine* • Custom Marine Components • *Dandee Foods* • DOA Lures • *Doherty Brothers Marine Construction* • Donovan Heating & Air • *First Coast Powersports* • Fish On • *Fish Carvings by Rick & Billy* • Fishing Connection • *Fishing Nosara.com* • Florida Sportsman Live • *Ft. George Island Marina* • Freedom Boat Club • *Gary Newman Insurance* • Greater Jax Kingfish Tournament • *Great Atlantic Outfitters* • Hardees • *Home - Zone Cleaning* • Hook The Future • *Hulihan Territory Irrigation Systems* • In River or Ocean • *International Ropes* • Island Electric of the first Coast • *JaxFlats Fishing Apparel* • Julington Creek Carpet Care • *Knight Electric* • Knot-to-Worry • *Kona Skate Park* • Magic Tilt Trailers • *MarineMax* • Mercury Outboards • *Mike's Taxidermy* • Morningstar Marinas at Mayport • *Murphy Communications* • Nosara Paradise Rentals • *Ocean Waves Sunglasses* • Paradise Resort • *Pepsi Bottling Co.* • Pier 17 • *Proctor Ace Hardware* • Progressive Insurance • *Pure Fishing* • Reel Fish Deals • *Rick's Bait & Tackle* • River Marine • *Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecasting Service* • Safe Harbor Seafood • *Salty Charters of Jacksonville* • Seadance Charters • *Sea Tow* • Sea Angler Gear • *Schaeffer Manufacturing Co.* • Skate Station Funworks • *SOC 7 Productions* • Solomon's RV & Boat Storage • *Southern Propane* • Singelton's Seafood Shack • *Still Just fishing Show* • Strike Zone Fishing • *Styles Smith Plumbing* • Sumo Design Studio • *Sun Deli* • SweetWater Brewing • *Tait's Bait & Charter* • Taylor Concrete Services • *T.B.S. Jigs & Charter* • The Haggerty Company • *The Ice Man* • The Outdoors Show • *The Spot Tournament* • The Water's Edge • *Towboat US of Jacksonville* • Trout River Fish Co. • *Vic2Fish* • West Marine • *Wild Adventures* • Wilson Trailer & Repair Inc. • *Windsor Park Golf Club* • WLS Contracting • *Woody Wax* • Zaxby's



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