



The PSWSFA is a family-oriented fishing club established in 1957. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (March-Dec.) at 7:00pm. The meetings are free and open to the public and are a great place to swap stories with other local fishermen, find new fishing partners and plan trips together. We have raffles with nice giveaways-donated by local businesses plus prizes we buy ourselves. Each month we have speakers sharing their experience on one of the local fisheries. Come join us and get to know some of the other fishermen in your local area.

Greetings and it's July, and the heat has set in in earnest. Such a deal.

Our first meeting of the year last month was very well attended with about 40 people attending to hear Dr Neill giving us the latest news from VMRC.

As was mentioned in last month's Chumline our July meeting is being held at the former St. Mark's Episcopal church in Hampton. Best entrance is off of Todds lane between Cunningham and Mercury Blvd. The St. Mark's sign is still there. The church sits several hundred feet off the road. Directions are on the last page.

It looks like there have been plenty of club members catching fish from boats. Maybe I'll get another boat just before I kick the bucket. Damn, now I put a whammy on myself.

I went to the Chesapeake Fishing Flea market back in June and was able to speak with the folks that put up the Wind turbines off shore. According to them you can now fish right up to them without getting harassed so long as you don't try to tie off to any part of the structure. Pretty much the same as any other structure out in the ocean. They were keeping people away from the

turbines while they were still under construction. Stan Simmerman was there as well and heard the same thing.

I would not suggest anchoring anywhere near them however, especially on the west side towards the beach. I'm sure any new maps will show how the power cables are strung out towards shore.

Mike the Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings All,

I hope everyone is having a good summer and this note finds you all in good health. The fishing action has been pretty good so far. Any and all of the usual species we fish for in the bay and nearshore are being caught regularly. This includes cobia, sheepshead, triggerfish, spadefish, spanish mackerel and even those pesky ribbonfish that have become regulars in our waters. One fish that has made a nice showing this year is the flounder. For those of you that would like some good information on targeting these tasty fish, come to the July general membership meeting on Tuesday, July 20th. We will be joined by renowned flounder fisher-

man Brian Hogge. Brian has been catching nice flounders for many years in the lower Chesapeake Bay and has a wealth of information he will be sharing with us at the meeting. Anyone that has been around any of the flounder tournaments in the last decade has heard Brian's name come up.

The meeting last month was a great success. Thank you to Dr. Ken Neill III for sharing all the latest fishery information he has. I hope we have a similar turnout this month to share in some comradery and have an opportunity to find out more about catching flounder. As usual, Milton will be glad to give away some money for the monthly tournament winners and there will be plenty of door prizes and raffle prizes, along with the fifty-fifty give away. Make your plans now to join us.

Don't forget this month's meeting will be in Hampton at St. Mark's church (behind Bercuese Funeral Home). See Mikes directions to the meeting in this Chumline. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

Danny Forehand,
President PSWSFA

PROMISING PREDICTION: SMALLER BAY DEAD ZONE FORECAST FOR SUMMER

It's the summer event Bay environmentalists dread: the low-oxygen "dead zone" that appears as a result of excess nutrient pollution. But this year, for the second time in a row, researchers believe we'll see a below-average dead zone in the Chesapeake.

The annual forecast by University of Michigan, the Chesapeake Bay Program, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES), and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) predicts the hypoxic (low oxygen) zone will be 14 percent lower than average. And they predict the anoxic (no oxygen at all) zone will be down by 18 percent, compared to the 35-year average.

The research team credits the optimistic forecast to reduced river flows from spring rainfall, but also the ongoing action being taken to improve water quality throughout the Bay watershed.

"This year's forecast suggests a smaller dead zone than is typical because the river flows that carry nutrients to the bay were slightly lower than normal. But the amount of nutrients carried to the bay by a given amount of flow has lessened over time due to effective nutrient management in the watershed. This is an example of a positive trajectory for the bay," said Jeremy Testa of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

USGS monitoring stations in nine rivers showed the Chesapeake received 19 percent less nitrogen pollution than the long-term average.

Still, the researchers point out that "better" isn't good enough. The predicted dead zone is still larger than the target set under the Chesapeake Bay Program's pollution diet. That shows even more work is needed.

"While this year's forecast is smaller than the long-term average, the long-term average is not the goal," said University of Michigan aquatic ecologist Don Scavia, a member of the research team.

Now, of course, we wait to see if the forecast comes true. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will make eight to 10 cruises between May and October to track summer hypoxia, giving periodic updates. And a Bay-wide dead zone assessment will be released in the fall.

"Less hypoxia is important as it means better habitat for our iconic bay species, such as crabs, oysters and striped bass," said Tom Parham, director of Tidewater Ecosystem Assessment at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Reacting to the dead zone prediction, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation took an opportunity to target agriculture pollution reduction. CBF's Director of Science and Agricultural Policy, Beth McGee, said in a statement,

"The U. S. Department of Agriculture must provide more funding for conservation and technical assistance and the Pennsylvania legislature should establish a state agricultural cost share program. At the same time, EPA must hold the states, especially Pennsylvania accountable to meet pollution reduction requirements from all sources."

CBF says 40 percent of the nitrogen pollution in the Bay comes from the Susquehanna River, and points to Pennsylvania as being largely responsible. The dead zone forecast is based on both the nitrogen flowing down from the Susquehanna and also that which enters the Bay from the nine river monitoring stations and the wastewater treatment plants downstream of them. To learn more about how they measure, see the revised and updated model.



-Meg Walburn Viviano

2020 Club Officers

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Milton Hudgins
Vice President
Wally Veal
Secretary
Christina Grice
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Charles Southall
Corresponding Secretary
Stan Simmerman
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Dave Boyce	Don Lancaster
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Daily Vandergriff	Wally Veal



Attention all members: This is a reminder that all memberships will now expire on the last day of February of each year. Forms are available from Johnny Boyd (membership committee). At the December 2019 board meeting the board voted to increase the dues by \$10. As before, the \$40 is per individual or family. We haven't had a dues increase in pretty much forever and this will help the club pay for the increased cost of our meeting space as well as supporting events like the picnic, awards banquet, and fishing related events, organizations, and tournaments.

PSWSFA 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Dues: \$40 per year for entire family*
(March through February - not prorated throughout the year)

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Dependents Names and ages

1) _____ 4) _____
2) _____ 5) _____
3) _____ 6) _____

*Family must be living with you

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Boat Name/Call Sign: _____

Total number in your membership: _____

Send this form with a check (payable to PSWSFA) to:

PSWSFA
P.O. Box 5194
Newport News, VA 23605

Please check one of the following:

☐ Yes, please add my name to the club membership book
☐ No, please do not publish my information

Virginia Beach Fishing

27 June 2021

The Virginia Beach Tuna tournament took place this weekend and the fishing was awesome! 102 boats entered the three-day event. They were allowed to fish one day out of three, captain's choice. A lot a nice tuna were weighed in.

The crew onboard the Piped Piper landed the largest tuna at 206.9 pounds. The crew onboard the Mega Byte won first place overall with a total catch of 282.3 pounds. Pied Piper took second at 278.3 pounds and Sea Trader finished third with 182.6 pounds.

The crew on Hana Hou won the dolphin category at 22.7 pounds. Lady angler went to Wendy Brockenbrough, 67.6 pounds and Lila Wheeler won Junior Angler at 35.7 pounds. Congratulations to all. *You can see the complete standing on their web site.*

Deep droppers fishing the canyon are catching nice tilefish and black sea bass

Inshore, VBSF sponsor Captain Chris Howlin on the "Game On" reports spadefish numbers dropped in ocean waters, but as water warms they are thickening up inside the Bay. Look for them around the islands and piling of the CBBT. Along with spadefish there are some good-sized sheepshead being caught around CBBT structure.

Cobia are being caught inside the Bay. Anglers are chumming or sight casting using live eels or bucktails for bait.

Large red drum should be on the eastern shore shoals and around the islands of the CBBT, but reports are slow. It's only a matter of time though.

Flounder action is picking up at the CBBT, The Cabbage Patch, Bluefish Rock, and Back River Reef.



Last Month's Mystery Fish: The Golden Trevally



The golden trevally (*Gnathanodon speciosus*), also known as the golden kingfish, banded trevally or king trevally, is a species of large marine fish classified in the jack and horse mackerel family Carangidae, and the only member of the monospecific genus *Gnathanodon*.

The golden trevally is widely distributed throughout the tropical and subtropical waters of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, ranging from South Africa in the west to Central America in the east, extending to Japan in the north and Australia in the south. The species predominantly occupies inshore waters where it inhabits both reef and sandy substrates. The golden trevally is easily distinguished from its relatives by its fleshy, rubbery lips and unique colouration, which ranges from bright yellow with black bars as a juvenile to a golden-silvery colour as an adult. It is known to grow to 120 cm in length and 15 kg in weight.

The golden trevally is found either as a solitary individual or in small schools as an adult. Juveniles tend to form larger schools which tend to congregate and follow (or "pilot") larger fish such as groupers, sharks, and even jellyfish.

The golden trevally is a diurnal foraging carnivore which, unlike other carangids, does not normally seek out individual prey items. The highly protractile mouth possessed by the species is used to form a tube to suck prey out of both reef- and algae-dominated habitats.

WRECKS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

From Fred 'Opa' Peer who spent several years as captain of a dive boat out of Rudee Inlet. Here are his 'Golden' numbers for wrecks offshore.

Artificial Reef 8/7/02 Wood Barge 36*54.083' 75*43.428'	Tanks 36*54.057' 75*43.282'	Anthony Ann 36*54.038' 75*43.396'
Big D: 36*59.763 - 76*06.104	Bell: 37*13.334' - 7 5*36.549'	
Brass Spike: 36*55.816' - 75*33.923'	Benson: 36*08.960' - 75*14.694'	
Brit Splendor: 36*49.132' - 75*54.160'	Birch Lake: 37*15.321' - 75*37.212'	
Cuyahoga: 36*57.914' - 75*22.814'	Cutlass: 37*02.350' - 75*24.265'	
Coral: 36*49.224' - 75*35.308'	Castle Clark: 36*59.351' - 75*23.214'	
Chenango: 36*27.620' - 74*56.624'	Clam Barge: 37*04.723' - 75*23.214'	
Carolina Breeze: 37*07.998' - 75*22.590'	Dixie Arrow: 34*53.971' - 75*44.969'	
Eureka Earde: 36*40.340' - 74*53.874'	Frisco: 36*51.831' - 74*53.046'	
Gulf Hustler: 36*51.685' - 75*36.303'	Garrison: 36*59.582' - 75*21.801'	
Gary's Barge: 36*54.200' - 75*43.489'	Meridith: 36*31.034' - 75*38.875'	
Joe's Secret Lobster Wreck: 36*49.224' - 75*35.308'	Kingston Ceylonite: 36*49.630' - 75*52.112'	
Kurn (Tercel): 37*02.367' - 75*24.261'	Luckenbach: 36*58.570' - 75*24.824'	
Lee (Pieces): 36*49.218' - 75*35.317'	Lancing: 35*02.015' - 75*25.640'	
Morgan: 37*00.064' - 75*24.442'	Monroe Light: 37*35.720' - 75*14.801'	
North Reef: 37*01.656' - 75*42.898	Paddle Wheel: 36*58.58' - 75*22.77'	
North Powell: 37*32.060' - 75*13.779'	Ricks: 36*47.909' - 75*29.574'	
Santore: 36*53.845' - 75*46.856'	Stormy: 36*51.410 - 75*47.060	
Tiger: 36*45.954' - 75*46.297'	Triangle Clam Barge: 37*04.744' - 75*23.193'	
Webster (Bow): 36*59.707' - 75*21.665'	York: 36*03.982' - 75*13.649'	
New Wreck: 36*58.112' - 75*26.693'	4-A Dry Dock: 36*35.907' - 75*41.865'	
MISCELLANEOUS		
Paramour Reef: 37*32.309' - 75*26.054'	Jay: 37*57.875' - 74*28.151'	
Astral: 35*07.813'	Hatti: 35*10.060' - 75*28.435'	
Avon-W: 35*21.268' - 75*19.493'	Heperi: 35*08.983' - 75*28.435'	
B R Special: 34*49.146' - 75*54.185'	Hussy: 36*51.669' - 75*36.304'	
R-10: 35*35.708' - 75*19.503'	R-8: 35*55.690' - 75*27.504'	
Curry: 36*21.016' - 75*45.683'	Lcent: 36*57.249' - 76*10.896'	
Diamond: 35*49.108' - 75*19.500'	Lynn: 36*55.140' - 76*05.384'	
Spot: 36*52.914' - 75*47.305'	Dock: 36*49.927' - 75*58.348'	
Mad Rug: 37*49.798' - 74*55.000'	Tar-Ho: 35*43.980' - 75*37.720'	
D B Buoy: 38*38.018' - 75*24.849'	Map: 36*49.798' - 75*58.262'	
Empire: 35*01.802' - 75*38.620'	Navada: 35*07.813' - 75*37.504'	

Is everything accurate? Maybe. I think the numbers are good but are the names correct? I'm not sure. The word document I copied these from wasn't 100%. If someone recognizes some of these names and has them plotted can you check them for accuracy. Thank you.

CLOSE CALL: MISSING BOATERS RESCUED THANKS TO FLOAT PLAN

A search for two missing boaters and their dog has a happy ending thanks to several search and rescue agencies ... and the fact that the boaters communicated their expected return time to relatives.

The boat owner, his dog, and a companion had been on the water in Newport News, were overdue, and were not returning calls, a family member reported to the U.S. Coast Guard Friday morning.

The Coast Guard launched search crews by boat and helicopter, and Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Newport News Fire Department, James City Fire Department, Suffolk Fire Department, Fort Eustis Fire Department, Prince George and Surry county all helped in the search as well.

The Coast Guard found the boat, along with its owner and the dog, beached near Morrison Creek. The second boater had swum across the Warwick River and walked to safety, then called 911.

USCG points out that letting someone know you're headed out on the water and when you plan to be back is a crucial step—especially if something unexpected happens.

"When boaters are overdue and missing, minutes and seconds can be the determining factor in life or death for those involved," said LT Micheal Brooks, Sector Virginia Command Duty Officer. "Float plans, EPIRBS, lifejackets and working communication devices are all gear that can get the Coast Guard to you quickly and accurately in emergencies."

—Meg Walburn Viviano



An MH-60 Jayhawk like this one, from USCG Air Station Elizabeth City, helped search for the overdue boaters.



Brian Hogge - Flounder Fisherman
Extraordinaire and our guest speaker on
Sunday the 18th.



Danny and Yellowfin

Way South Chesapeake Bay Fishing Report, July 2021

Way South Chesapeake Bay Fishing Report, July 9 Update:

Hampton Contributor Chuck Harrison got out fishing “with the crowd” last Monday with John Erikson and they managed a couple of trigger fish, one baby spadefish, and several bluefish up to and just over four pounds — and lost a red drum that looked to be around 40 inches beside the boat. When we talked to Ocean’s East, they confirmed that all these species are hangin’ around and active. The spadefish and trigger fish are regularly being caught alongside each other at the CBBT islands and around the light tower. They also mentioned that Lynnhaven remained a hotspot for puppy drum this week, but that the speckled trout bite has shut down due to oppressive heat.



Waller Whittemore caught this bull red on a Nomad chug Norris 120 top water plug about a mile and a half off of Cape Henry - that's one awesome looking fish held up by one happy looking angler!

We were glad to hear from Ocean’s East that the Spanish Mackerel bite is turning on nicely as they make their way from the ocean up into the Bay — right now, anglers trolling Number One Drones and tossing Gotcha plugs are enjoying the best of the bite. No areas have popped out as hotspots, but the main stem of the Bay has held the bulk of action.

We had a couple reader reports from The Cell early this week before the wind moved in, with a good cobia bite on fish to 50 inches (but most low-40-somethings) including some sight-casting. Those who dropped anchor and chummed clam bits also found lots of spadefish willing to bite. Many were on the small side but we did also get reports of nice-sized fish. Captain Cook of First Light Charters also visited The Cell this week, and confirmed the good spadefish action. Around the CBBT, there have been reports flying in from anglers catching sheepshead. There has been no shortage of them this year, and quite a few boats reported multi-catch days.

Ocean’s East also let us know that kingfish (roundheads) have begun moving up into the Bay, and this week produced the first solid catch reports for them aside from the ocean.

Cobia fishing is hot, say the folks at Ocean’s East, and both trolling and sight casting are doing the trick. The main impediment to sight fishing these days is the weather, not the cooperation of the target species. Unfortunately, that impediment has been an issue quite a bit recently. Plus, chumming is often made difficult thanks to all the rays and sharks. Sheepshead fishing is good at the CBBT, with steady catches reported and clam and crab being good baits. Spanish mackerel are also present in the area and are taking spoons on the troll. Nothing like the numbers compared to peak season the past few years, but they’re starting to run and numbers get better by the day. Speckled trout are mostly on the east side and some are being caught in the inlets, although reports have slowed down for them. The usual small soft plastics are working well, Salt and Pepper and Hot Chicken Saltwater Assassins were good choices this week. Drum fishing is excellent, excellent, excellent “all over.”



FISH TALES



Keith Nuttalls grandson Noah and Cobia



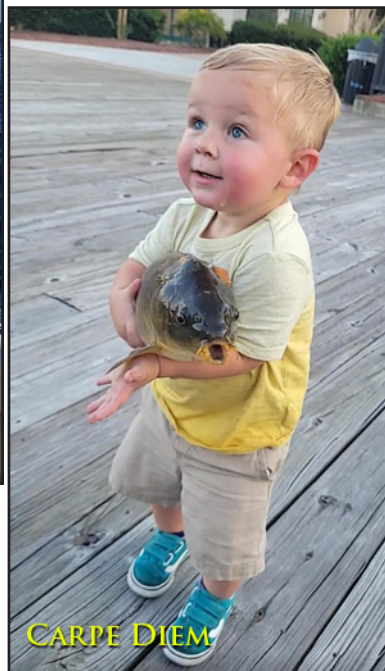
Wally Veal with a nice spadefish



STAN AND TUNA 28 JUNE



NICE TILEFISH



CARPE DIEM



ANOTHER TILEFISH



Wally and Cobia at the Light Tower



Coming prepared to fish on a hot day at Fort Eustis

Monthly Tournament List May 2021

Channel Bass

Rick Wineman 51" & 47"
Wally Veal 49"

Gray Trout

Wally Veal 24.75"

Speckled Trout

Jerald Abraham 24.25"
Stan Simmerman 23.5", 23.5", 23", 23", 22.75"

Dolphin

Paul Hunt 52"

Blueline Tilefish

Rick Wineman 29"
Wally Veal 24.5"
Matt Waddell 22"

Cobia

Morgan Simmerman 52"
Deven Simmerman 49"

Grouper

Matt Waddell 28"

Sea Bass

Wally Veal 21.25", 20", 19.5"
Matt Waddell 19", 17", 15"

Monthly Tournament Contenders	
Species	Min Size
Albacore Tuna	35"
Amberjack	40"
Bigeye Tuna	40"
Black Drum	40"
Blackbelly Rosefish	14"
Blackfin Tuna	45"
Bluefin Tuna	45"
Bluefish	25"
Blueline Tilefish	20"
Blue Marlin	Release
Channel Bass	40"
Cobia	40"
Croaker	16"
Dolphin	35"
False Albacore	25"
Flounder	22"
Golden Tilefish	30"
Gray Trout	24"
Grouper	16"
Jack Crevalle	36"
King Mackerel	35"
Pompano	12"
Sailfish	Release
Sea Bass	15"
Shark	60"
Sheepshead	15"
Snapper	12"
Spadefish	18"
Spanish Mackerel	20"
Spearfish	Release
Speckled Trout	21"
Spot	8"
Striped Bass	36"
Swordfish	Release
Tarpon	Release
Tautog	18"
Triggerfish	15"
Wahoo	40"
White Marlin	Release
Whiting (Roundhead)	14"
Yellowfin Tuna	35"

Photo taken in 2017 by the Editor at Hilton Waikoloa lagoon, Da Big Island, Hawaii

Since we haven't been holding regular meetings during the pandemic please send your entries to Milton by the 3rd Tuesday of the month by 7:00pm either as an email or snail mail to the address' on the left (Yellow Box). Please direct any questions to Milton.

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO:
MR. MILTON HUDGINS
1894 KATIE LANE
HAYES, VA 23072

(e-mail: judygee03@gmail.com)

Deadline for turning in your 2021 entry forms:

Month of Entry	Deadline (RegMtg)	Month	Deadline (Reg Mtg)
January	16 Feb	July	17 Aug
February	16 Mar	August	21 Sep
March	20 Apr	September	19 Oct
April	18 May	October	16 Nov
May	15 Jun	November	21 Dec
June	20 Jul	December	by Brd Mtg 14 Jan 2022

PSWSFA 2021 TOURNAMENTS



2021 PSWSFA TOURNAMENTS

Download "Official Entry Form" at

<http://www.pswsfa.com/MonthlyEntry.pdf>



FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS

You must register prior to fishing and use the PSWSFA official monthly entry form

Questions Contact: Tournament Director Rick Wineman: rick@getanetsportfishing.com or 757-268-1539

<p>Club Tog Tournament April 1st – 30th, 2021</p> <p>Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. May 11, 2021 See Rules below for weight tournament</p>	<p>Bishop's Trophy Red Drum Tournament May 1st – 31st, 2021</p> <p>Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. June 8, 2021 See Rules below for Catch and Release fish totals. (Witness or photo)</p>
<p>Club Multiple Species Tournament June 1st – 30th, 2021</p> <p>Angler who catches the most saltwater species in a single day Must Receive Completed Forms no later than the Board Mtg. July 13, 2021</p>	<p>Youth and Ladies Croaker/Spanish Mackerel Tournament July 1st -31st, 2021</p> <p>Free Tournament for Lady and Youth members/Guests (Do not need to register to participate) Must Receive Completed Entry Forms no later than the Board Mtg. August 10, 2021</p>
<p>Don Forman Club Cobia Tournament sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply August 1st -31st, 2021</p> <p>Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Sept. 14, 2021 See Rules below for weight tournament</p>	<p>Grafton Fishing Supply Club Spot Tournament September 18th – 19th, 2021</p> <p>Weigh in: 2:00pm Sept. 19th at Dare Marina All entries will be weighed using the same club scale followed by the Annual Club Picnic Spot Tournament - Two categories with 1st – 3rd place winners: "ADULT ENTRIES" and "YOUTH ENTRIES" (Anglers for the Spot Tournament must be present to win) RSVP by Sept. 16th if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the Tournament Director</p>
<p>Club Puppy Drum Tournament October 1st – 31st</p> <p>Most number of Spots Wins (photos required) Must Receive Completed Forms and copies of photos no later than the Board Mtg. Nov 9, 2021</p>	<p>Wilcox Bait and Tackle Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament December 1st -31st, 2021</p> <p>Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Jan. 11, 2022 See Rules below for weight tournament</p>

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO: MR. MILTON HUDGINS, 1894 KATIE LANE, HAYES, VA 23072 (e-mail: judygee03@gmail.com)

Where the Action Is

This is a short excerpt from *Saltwater Fishing Success!* a paperback book by George Paveromo that was being given away at the last meeting. It covers a subject I have always wondered about, What does Fast, Medium and Slow action in a rod actually mean.

Its The Action

Several factors determine a rod's potency, such as material, wall-thickness, length etc. However, Action is paramount in acquiring the right performance foundation. Action, basically, is where the rod initially bends at the tip, and then ceases (See illustration). At one extreme, the distance of this "curve" or "bend" determines if a rod is better suited for solid hook sets with large baits and lures for bigger fish and casting accuracy (Fast or Extra Fast Actions), or, at the other extreme, prime for extended casting distances, pitching live baits, and enhancing actions of smaller lures and baits (Medium to Slow Actions). Naturally, there are actions in between to help a rod excel in specific situations.

For casting accuracy, Extra Fast and Fast Action rods provide more speed and power to pitch a lure to a target. However, sometimes their stiffness may reduce casting distance.

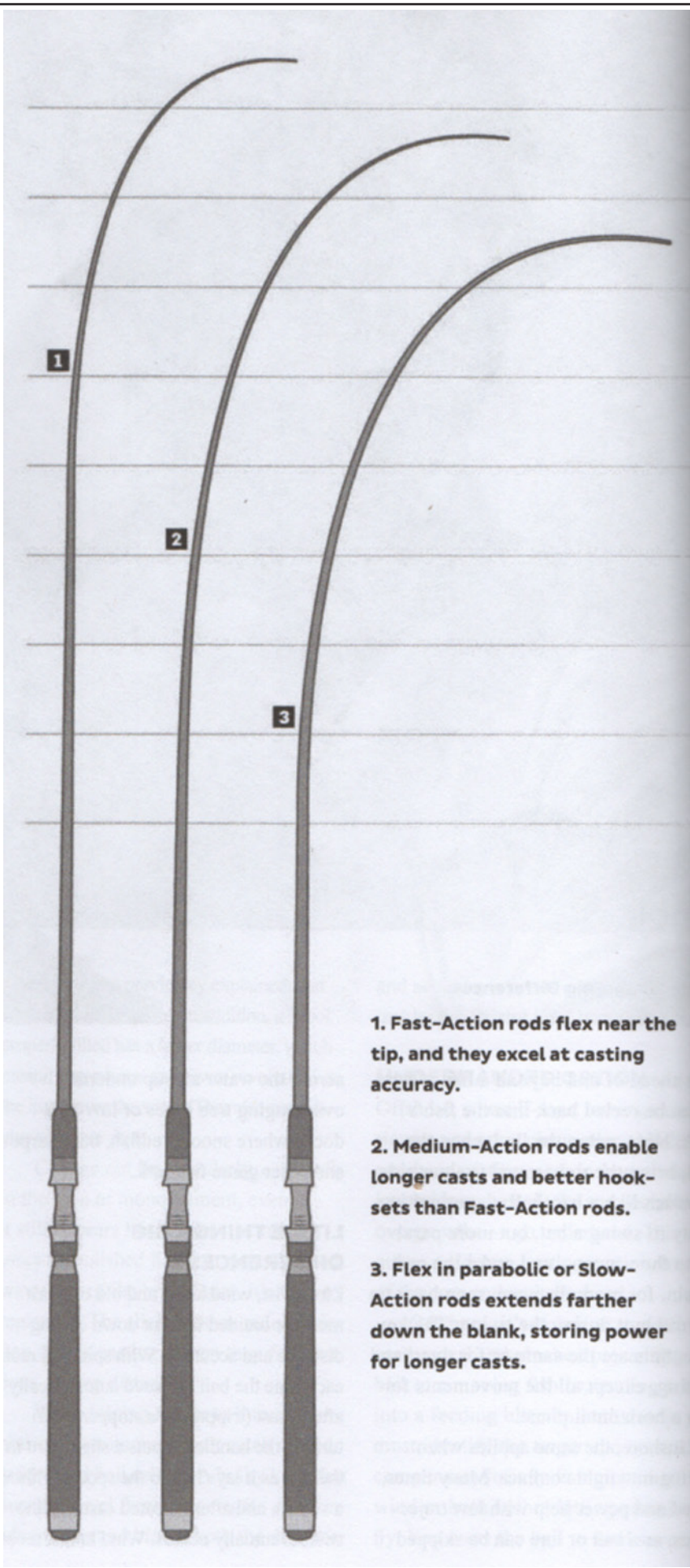
For inshore and near shore fishing and casting light lures and baits, lighter Fast and Medium Action rods generally excel. With a Medium Action the bend is a bit more pronounced compared to a Fast Action, generally encompassing anywhere from the upper third to nearly midway down the blank, and the bend will be even more aggressive on a Slow Action rod.

As a general rule, the more pronounced the bend, the more energy a rod can load up. In big part this is where casting distance is generated. However, because of this load up and lack of stiffness near the rod tip, casting accuracy may suffer

Medium and Slow Actions often promote better sets with smaller hooks, and especially lighter and smaller lures. The stiffness of an Extra Fast or Fast Action when striking a fish can sometimes pull a lure away from it. By comparison, that subtle bit of extra time, albeit very slight, for a Medium to Slow Action rod to come tight is often just enough for a fish to fully contain a lure and become solidly hooked.

Power me a Fish

Often confused with rod Action, Rod Power is simply how powerful the blank is. It coincides with line strength. Heavy Power rods can accommodate 80-130 lb test line. Medium Heavy, 30-80 lb test line. Medium Power 20-30lb, Light Power 10-20lb, and Ultra Light Power 8lbs and less.



1. Fast-Action rods flex near the tip, and they excel at casting accuracy.

2. Medium-Action rods enable longer casts and better hook-sets than Fast-Action rods.

3. Flex in parabolic or Slow-Action rods extends farther down the blank, storing power for longer casts.



FISHING IN BARBADOS

In many ways, Barbados is the perfect tropical getaway. Checking all the boxes a “typical” Caribbean paradise can offer, the scenic island boasts white-sand beaches, clear turquoise waters, as well as splendid colonial buildings and mouth-watering delicacies. Like we said – typical. But what truly sets this place apart is the year-round angling it offers.



Yes, fishing in Barbados is one of those bucket-list, must-try experiences. Today, you’re going to learn everything about it.

Fishing in Barbados: An Overview

Due to its year-round tropical climate and warm waters, most of the Caribbean islands offer great fishing, and Barbados is no exception.

There are more than 500 fish species swimming around Barbados. For you, this means a wide range of opportunities for all types of sportfishing. It doesn’t matter if you’re looking for beach, inshore, or deep sea big game fishing, something’s on the bite in these waters.

Of all the fish species that inhabit these waters, the ones most fishermen go after are Blue and White Marlin, Dolphin (Mahi Mahi), Wahoo, Sailfish, various Tunas, and Barracuda.

Rules and Regulations

Barbados is a country dedicated to the preservation of wildlife and the health of the waters surrounding the island. The country has large areas maintained as marine reserves by the National Conservation Commission.

Having said that, you don’t need a fishing license when sportfishing in Barbados. The official authority for sportfishing in Barbados is the Barbados Game Fishing Association, which is also responsible for organizing all fishing events and tournaments.

Barbados Fishing Seasons

Fishing in Barbados is seasonal and dependent on the impact of the rainy season on major South American rivers and their effect on water clarity, salinity, and the amount of debris that currents bring from these mighty waterways. Surface currents off the island are complex but generally directed toward the northwest.

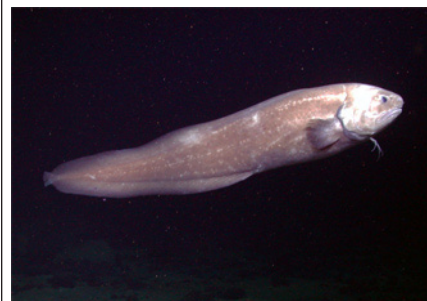
Barbados is a windy place, with only its western coast sheltered from the Caribbean gusts. Still, thanks to its position in the south of the Caribbean, the island doesn’t suffer as much from hurricanes as many of its northern neighbors do. In 2019, Barbados was largely spared by the devastating hurricane Dorian.

Continued. on page 13

**So you think you know
your Fish**

Name this Fish?

Answer next month



Fishing in Barbados Continued

These windy conditions make the fishing demanding at times, but they also often attract large pelagic fish species. Fishing is particularly good between January and April, when all of the game fish are in season. The “official” fishing season according to the BGFA is from December to April.

What fish can I catch in Barbados?

In short – a lot. As we mentioned, Barbados waters hold a large variety of fish species. Of these, Barracuda is probably the most popular, seeing as it's in season throughout the year. You can also catch exciting Billfish, like Sailfish and Marlin. These guys are in season from January through April.

And then there's a host of reef fish like Barracuda, Mahi Mahi, Wahoo and Kingfish, all of which are as abundant as in any other Caribbean fishery. January through May is Tuna time in Barbados. During this time, you can catch anything from Skipjack and Bonito to Blackfin Tuna and even the odd Yellowfin if you're lucky.

Tarpon is present around the island, but not in great numbers. They hang around the freshwater springs, of which there are only a few and mostly on the northeast coast. On Barbados, local fishermen refer to them as “Cuffum.” Long Pond lagoon on the northeastern coast is said to have a good Tarpon population.



Deep Sea Fishing

Going out into deeper waters will allow you to try a whole other variety of fishing techniques. These include kite fishing, live and dead bait drifting, lure and dead bait trolling. Most big game fishing boats do trolling when targeting big game. Depending on the boat, you'll see anything from two to six lines in the water at a time. The tackle for this type of fishing should consist of top quality rods and reels, filled with 30 lb or 50 lb test line.

Pelagic game fish prefer deep blue water, and they usually get bigger as the waters get deeper.

Luckily, you'll be in waters as deep as 400 feet within just a mile offshore. This means that you'll spend very little time reaching the fishing grounds. In fact, even the 1,500 foot mark is as close as 3 miles offshore!

Waters to the southwest of the island boast large underwater structures, which tend to attract big pelagic fish. This makes the capital city of Bridgetown an ideal launching point for a deep sea adventure.

If you'd like to target a bucket-lister like Marlin however, you'll need to go a little further out. Most of these monsters are caught between 8–25 miles off the coast.

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Directions to PSWSFA Meeting IN JULY

Former St Mark's Episcopal Church

From 64 (either direction) take the Mercury Blvd exit towards the James River Bridge (West) stay in the right hand lane and turn right at the light onto Todds Lane. Go past Zaxby's chicken about 400 ft and the driveway to the church is on the right. The original St. Mark's sign is still on the lawn just short of the driveway.



WHAT'S UP NEXT & BEYOND

The **July meeting** will be held at the former St. Mark's Episcopal church. It sits behind the Berceuse funeral home on Todd's lane Hampton. Easy on/off from 64.

We will be asking members for their opinion on which venue we should continue using, St. Mark's or the Lodge in Poquoson. It would be helpful if the members that were at the June meeting were also at the July meeting since they would have seen both locations.

If you come to the traffic light at the intersection of Cunningham you went to far. Turn right on Cunningham and look for the Cunningham entrance to the church (500ft). If it is blocked you will need to do a U-turn on Cunningham and go left onto Todds Lane.

From Mercury, the church driveway is just short of the Berceuse Funeral home entrance or just after if coming from Cunningham.

