



CHUMLINE

September 2019

Newsletter of the Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association



Editor – Danny Forehand
pswsfa_chumline@cox.net

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. We meet at the Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 540, 7812 Warwick Boulevard, Newport News, VA 23607. The meetings are free and open to the public. Our meetings 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. 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. Directions can be found at www.pswsfa.com/meetings.htm.

Editor's note: If you have announcements, fishing pictures or reports you would like to share with your fellow club members, please send them to me at the following email address pswsfa_chumline@cox.net.

Come join us this Tuesday, Sep. 17th for the monthly meeting. Hunter Southall will be joining us as the speaker this month. He is going to share his knowledge of catching nice sheepshead while they are available in our waters.

According to Wikipedia: *Archosargus probatocephalus*, the **sheepshead**, is a marine [fish](#) that grows to 76 cm (30 in), but commonly reaches 30 to 50 cm (10 to 20 in). It is deep and compressed in body shape, with five or six dark bars on the side of the body over a gray background. It has sharp dorsal spines. Its diet consists of [oysters](#), [clams](#), and other [bivalves](#), and [barnacles](#), [fiddler crabs](#), and other [crustaceans](#).^[1] It has a hard [mouth](#), with several rows of stubby [teeth](#) – the frontal ones closely resembling [human teeth](#) – which help crush the shells of prey.^[2]



Some News on the local striped bass fishery from Dr Ken Neill III.

By now, you know Virginia has taken further striped bass measures ahead of ASMFC action. In addition to closing the spring trophy season earlier, the top 3 measures in the attached photo were passed by emergency action today. There will be a public hearing on these at the September VMRC meeting where they will be finalized, modified, or be rejected. There are further commercial actions planned for the November VMRC meeting.

The recent stock assessment shows that striped bass are over fished, over fishing is occurring and there is a particular concern with spawning stock biomass (big fish).

Virginia's actions are particularly concerned with protecting these big fish. The commercial actions taken and those proposed for the November meeting do nothing to limit the commercial quota but are designed to protect big fish. An original proposal was to place a 36 inch maximum on both commercial and recreational fisheries. Some fish over 36 inches will be caught with the small mesh nets but the thinking was better to apply these to the commercial quota than to require them to be thrown back, possibly dead already. But, at least one of my fellow commissioners thinks that the 36-inch maximum should apply to the commercial sector as well so this could be revisited especially if a bunch of big fish show in the commercial catch.

So, while Virginia is taking these actions, what is ASMFC doing? They are taking two paths, a fast one and a slow one, addendum and amendment. The addendum actions are planned to be in place for 2020. The amendment process takes longer. The addendum is not really doing anything directly for the big fish. They have just decided that there needs to be an overall reduction in catch of 18%. They are looking at things like increasing size minimums which may help catch numbers but not big fish. They are seeking public comment now for this process. One thing they are looking at is whether to apply this 18% reduction to both recreational and commercial fisheries or to make the cuts 1.8% commercial and 20% recreational. The amendment process will more directly address the spawning stock biomass but this process will take at least a couple of years. Virginia is not waiting to protect the breeding stock.

I had asked VMRC staff to look at ways to allow some limited recreational catch of big fish and everything under the sun has been looked at. A big-fish tag has some support but this is where we are now. The recreational changes more than satisfy the 18 or 20 percent reduction that will be required by ASMFC for 2020 and Virginia is way ahead of ASMFC in protecting big fish. Whether they decide a 1.8 or a 18 percent reduction is required by the commercial fishery will decide any required quota reduction to the commercial sector.

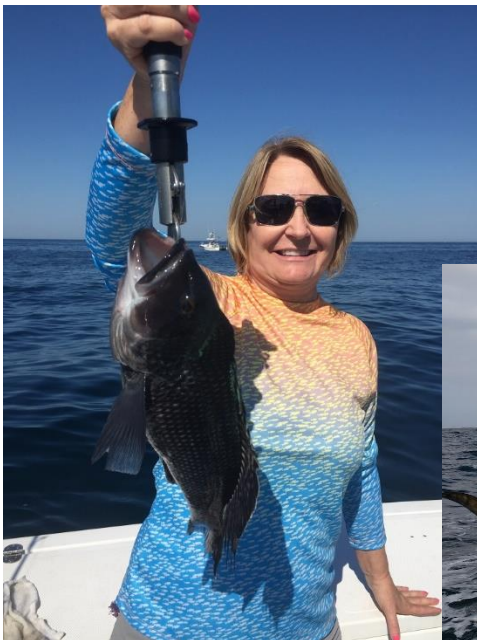
In other VMRC news that will be of interest is flounder. Unlike striped bass, this stock looks good overall though we know the bay fishery is way down from the glory days of just a few years ago. What will be looked at during the September VMRC meeting is the size limit for commercial hook-and-line fisherman. Recreational anglers have a 16.5 inch minimum size while commercial hook-and-line fisherman have the same 14-inch minimum as the draggers. So there are complaints like a charter captain who also has a commercial hook-and-line license takes a "charter" out and keeps 14 inch fish while the charter fishing next to him has to throw them back. Anyway, this has been grumbled about since the commercial hook-and-line license was created so it will be visited via a public hearing at the September meeting.

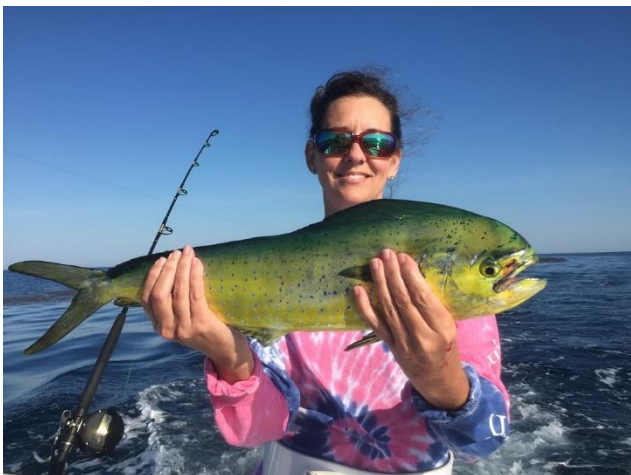
Dr. Ken Neill, III
IGFA Representative
Past-President, Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association, Inc.
Associate Commissioner Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Commissioner Potomac River Fisheries Commission

BRAGGING BOARD



Help fill this space up. Send
your fishing pics to
pswsfa_chumline@cox.net





A New state record swordfish was recently caught on the charter fishing boat Rebel out of Va Beach. The following news release and pictures come from Lewis Gillingham with the VMRC.



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
Building 96
380 Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe, VA 23651*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament

For Immediate Release
August 29, 2019

New State Record Swordfish Certified

A 466-pound swordfish, caught on August 16, 2019 by Tony Gower Jr. of Virginia Beach, VA, has been certified as the new Virginia State Record by the Director of Virginia's Saltwater Fishing Tournament. Gower's catch surpassed the existing record of 446-pounds, caught in October 2012, by Joseph T. Harris, of Virginia Beach.

Gower made the record catch off Virginia Beach while drifting along the south edge of the Norfolk Canyon in 250 fathoms of water. The party was fishing with Captain Randy Butler aboard the Rudee Inlet based charter boat Rebel, a 60-foot custom built Richie Howell. The record setting swordfish hit a whole drifted tinker mackerel suspended at 20 fathoms. Gower was using a custom 80-pound class rod, teamed with a Penn 70VIS reel spooled with a 200 yard top shot of 100-pound Berkley Pro Spec mono while the leader consisted of 250-pound mono with a 12/0 Eagle Claw hook on the business end. The backing was 100-pound braid.

The party, which consisted of five members from upper level management of the local company Ocean Drywall, departed Rudee's Inlet Marina at a causal 9 AM and preceded to the Norfolk Canyon area to deep-drop for tilefish and blackbelly rosefish. With a good catch of tilefish and blackbelly rosefish in the box, and darkness approaching, the group readied to spend the night drifting for swordfish (their real mission). A full moon was scheduled but because of overcast skies and scattered showers it was a pitch dark night. The first strike of the night resulted in a dusky shark that was released after a spirited fight. As wind and rain increased all lines, except one were reeled in to prevent tangles. It was approximately 3:30 AM when the next strike came. Gower, an experienced offshore angler who had fished with Captain Butler "a ton" over the past 20 years but never for swordfish, was elected to take the rod, as catching a swordfish was on his bucket list. The fish jumped soon after the hook-up, close enough the splash for to be heard, but it was too dark to get an idea of the size of the fish. The fish "changed depth and angles," said mate Mike Romeo but "never took over 200 yards of line." As the hours went by the crew suspected the fish was good-sized. Not until the pre-dawn skies grew lighter did they realize mammoth size of the swordfish. The last half hour the fish was pretty much dead weight and was a test of will between the angler's concern of breaking the fish off and fighting the current pulling the fish. The fish was finally pulled through the tuna door at 7 AM but took all hands to jockey it into the cockpit.

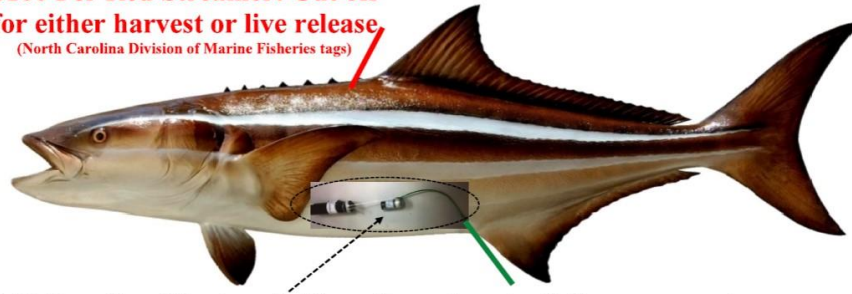
Inside Rudee Inlet at Rudee's Inlet Marina the swordfish would weigh an incredible 466-pounds eclipsing the former state record by 20 pounds! The fish measured 150.5 inches total length with a lower jaw fork length of 98.5 inches while sporting a girth of 54 inches.

For more information, contact Lewis S. Gillingham, Director, Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, 380 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe, VA 23651, (757) 247.2013 or vswft@mrc.virginia.gov



COBIA REWARD \$100-300 / FISH

**\$100 Per Red Streamer: Cut off
for either harvest or live release**
(North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries tags)



\$100 Smaller Electronic Tag: Search guts, follow green streamer
(Virginia Institute of Marine Science electronic tag)

1. Call us!
2. Record: Total length, date, location of capture
3. Take photos

Call : (804) 684 - 7819

Researchers at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and North Carolina State University are tagging cobia with surgically implanted electronic tags: acoustic transmitters and data loggers. The transmitters allow the fish to be detected by receivers that are located along the East Coast. The data logger (smaller tag) needs to be **returned** in order to download important data on fish habitat preferences. Please follow all applicable state and federal fishing regulations. Not all fish have all tags. Thank you for returning tags. Want to learn more? Please visit our websites via the QR codes or contact us:

Dan Crear
Email: dcrear@vims.edu
Phone: (804) 684 - 7819

VIMS | **WILLIAM & MARY**
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE
fish.vims.edu



Riley Gallagher
Email: rgallag2@ncsu.edu
Phone: (800) 790 - 2780

**NC STATE
UNIVERSITY**



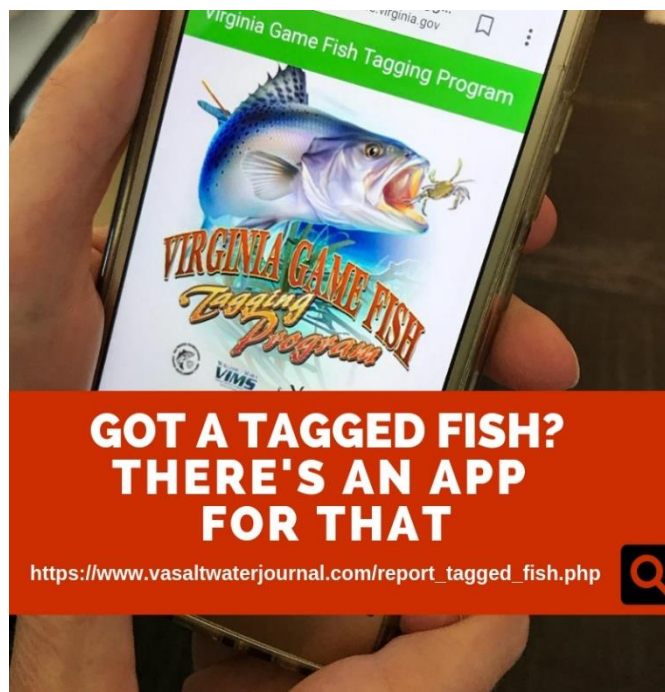
Don't forget to check out the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program's (VGFTP) mobile ready platforms? Now, anglers who catch a tagged fish can easily enter their tagged fish's information such as number, species, date, location, length, and even choose their recapture reward.

Anglers can keep their eyes out for VGFTP target species such as black drum, black sea bass, cobia, grey triggerfish, red drum, spadefish, sheepshead, speckled trout, summer flounder and tautog.

For more information about the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program visit: www.vims.edu/vgftp/ and to report a tagged fish use:

https://www.vasaltwaterjournal.com/report_tagged_fish.php

Susanna Musick, VIMS



Monthly Tournament Awards July 2019

SPECIES	MIN. SIZE	ANGLER	LENGTH
Albacore Tuna	35 inches		
Amberjack	40 inches		
Bigeye Tuna	40 inches		
Black Belly Rose Fish	14 inches		
Black Drum	40 inches		
Blackfin Tuna	20 inches		
Bluefin Tuna	45 inches		
Bluefish	25 inches	Grayson Shield	13" (Y)
Blue Line Tile Fish	20 inches	Stan Simmerman	23"
Blue Marlin	Release		
Channel Bass	40 inches		
Cobia	40 inches	Wally Veal	47"
Croaker	16 inches	Chelsea Shield	12" (Y)
Dolphin	35 inches	Stan Simmerman	47"
False Albacore	25 inches		
Flounder	22 inches	Kelsey Bridges	24.5"
Golden Tile Fish	30 inches	Barclay Shepard	41"
Gray Trout	24 inches		
Grouper	16 inches		
Jack Crevelle	36 inches		
King Mackerel	35 inches		
Pompano	12 inches		
Sailfish	Release		
Sea Bass	15 inches	Matt Waddell	17"
Shark	60 inches		
Sheepshead	15 inches		
Snapper	12 inches		
Spadefish	18 inches	Michael Bristow	19"
Spanish Mackerel	20 inches		
Spearfish	Release		
Speckled Trout	21 inches		
Spot	8 inches	Grayson Shield	9"
Striped Bass	36 inches		
Swordfish	Release		
Tarpon	Release		
Tautog	18 inches		
Triggerfish	15 inches		
Wahoo	40 inches		
White Marlin	Release		
Whiting (Roundhead)	14 inches		
Yellowfin Tuna	35 inches	Wally Veal	51"

If you need an entry form, you can download a copy from the club's website at <http://www.pswsfa.com/MonthlyEntry.pdf>

MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO:

**MR. MILTON HUDGINS
1894 KATIE LANE
HAYES, VA 23072**

(e-mail: judygee03@gmail.com)

Month of Entry:	Deadline: (Board Mtg.)
Jan.	Feb. 12
Feb.	March 12
March	April 9
April	May 14
May	June 11
June	July 9
July	Aug. 13
Aug.	Sept. 10
Sept.	Oct. 8
Oct.	Nov. 12
Nov.	Dec. 10
Dec.	Jan. 14



2019 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 official monthly form filled out by an official weigh station with time, date and weight of fish, & weight master's signature to verify catch. All Club Tournaments will have Awards for the first 3 places.

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

CLUB TOURNAMENTS

For Club Members: \$20 entry fee for each individual tournament or
\$60 if you sign up for all tournaments at one time

Bishop's Triple Threat Tournament

Cobia – Channel Bass – Black Drum

"Combined total number of inches"

April 1, 2019 through July 31, 2019

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Leave from any port, no weigh in (length total of 3 fish)

Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Aug.13, 2019

See Rules below for Catch and Release fish totals. (Witness or photo)

Don Forman

Club Cobia Tournament

sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply

August 1-31, 2019

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Leave from any port

Must Receive Completed Form no later than
the Board Mtg. Sept. 10, 2019

Grafton Fishing Supply Club Spot Tournament

September 21-22, 2019

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Weigh in: 2:00pm Sept. 22nd at Dare Marina

All entries will be weighed using the same scale

followed by the **Annual Club Picnic and Awards Ceremony** for the Spot and
Youth & Ladies Croaker / Flounder Tournaments

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. 17th if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the
Tournament Director

Wilcox Bait and Tackle

Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament

December 1-31, 2019

\$20/each member & \$30/each non-member

Must Receive Completed Form no later than
the Board Mtg. Jan. 14, 2020

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

Youth and Ladies Croaker/Flounder Tournament

July 1-31, 2019

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 13, 2019

Awards will be given at the **Annual Club Picnic on Sept. 22nd at Dare Marina**

(Anglers for the Youth & Ladies Tournament are not required to be present to win)

RSVP by Sept. 17th if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the Tournament Director

2019 PSWSFA Tournaments Rules

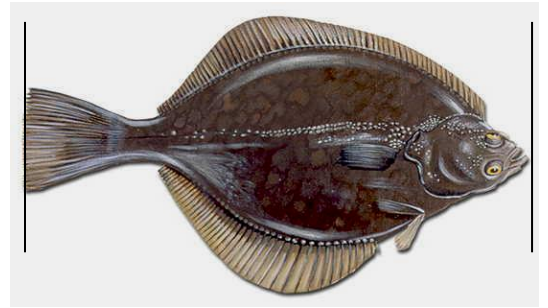
ALL Club Tournaments (Except as noted on front):

- Entry Fees: \$20 for member & \$30 for non-member. Youth and Ladies croaker/flounder tourney is free.
- You must register before fishing by e-mailing Rick Wineman: rick@getanetsportfishing.com or call 757-268-1539.
- Leaving a message will be sufficient to register, give all anglers names (specify club members and club guest), and also give a phone number.
- Guest(s) must fish with at least one member on boat/shore/pier/kayak
- Use a club "Official Entry Form" and weigh in fish at any Va. Saltwater Tournament official weigh station. Record the weight of fish, date and time caught and have the weigh master sign the form to verify catch. If two identical fish are caught on the same day, the earlier fish wins. That is why time is so important. ***Triple Threat entries require witness or photo since this is a length total tourney.***
- All pertinent PSWSFA bylaws apply.

To register or ask questions, e-mail Rick Wineman, Tournament Director
at rick@getanetsportfishing.com or call Rick @ 757-268-1539

MEASURING INSTRUCTIONS

With the fish lying on a flat surface, measure in quarter inch increments, from the tip of the mouth to the tip of the tail with the fish in a natural position and the mouth closed.



www.pswsfa.com

PSWSFA 2019 MEMBERSHIP
Dues: \$30 per year for entire *family
(January through December - not prorated throughout year)

(Please Print)

<input type="checkbox"/>	New Membership		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal		
<input type="checkbox"/>	cash	<input type="checkbox"/>	check

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

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**\*\*\*Don't forget to fill out a new membership form even if you are renewing an old membership or have already paid your dues for 2019. We are updating all our records and want to ensure accuracy of the information.**

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For Sale: Former club member Jack Lawson has many different size lead sinkers with brass swivels for sale at 18 cents/oz. Most of these are 12 and 13 oz with a handful of 14, 16 and 20 oz sinkers as well. Jack can be contacted at 757-771-0433

Attention Club Members:

To sign up and save 50% off a Boat U.S. membership, contact Gary Donaldson at garyd66@cox.net



BoatUS.com
800-395-2628

As a member of _____ Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association _____,
A BoatU.S. Cooperating Group, you are invited to **become a BoatU.S. Member**
at a special discounted rate:

50% OFF BOATU.S. MEMBERSHIP

Regularly \$30/year — You pay \$15!

BOATU.S. COOP #: _____

Upgrade to Unlimited Water and Road Towing so we pay your bill!

NEW MEMBERS

Sign up online at **BoatUS.com/join**
or call **800-395-2628**
Mention your BoatU.S. Coop #

CURRENT MEMBERS

Not receiving the discount? Email
Membership@BoatUS.com
or call **800-395-2628**

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 24/7 Dispatch to over 600 towboats in 300+ ports nationwide
- Boat insurance from boating experts with 24/7 claims service
- Savings with local businesses and national partners
- Highest level of shopping rewards at West Marine
- Subscription to award winning BoatU.S. Magazine

For a complete list of the 25+ benefits of Membership or to learn more about BoatUS, visit BoatUS.com or call 800-395-2628.



INSURANCE



DISCOUNTS



MAGAZINE



SAFETY



ADVOCACY



TOWING



TRAILER ASSIST



DISCOUNTS



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