



# CHUMLINE

JULY 2025

Supporting Hampton Roads Fisherman since 1957



## HOPE YOU ALL HAD A GREAT 4TH OF JULY

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. Directions on last page. You can visit us at [www.pswsfa.com](http://www.pswsfa.com).

### Member Meeting

15 July 2025 7:00pm

Greetings and welcome to July and the 2025 Sheepshead Tournament.

We need members to participate as well as finding non-members to register for this event. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and we need a good showing to keep the club viable. Your support will be greatly appreciated. We will also need a few members to help out at the event. Page 4 has the information you need to enter or go directly to our web site at [www.pswsfa.com](http://www.pswsfa.com) and follow the link at the top of the page, click on Tournaments then Sheepshead Tournament.

**Sheepshead Tournament Captains Meeting at 7pm on Friday 18 July 2025 at Wallace's.**

**Someone from each boat MUST attend.**

Get well soon Milton!

Stay well, Mike the Editor

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Folks,

As I reported last month, our long-time VP, Milton Hudgins, has been dealing with some serious health issues had a relapse and had to return to the hospital. He is now back in the rehab facility. Another club member, Gary Lawson is continuing to deal with his serious health issues and will be going in for surgery towards the end of this month. I ask that you keep them and all other members of the club dealing with their or a loved one's health issues in your thoughts and prayers.

July has arrived with a vengeance and water temperatures have skyrocketed to the mid to upper 80-degree mark with some areas seeing 90-degree water. Some of the creeks on the James River are reporting significant fish kills affecting striped bass due to oxygen depletion. Some very nice flounder catches are coming from both

inside and outside of the bay. Sheepshead are here and they are now spread out from inshore wrecks, the CBBT and on most of the structure in the bay. Cobia are here but the bite has been disappointing. The same holds true for Spanish Mackerel. It seems that both of these species have moved north with cobia to 90 lbs being caught off of NJ. The consensus from most folks is that there is a lack of bait in the lower bay and the fish have just continued up the coast. Big reds and puppy drum are being encountered throughout the bay with the best bull red bite coming from the CBBT. Tuna, mahi and wahoo are being caught along the outer banks.

Remember that our sheepshead tournament will be held on Saturday, July 19th with the captain's meeting being held on Friday evening at Wallace's. Once again, we need volunteers to help with registration on Friday evening.

*Continued on page 3*

**2025p Club Officers**

**Stan Simmerman**  
President

**Milton Hudgens**  
Vice President

**Wally Veal**  
Secretary

**Christina Grice**  
Treasurer

**Danny Forehand**  
Past President

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Rick Wineman  
Charles Randolph  
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Richie Moore  
Paul Downey  
Nicole Ambercrombie  
Johnny Boyd  
Gerald Abrams (alt)  
Rob Laymen



**PSWSFA 2025 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:

Please check one of the following:

**New Address**

PSWSFA  
P.O. Box 1056  
Yorktown, VA 23692-2878

Yes, please add my name to the club membership list to get the newsletter  
 No, please do not publish my info, but we never do

as well as participants. Make plans now to support this tournament. Sponsors are the lifeblood of the tournament and financing the club for the following years.

This month's club discussion will be about sheepshead fishing. Encourage your friends, neighbors and coworkers to attend a club meeting. They might just learn a little bit about fishing and may also want to join the club.

Get out there and fish and try to get a youngster/youngsters out with you. Enter your fish in the monthly tournament and especially the youth entries. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Tight Lines,  
Stan

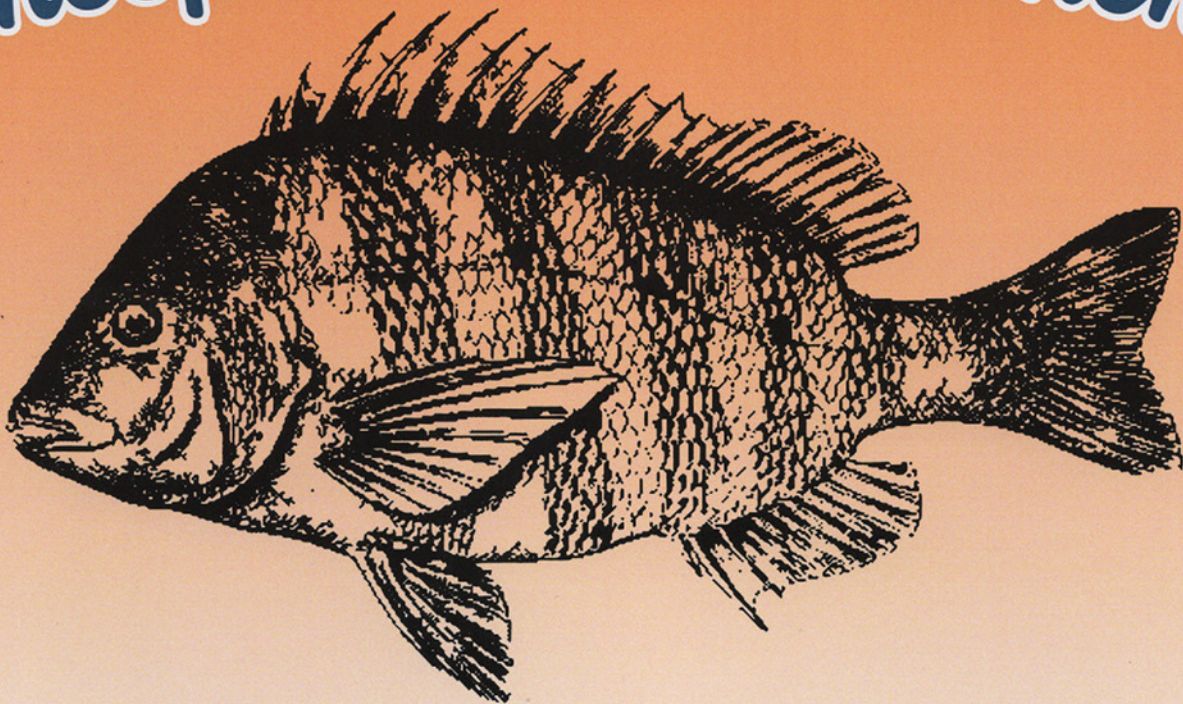
## Pirates Fishing



# PSWSFA



## Sheepshead Tournament



July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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For information go to [PSWSFA.com](http://PSWSFA.com)

Hosted by:

**Wallace's Bait & Tackle**

To sign up either as a Sponsor or to Join the Tournament go to [WWW.PSWSFA.COM](http://WWW.PSWSFA.COM) at the top of the page mouse over **Tournaments** then click on **Sheepshead Tournament**.

## *Virginia Junior Angler Awards Program*

### JUNIOR ANGLER INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(No P.O. Box Please)

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### CATCH-AND-RELEASE INFORMATION

Species	Date	Witness
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____

Check one:  
 Hat  
 Utility Box

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
 Lewis S. Gillingham  
 Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament  
 Building 96, 380 Fenwick Road  
 Ft. Monroe, VA 23651  
 (757) 491-5160



*Virginia Junior Angler Awards Program*  
 sponsored by  
*Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament*  
 a program of  
*Virginia Marine Resources Commission*

#### Rules

- All anglers 15 years of old, or younger, are eligible; the program will start January 1<sup>st</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday of eligible anglers must not occur prior to this date. There no entry fees.
- To qualify for a Virginia Junior Angler Award, an angler must catch and release six different eligible species of saltwater fish on rod and reel, while fishing in the marine waters of Virginia or while fishing in the Chesapeake Bay or the Atlantic Ocean. If fishing from a boat the vessel must leave and return to a Virginia port. There are no minimum size limits.
- The angler must complete the reverse side of this card with all required information, including the name of the person who witnessed each catch-and-release, and mail it to the office of the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, Building 96, 380 Fenwick Road, Ft. Monroe, VA 23651, prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>. All anglers fulfilling these requirements will receive a certificate suitable for framing recognizing their accomplishments.

#### SOME ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Albacore (true)	Croaker	King Mackerel	Porgy	Skate/Stingray	Gray Trout
Amberjack	Dolphin	Spanish Mackerel	Sailfish	Spearfish	Speckled Trout
Atlantic Bonito	Black Drum	Blue Marlin	Sea Bass	Striped Bass	Bigeye Tuna
Barracuda	Red Drum	White Marlin	Shark	Swordfish	Bluefin Tuna
Bluefish	False Albacore	Perch	Sheepshead	Tarpon	Skipjack Tuna
Cobia	Flounder	Pigfish	Spadefish	Tautog	Yellowfin Tuna
Cod	Kingfish (roundhead)	Pompano	Spot	Toadfish	Wahoo

## Hollywood Movie About Pirate reenactors Films in Yorktown, Hampton Roads

Chesapeake Bay boaters have known for years that Yorktown is charming, picturesque, and has a strong pirate vibe (the town's annual festival, Pirates Invade Yorktown, is proof).

Now, Hollywood is in on the secret. Last week, a large film crew came to historic Yorktown to film a new movie called *The Pirate King*. Nearly 150 actors, extras, and crew filmed at various locations, according to tourism leaders, from the Watermen's Museum to the iconic Coleman Bridge to sandy Yorktown Beach.

More of the movie is filming in Virginia Beach, Norfolk, and other spots in Hampton Roads. But the producers didn't just choose to film on the Virginia waterfront because it's scenic;



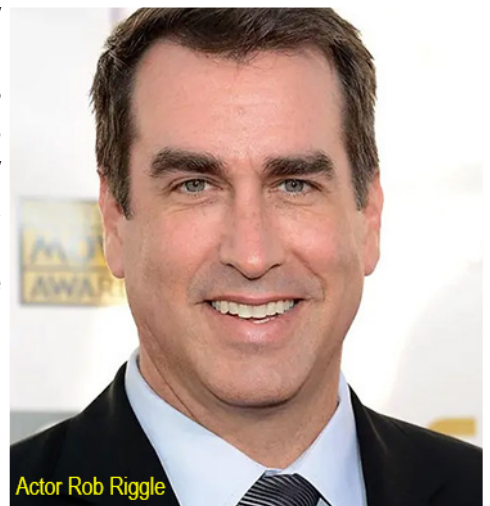
Virginia Beach's Todd Willis and his group of pirate reenactors partly inspired new movie *The Pirate King*, being filmed in Virginia

elements of the *The Pirate King* are inspired by the adventures of a real Virginia Beach resident: [Todd Willis](#), who runs a professional pirate reenactment group called The Loose Cannons.



The *Pirate King* stars actor Rob Riggle, known for acting in comedies *Talladega Nights*, *Step Brothers*, and *The Hangover*, among other films. In a role partly inspired by Willis, Riggle plays a former Marine suffering from PTSD who joins a group of pirate reenactors. (Riggle is also a real-life retired Marine who served at Ground Zero and in Afghanistan.)

His love interest is played by Jordana Brewster, who starred in seven *Fast & Furious* movies from 2001 to 2023. Brewster's character and the pirate reenactors help Riggle's character through his challenges fighting for custody of his daughter and rebuilding his life amid PTSD. Described as a "dramedy" by producers, the film touches on veteran assimilation after war and aims to give hope to former soldiers. It's an issue that is felt around Hampton Roads, home to America's largest naval base and other military bases.



Actor Rob Riggle

The film is directed by Virginia Beach native Josh Plasse, an actor, novelist, and script writer who is the son of a Navy SEAL. He also happens to be Willis's nephew. Producer Zak Kristofek is a Virginian, too. These local ties helped filmmakers tap into the pirate re-enactment community for the film, explains Virginia Film Office spokesperson Margaret Finucane.

Producer Ethan Lazar says many of the pirate scenes were filmed right on the sand at Yorktown. "We built a set there and shot for days," he tells us. To make the pirate reenactment scenes especially

*Continued on page 6*



A peek through the window at a filming location in Yorktown. Photo by Visit Yorktown

convincing, the crew relied on Willis (you just might see him on screen) and the Loose Cannons for input. Some performers from Pirates of the Caribbean participated, and the stunts were planned by choreographers from the Superman movie franchise.

Lazar praises Plasse and Willis as ambassadors for the Hampton Roads and Yorktown areas. The Pirate King “really is a love letter to Virginia Beach and all of the surrounding areas,” Lazar says, noting the various landmarks featured in the film and even the military jets flying overhead.

The Virginia Film Office, whose mission is to bring filming and its economic impact to the Commonwealth, says the area is a natural draw for the film industry thanks to convenient-but-diverse locations, along with a great food and beverage scene and film-friendly locales.

The crew will be filming in the region for one more day, wrapping up Thursday and heading into post-production immediately after. Stay tuned for future announcements about The Pirate King’s release.



Pirate Reenactors of the Loose Cannon Company

## Emergency Dredging to Begin at Ocean City Inlet Ahead of White Marlin Open

By Bay Bulletin / July 7, 2025

The Ocean City Inlet will receive emergency dredging this month, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) just announced. It's being addressed now because of increased boating traffic during the busy summer season. Water depths need to be safe and accessible for the Coast Guard to respond to emergencies, both during regular boat traffic and during the White Marlin Open, to be held Aug. 4-8. As of this week, 112 boats are registered for the tournament.

This week surveys are being done to prioritize which areas need dredged most, USACE spokesperson Nicole Strong tells Chesapeake Bay Magazine. The Corps of Engineers is authorized to dredge to a depth up to 10 feet.

According to Strong, dredging at the inlet typically takes place 2-4 times a year. The emergency request was approved for the USACE Baltimore District to use Wilmington District's vessel Merritt to remove about 7,500 cubic yards of dredged material. (The dredges usually used in the inlet, Currituck and Murden, are undergoing annual maintenance right now.)

Boaters will see the Merritt arrive in Ocean City the third week of July, with dredging taking place the week of July 21. The area crews are targeting is the "priority area along the northern half of the channel near the harbor." The operations will take about eight days.

The Merritt can dredge areas as shallow as 5.5 feet, side casting material 85 feet from the vessel to clear a channel.

"We've heard the concerns from mariners and local officials and understand how critical this waterway is to both safety and economic security for the region," said Baltimore District Commander Col. Francis Pera. "Dredging in the Ocean City inlet is extremely important work and we've taken the necessary additional steps to ensure the waterway remains navigable."



A USACE dredging vessel clears the Ocean City inlet, an operation typically done 2-4 times a year. USACE photo.



The White Marlin Open brings dozens of fishing boats to the Ocean City inlet, making Coast Guard emergency response especially important. Photo: White Marlin Open

## Way South Chesapeake Bay Fishing Report, July 4 Update:

The summer bite around the mouth of the Bay can offer an abundance of fishing opportunities. Virginia Beach Sport Fishing reports that speckled trout and some puppy drum are actively feeding over the grass flats. The bite is best in the early morning or late evening hours and tends to be slow when the sun is up. Puppy drum are taking up residence under docks with shade and throwing paddletails and other lures to docks near deep water is usually a recipe for success this time of year in the Virginia Beach tributaries. An angler fishing an unspecified tributary had a successful late week trip while inshore fishing. They started our fishing near docks with lights and caught around a dozen rockfish. Topwater lures and paddletails did the trick. They also landed a keeper trout and finished their trip by catching some red drum around the 20" range. Fishing before the heat kicks in for the day is usually when the fish will be most willing to feed, especially in shallow water.



On the oceanfront and just inside the mouth of the Bay, trollers have been catching Spanish mackerel, ribbonfish, and some bluefish. These fish respond well to clark spoons and drone spoons when trolling. Anglers fishing from the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier have also been able to land some mackerel and blues while throwing gotcha plugs. We had a report from an angler who fished on the east side of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel this week near the fourth island. Their boat was equipped with livescope which allowed them to track down schools of red drum and bluefish near the rocky island. They also caught a few cobia near the bridge pilings as well. Cobia fishing has been a bit inconsistent this year, with some days offering a lot of sight fishing opportunities, while other days leave anglers scratching their heads. This time of year, is when the cobia fishing at the CBBT kicks into high gear and there are usually fish around the tunnel and at the shoals along the shipping channel. Chunking, live lining, and sight casting can all be effective.



Cobia are currently very active within the Chesapeake Bay as they enter their spawning phase. Anglers employing sight-casting techniques are finding success with bucktails, eels, and live baitfish like croaker. Those utilizing anchoring and chumming strategies are also achieving favorable results, typically with eels, croaker, and occasionally crab. While chumming effectively attracts cobia, it's worth noting that it may also draw in sharks and skates.

Red Drum are actively feeding throughout the bay. Large red drum frequently travel in sizable schools and are often found near structured environments such as wrecks and reefs. They can also be observed moving along the surface in significant numbers. Anglers should keep a rod rigged with a bucktail, swim bait, or a large topwater plug readily available for these opportunities. Remember, regulations require the release of Red Drum over 26 inches and under 18 inches.

Keeper-sized Puppy Drum can be located in shallow areas of rivers and inlets, particularly near hard structures like docks and piers, as well as grass beds. Effective lures for puppy drum include topwater baits, 4-inch swim baits, and popping corks with scented baits. These methods and locations are also effective for targeting Speckled Trout, which often prey on baitfish inhabiting grassy areas. Productive fishing spots include Lynnhaven Inlet, Elizabeth River, Mobjack Bay, the Piankatank River, and the Rappahannock River, among other bay tributaries.

Sheepshead angling has seen a surge in popularity, with strong bite reported. These fish are commonly found around hard cover, including rocks, concrete rubble, wrecks, and pilings. Crabs, clams, and sand fleas are preferred baits and are also effective for Black Drum, which share similar habitats. An 18-pound 2-ounce Sheepshead was registered over the 4th of July weekend.

Spanish Mackerel fishing is productive both within the bay and along the oceanfront, with many anglers opting to troll Drone spoons and Clark spoons. It's advisable to use in-line weights or diving planers to achieve the desired depth, trolling at approximately 6 knots. If Bluefish are prevalent, a slight increase in speed may prove beneficial.

Flounder catches remain inconsistent, though bridge tunnels and ocean structures have yielded the best results. Captain Craig Paige II, Paige II Charters has managed to send his charters home happy.

While the season typically brings larger Spadefish into the bay, recent years have shown a decline in their abundance. The Chesapeake Light Tower remains a preferred location for Spadefish.



The Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program celebrated the science and dedication of its longest serving volunteers on June 6. Hosted by the Marine Advisory Program at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the special ceremony highlighted more than 30 years of data and service contributed by anglers since 1995.

**Volunteers receiving awards included the following:**

**30 Years of Service -**

Jon Lucy, Ken Neill, Stan Simmerman

**≥20 Years of Service -**

David Agee, Tracy Boyd, Al Bunnell, Rob Collins, Jay & Jim Duell, Jeff Davis, Stan Gold, Marvin Hardisty, Bill Knapp, Ed Lawrence, Don Miller, Charles Randolph, Cory Routh, Ed Shepherd, Donnie Smith, Scott Vinson, Brian Watkins, Doug Wehner

**≥15 Years of Service -**

Wes Blow, Tom Embry, David Griffith, Kendall Osborne, Brandon Poulter, Doug Purcell, Karl Ringer, Carl Stover, Rick Wineman, George Wojcik

**10,000+ Fishes Tagged -**

Ed Shepherd -102,027 tags;  
Scott Vinson - 36,416 tags;  
Sheldon Arey - 21,633 tags;  
Rob Collins - 15,246 tags;  
T. T. M. Embry - 10,079 tags.

In addition to our volunteers, long-serving VGFTP staff were recognized for their service to the program:

**Data Technician -** Dave Ferree

**Workshop Assistance -** Wendy Lowery and Pat McGrath

**17 Years of Service -** Todd Sperling

**30 Years of Service -** Ann Burnett and Cheryl Teagle.



## MD Democrats, VA Republicans Team Up with Bill to Create New Market for Blue Catfish

A new bill in Congress is uniting Maryland Democrats and Virginia Republicans in a common Chesapeake Bay goal: to fight invasive blue catfish by finding new reasons for watermen to target them.

The Mitigation Action and Watermen Support (MAWS) Act would start a pilot program in the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office to establish a new market for the Bay's overpopulated blue catfish. There is already an ongoing push across the Chesapeake region to encourage more restaurants to serve blue cat and more people to eat them. Now, the pilot program would also target the pet and animal food industry.

Under the MAWS Act, NOAA would offer grants to pet and animal food producers to incentivize watermen to catch them. The bill would also establish transportation, processing, and manufacturing structures to make it a long-term market. The two-year pilot program would allow NOAA to collect data on the program's success in removing large amounts of blue cat from the water and generating an economic impact for watermen. NOAA would report back to Congress on lessons learned, the market response from animal food manufacturers, and possible other watersheds that could benefit from the same program.

The MAWS bill is sponsored by Rep. Sarah Elfreth and Steny Hoyer (both D-MD) and Rep. Rob Wittman and Jen Kiggans (both R-VA). It's supported by some of the nation's largest pet food and animal feed suppliers.

"Since their introduction, blue catfish have become an invasive species, posing a growing threat to the biodiversity of the region's waters and inflicting economic damage to the seafood industries that rely on the Bay. I am proud to join Representative Elfreth in introducing the MAWS Act, which will create a new market to incentivize the harvest and sale of blue catfish while providing valuable data for future efforts to combat invasive species in our waterways," said Wittman.

Blue catfish compete with the Bay's native predators for food. They can grow up to 100 pounds and they feed on everything from blue crabs and oysters to rockfish and striped bass.

"As apex predators, these non-native fish are rapidly expanding in population and range, putting our ecosystem and our coastal economies at risk. We need solutions like the MAWS Act that will put science and market-based solutions to work to control this growing threat and support those whose livelihoods depend on our native fisheries," said Anna Killius, Executive Director of the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

Pet food manufacturers call Chesapeake Bay blue catfish "a wholesome and nutritious ingredient" for pet food, and see the pilot program as being good for the planet. "The Pet Food Institute, whose members make the vast majority of dog and cat food and treats in the U.S., is proud to endorse the MAWS Act," said Pet Food Institute president and CEO Dana Brooks.

## The May Mystery Fish The Banded Dragonfish



A research team at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science at William & Mary has uncovered a new species of Antarctic fish, which could reshape how scientists view biodiversity in the Southern Ocean. The newly discovered species *Akarotaxis gouldae*, also known as the banded dragonfish, was identified during an investigation of museum-archived larvae samples.

While the research team examined the samples, they noticed key differences in some fish, including two distinct dark vertical bands of pigment on their bodies, a shorter snout and jaw, and a longer body depth. These observations led them to suspect the presence of a new species. To confirm their hypothesis, the researchers used mitochondrial DNA analysis and constructed a phylogenetic tree to illustrate the relationship between *A. gouldae* and other Antarctic dragonfish species.

The banded dragonfish is limited to a small area along the Western Antarctic Peninsula. This region is also targeted by the Antarctic krill fishery, raising concerns about the potential impact of human activities on this rare species. Because the fish produces very few offspring, it is particularly vulnerable to environmental changes.



# Virginia Recreational Saltwater Fishing Regulations

Last Revised  
May 2025



### Atlantic Croaker

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 50 per person; additional 50 live bait per customer capacity on for-hire or charter vessels



### Spot

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 50 per person; additional 50 live bait per customer capacity on for-hire or charter vessels



### Kingfish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: No bag limit



### Grey Trout (Weakfish)

- Minimum Size Limit: 12 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person



### Bluefish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person from

### Bluefish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person from shore or a rented or private vessel
- 5 per person on for-hire or charter vessels



### Spanish Mackerel

- Minimum Size Limit: 14 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 15 per person



### King Mackerel

- Minimum Size Limit: 27 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person



### Cobia

- Minimum Size Limit: 43 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person or 2 per vessel, whichever is more restrictive.
- Season: June 15 - September 20
- Gaffing prohibited



### Summer Flounder

- Minimum Size Limit: Jan 1-May 31: 16 inches
- Jun 1-Dec 31: 17.5 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



### Striped Bass

Any person fishing striped bass recreationally shall use non-offset, corrodible, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing with bait.

### Chesapeake Bay Spring Season

- Size Limit: 19-24 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person

### Chesapeake Bay Spring Season

- Size Limit: 19-24 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person
- Season: May 16 - June 15

### Chesapeake Bay Fall Season

- Size limit: 19-24 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person
- Season: October 4 - December 31

### Coastal Season

- Size Limit: 28-31 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: January 1 - March 31, May 16 - December 31

Select species provided for information purposes only. Not all regulated species are included. All regulations are subject to change. It is the angler's responsibility to know and abide by all current regulations and laws. Check for new regulations before you go fishing. [www.mrc.virginia.gov](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov)



### Spadefish

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



### Sheepshead

- Minimum Size Limit: No size limit
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person



### Black Sea Bass

- Minimum Size Limit: 13
- Recreational Bag Limit: 15
- Season: May 15-July 15, Aug 5-Dec 31



### Tautog

- Minimum Size Limit: 16 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 4 per person
- Season: January 1-May 15, July 1- Dec. 31



### Speckled Trout

- Minimum Size Limit: 14 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 5 per person,

### Speckled Trout

- Minimum Size Limit: 14 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 5 per person, only 1 greater than 24"



### Red Drum

- Minimum Size Limit: 18 inches
- Maximum Size Limit: 26 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 3 per person



### Black Drum

- Minimum Size Limit: 16 inches
- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person

# PSWSFA SPONSORS

PSWSFA would like to thank these sponsors for supporting our  
2025 Sheepshead Tournament



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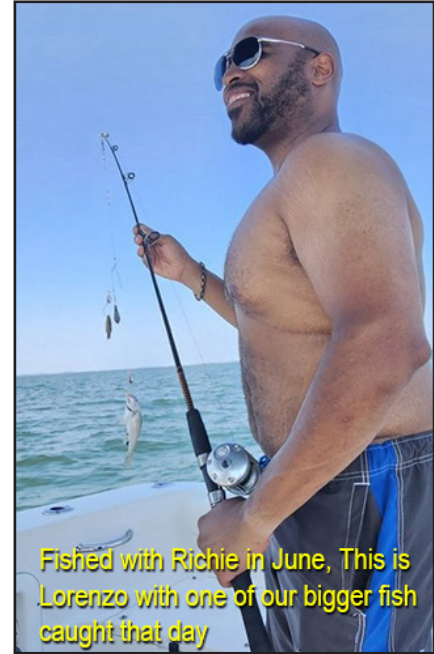
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# FISH TALES



Darrel Cummins and crew with flounder



Fished with Richie in June, This is Lorenzo with one of our bigger fish caught that day



A very nice flounder for Darrel



John Michael Simmerman and 46" Shark



Sean Downey and Citation Drum

# Monthly Tournament List April 2025

<b>Yellow Fin Tuna</b> Chris Baker	51"
<b>Big Eye Tuna</b> Chris Baker	49"
<b>Blackfin Tuna</b> Chris Baker	27"
<b>Tautog</b> Darrel Cummins	21"
<b>Striped Bass</b> John Michael Simmerman	38"
<b>Bluefish</b> Morgan Simmerman	36"
<b>Channel Bass</b> Nick Hite	50"
<b>Sailfish</b> Nick Hite	61"

Sorry for not having the May numbers but Milton has been sick and in and out of the Hospital.

**Fish in Red are updated  
as of 1 Jan 2025**

*Photo taken Oct 2022 by the Editor at Hapuna Beach, Big Island Hawaii*

Monthly Tournament Contenders	
Species	Min Size
Albacore Tuna	35"
Amberjack	40"
Bigeye Tuna	40"
Black Drum	40"
Blackbelly Rosefish	14"
<b>Blackfin Tuna</b>	<b>25"</b>
Bluefin Tuna	45"
Bluefish	25"
Blueline Tilefish	20"
Blue Marlin	Release
Channel Bass - Drum	40"
Cobia	40"
<b>Croaker</b>	<b>14"</b>
Dolphin	35"
False Albacore	25"
Flounder	22"
Golden Tilefish	30"
<b>Gray Trout</b>	<b>22"</b>
Grouper	16"
Jack Crevalle	36"
King Mackerel	35"
Pompano	12"
Sailfish	Release
<b>Sea Bass</b>	<b>18"</b>
Shark	60"
<b>Sheepshead</b>	<b>20"</b>
<b>Snapper</b>	<b>17"</b>
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"

Bring your entries to Milton at our monthly meeting by 7:00 pm or send 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](mailto:judygee03@gmail.com))

Deadline for turning in your 2025 entry forms:			
Month of Entry	Deadline (RegMtg)	Month	Deadline (Reg Mtg)
January	18 Feb	July	19 Aug
February	18 Mar	August	17 Sep
March	15 Apr	September	21 Oct
April	20 May	October	18 Nov
May	17 Jun	November	16 Dec
June	15 Jul	December	by Brd Mtg 13 Jan 2026



- Four Ways to Turn in your Forms:
- Hand deliver to monthly meetings or Board Meeting
  - e-mail to judygee03@gmail.com
  - Mail to: Milton Hudgins, 1894 Kate Lane, Hayes VA 23072

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

### Eligible Species

The fish in red were updated 1 Jan 2025

Albacore Tuna	35"	Pompano	12"
Amberjack	40"	Sailfish	Release
Bigeye Tuna	40"	<b>Sea Bass</b>	<b>18"</b>
Blackbelly Rosefish	14"	Shark	60"
Black Drum	40"	<b>Sheepshead</b>	<b>20"</b>
<b>Blackfin Tuna</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Snapper</b>	<b>17"</b>
Bluefin Tuna	45"	Spadefish	18"
Blueline Tilefish	20"	Spanish Mackerel	20"
Bluefish	25"	Spearfish	Release
Blue Marlin	Release	Speckled Trout	21"
Channel Bass	40"	Spot	8"
Cobia	40"	Striped Bass	36"
<b>Croaker</b>	<b>14"</b>	Swordfish	Release
Dolphin	35"	Tarpon	Release
False Albacore	25"	Tautog	18"
Flounder	22"	Triggerfish	15"
Golden Tilefish	30"	Wahoo	40"
<b>Gray Trout</b>	<b>22"</b>	White Marlin	Release
Grouper	16"	Whiting (Roundhead)	14"
Jack Crevalle	36"	Yellowfin Tuna	35"
King Mackerel	35"		

I hereby certify that the following statements are the truth and the rules of this contest have been complied with. (See next page for the rules).

**NOTE:** Copies of release citations with this form are acceptable

## Required Information

Tournament: \_\_\_\_\_ Fish: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Caught: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Caught: \_\_\_\_\_ AM or PM Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_ Circle One: **Adult**    **Youth**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

## Optional Information:

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Where Caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Weigh Master's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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. All paid club tournaments will be judged by weight.



## FISHING CONTEST RULES

1. Contest will run from January 1 to December 31. Only fish caught for recreational purposes, in accordance with state regulations, are eligible.
2. The territorial limits for this contest shall be from Ocean City, MD to Morehead City, NC. Slight variations north or south of these limits will not disqualify entry.
3. This contest is open only to PSWSFA members and their families whose dues have been paid before the catch. Youth anglers must be age 15 or less on the date of the catch. Youth entries must also meet state minimum requirements.
4. Only fish caught on hook and line, rod and reel are acceptable. No assistance at the rod or line shall be permitted, except holding the leader while the fish is being gaffed or boated.
5. There are no restrictions on tackle with the exception that power reels are not permitted.
6. Awards will be made for fish caught each month (1st through last day) at the next monthly meeting. All entries must be in the hands of the tournament chairman by the beginning of the meeting. A later entry will not be accepted. Only monthly entries are eligible for awards.
7. Acceptability of fish entered in this contest is to be entirely within the discretion of the Tournament Committee or the Board of Directors.
8. In case of a tie, the first fish caught will win.
9. Signature of witness of release must accompany entry or release.
10. November and December entries must be submitted received by January 10.
11. Monthly prize money must be picked up within 3 months after being announced.
12. A person who enters fish into another fishing club is ineligible to enter fish into the PSWSFA monthly tournament.

### Angler of the Year Award

The Angler of the Year Award is designed to honor the fisherman who consistently submits qualifying entries. The Tournament Committee will recommend Angler of the Year candidates and the PSWSFA Board will make the final Angler of the Year determination.

### Angler of the Year Scoring System

- 2 points will be awarded for each species of fish entered for the monthly contest. The fish must meet the club's minimum length to qualify, including all release entries.
- 2 points will be awarded when an entry is accompanied by a copy of a State Fishing Tournament Citation.
- 2 points will be awarded for any fish that wins the monthly contest in each species.
- 6 points will be awarded for the 1st place annual award winner in each species.
- 4 points will be awarded for the 2nd place annual award winner in each species.
- 2 points will be awarded for the 3rd place annual award winner in each species.
- 5 points will be awarded for the 1st place winner of any PSWSFA tournament.
- 3 points will be awarded for the 2nd place winner of any PSWSFA tournament.
- 1 points will be awarded for the 3rd place winner of any PSWSFA tournament.
- 5 points will be awarded for any fish that becomes a new club or state record.

Anglers are limited to 3 fish per species.

Those fish with the highest point value will be entered in the Angler of the Year point system.

### Fish of the Year Award

The Tournament Committee will make Fish of the Year recommendations to the PSWSFA Board of Directors. If in the opinion of the Board of Directors, no fish is deemed worthy of Fish of the Year, no award will be made. Regardless of the method used to determine Fish of the Year, the decision of the PSWSFA Board of Directors will be final.

### Critter of the Year Award

Any unusual catch submitted by a club member will be eligible for award when approved by the PSWSFA Board of Directors.



# 2025 PSWSFA TOURNAMENTS



Download "Official Entry Form" at

[Monthly Tournament - Peninsula Salt Water Sport Fisherman's Association \(pswsfa.com\)](http://pswsfa.com)

## 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](mailto:rick@getanetsportfishing.com) or 757-268-1539

<p><b>Bishop's Trophy Red Drum Tournament</b>  <b>April 1<sup>st</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. June 10, 2025          See Rules below for Catch and Release fish totals. (Witness or photo)</p>	<p><b>Club Multiple Species Tournament</b>  <b>June 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b>          Angler who catches the most saltwater species in a single day          Must Receive Completed Forms no later than the Board Mtg. July 8, 2025</p>
<p><b>Youth and Ladies Croaker/Spanish Mackerel Tournament</b>  <b>July 1<sup>st</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          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 12, 2025</p>	<p><b>Sheepshead Tournament</b>  <b>July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b>          Separate paid entry tournament. Details and rules to be announced.          Rules and fees listed below do not apply to this tournament.</p>
<p><b>Don Forman Club Cobia Tournament</b>  <b>sponsored by Bishop Fishing Supply</b>  <b>August 1<sup>st</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          Must Receive Completed Form no later than the Board Mtg. Sept. 9, 2025. See Rules below for weight tournament</p>	<p><b>Club Spot Tournament</b>  <b>September 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          Weigh in: 2:00pm Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> at (Legasea Marine)          All entries will be weighed using the same club scale followed by the Annual Club Picnic          Spot Tournament - Two categories with 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners:          "ADULT ENTRIES" and "YOUTH ENTRIES"          (Anglers for the Spot Tournament must be present to win)          RSVP by Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> if you are coming to the Annual Club Picnic to the Tournament Director</p>
<p><b>Club Puppy Drum Tournament</b>  <b>October 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          Most number of Spots Wins (photos required)          Must Receive Completed Forms and copies of photos no later than the Board Mtg. Nov 11, 2025</p>	<p><b>Wilcox Bait and Tackle Irv Fenton Rockfish Tournament</b>  <b>December 1<sup>st</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b>          Must Receive Completed Form no later than Jan. 13, 2025          See Rules below for weight tournament</p>

**MAIL ENTRY FORMS TO: MR. MILTON HUDGINS, 1894 KATIE LANE, HAYES, VA 23072 (e-mail: [judyqee03@gmail.com](mailto:judyqee03@gmail.com))**

## **Fishing Around the World**

Tasmania is a true gem in the southern hemisphere, nestled in the grasp of the 'Roaring Forties' a mere 240 kilometres (149 miles) southeast of the mainland of Australia. The Southern Ocean winds bring with them the purest air and clean rainfall. With such weather, it's no surprise that [fishing in Tasmania](#) is so great. The smallest state of Australia isn't your typical Aussie imagery of kangaroos hopping across deserts under the blazing sun!

Tasmania Tuna fishing is to saltwater what Trout fishing is to freshwater. Southern Bluefin Tuna is known locally as the Usain Bolt of the open ocean. These predators are a bit of a celebrity in Tassie, with a few world records to their name. And it's no wonder! Some Bluefins reach up to 200 kilograms (440 pounds)!

That's not all, though. There's another big player in the offshore waters – Yellowfin Tuna. The east coast is the place to be if you want a go at these high-speed beauties. While most catches tend to be between 15–60 kilograms (33–132 pounds), some fishers have reported much heavier specimens.

You'll be surprised, but the Tassie Tuna fishing menu doesn't end here. Though smaller than Bluefin and Yellowfin, Albacore Tuna are also champions of the local seas. If you're lucky enough, you might land all three!

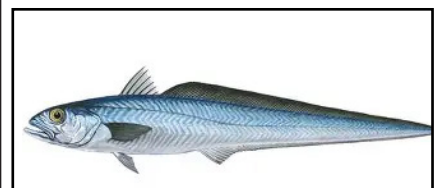
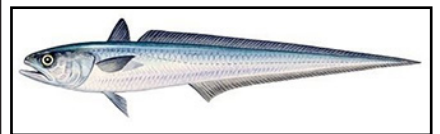
The celebrated Striped Marlin stand out wherever they show up across the world, and Tassie is no exception. These Billfish representatives are a sight to behold, weighing up to 200 kilograms (440 pounds) and stretching over 4 metres (13 feet). When such a creature takes your bait, you're in for a fantastic show.

The majority of Striped Marlin fishing in Tasmania takes place off the east coast. They're drawn to motion, colour, and the scent of live bait, biting well around the Tasman Peninsula and Flinders Island. Plus, these fellas are valuable contributors to marine research, offering valuable insights with their migratory patterns.



**So you think you know  
your Fish**

Name this Fish?





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 rate:

## \$15 Boat U.S. Membership Dues and 10% off Water Towing Services

**BOAT U.S. COOP GROUP #:** Contact Gary Donaldson at [GaryD66@Cox.Net](mailto:GaryD66@Cox.Net)  
For the PSWSFA Coop group #

### NEW MEMBERS

Sign up online at [BoatUS.com/Join](http://BoatUS.com/Join)  
(enter your BoatU.S. Coop Group #  
on the first page of the application)

### CURRENT MEMBERS

Not receiving the discount? Email  
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## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 24/7 Dispatch to over 600 towboats in 300+ ports nationwide
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- Subscription to *BoatU.S. Magazine* – 6 issues per year

Visit [BoatUS.com/Membership](http://BoatUS.com/Membership) to learn about all benefits  
and services offered to BoatU.S. Members.

MS11 8/11



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SAFETY



ADVOCACY



TOWING



TRAILER ASSIST



DISCOUNTS

## Directions to PSWSFA Meeting

**Former St Mark's Episcopal Church  
Now used by Peninsula Baptist 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. A new Peninsula Baptist Church sign is on the lawn just short of the driveway.

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 you miss it you will need to do a U-turn on Cunningham and go left onto Todds Lane.

The church driveway is just short of the Bercuese Funeral home entrance or just after it if coming from Cunningham.

**Scan Link with your phone to Pay Dues. It costs a bit extra though.**



## WHAT'S UP NEXT & BEYOND



Meeting 15 July 2025



19 July 2025: Sheepshead Tournament

### NEW ADDRESS

PENINSULA SALT WATER SPORTS FISHERMAN'S ASSOC.  
P.O. Box 1056  
YORKTOWN VA 23692-2878

