



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.

1st Meeting of 2026

17 March 2026 7:00pm

The banquet is right around the corner, 28 Feb 26. If you haven't signed up yet you can point your phone's camera at the **QR code below**, then click the link that displays on your screen. Then follow the directions. Don't forget to print your receipt or save it to your phone. We **highly** recommend the online method. There are only 75 spaces available. There are **NO** call in reservations available. **Reservations must be in writing or done online.**

Online and mailed in tickets must be received by 20 February. See Page 4 for mail-in form.

Stay well, Mike the Editor



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Folks,

January flew by and here we are into February. It has certainly been a tough start to the month between the wind, snow and ice. Seabass fishing is open with a permit, and I've spoken with a few folks who went out on the Rudee Angler and limited out on seabass out on the deepwater wrecks. Other than that, it seems the only other option is to go down to the outer banks and catch a bluefin and blackfin. The speckled trout population has been devastated by the cold water, and they are dying in all of their winter habitats. Prospects do not look good for this year. There is a push to close speck fishing until July, and it may be discussed at the Feb VMRC meeting.

On a brighter note, the club banquet and awards ceremony will be February 28th. It will be held at our meeting hall as we have done the past couple of years. There is more

information on the PSWSFA website and the ability to sign up online is available from there. We are limited to 75 people, so I encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible so that you don't miss a great meal and recognition of many of the great anglers that we have in our organization.

We had a table at the Virginia Beach Boat Show Jan 30th – Feb 1st. Weather was definitely a factor affecting attendance, but the show was still a success, and we raised several hundred dollars on the rod & reel raffle. Several club members helped man the table, sell tickets and represent PSWSFA. Russ Costinis, who is the captain of Top Notch and runs the boat show, pulled the winning ticket at 4:30PM on Sunday and for the first time a club member was the winner of the custom rod and reel. Congratulations to Darrel Cummins.

Continued on page 3

2024 Club Officers

Stan Simmerman
President

Milton Hudgens
Vice President

Wally Veal
Secretary

Dave Brabrand
Treasurer

Danny Forehand
Past President

Board of Directors

Ronnie Wilson
Gary Donaldson
Rick Wineman
Charles Randolph
Mike Frielingsdorf
Richie Moore
Paul Downey
Nicole Ambercrombie
Johnny Boyd
Gerald Abrams (alt)
Rob Layman
Darrel Cummins
Chris Harris

Please Note: March is almost here and dues are due. If you can't make it to the meeting or the banquet, click the link below or copy and paste it into your browser. It is also available on our site at PSWSFA.Com.

Click this link: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/2026-pswsfa-annual-membership/items>

Or scan the QR code with your phone camera.



PSWSFA 2026 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

There are 3 events taking place in March. 1st will be the Great Bridge Fishing Flea Market. The club will have two tables there and we need volunteers to man the booth, sell tickets for another raffle and discuss the club with visitors. 2nd is the Poquoson Flea Market, and we will also have a table there and need volunteers to man the table, sell tickets and discuss the club with visitors. There will be seminars at the event, speaking on various species of fish and how we catch them. The 3rd event is the first meeting of the year the March 24th. I hope to see all of you there as we kick off another great year for the club.

In other club news, Chris Harris has taken over as the "Programs Director" and is working on a list of guest speakers for the upcoming meetings. Another change is David Brabrand has joined the board, he has relieved Christina Grice as the Treasurer. I hope you will all join me in thanking Charles "Randy" Randall and Christina Grice in all they have done over the past few years. Both of these positions are critical to the club's ability to function and provide a service to the members.

For those of you who don't fish over the winter, I encourage you to take this time to get your gear prepped and your boat ready for spring so that when the bull reds show up you are ready to tangle with them. Those of you who do fish through the winter months get out there 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 banquet.

Tight Lines,
Stan



The poster features a circular logo for the Great Bridge Fisherman's Assoc. (GBFA) on the left, with a fish illustration. The main title "ANNUAL Fishing Flea Market" is centered in large, stylized text. Below the title are logos for "MAJOR SUPPORTERS" including Moody's Water Conditioning, LLC and Centerville Waterway Marina. The event details "Saturday March 7, 2026 8 am - 2:30 pm" are prominently displayed in a dark banner. The bottom section includes the location "Virginia Beach Field House, 2020 Landstown Centre Wy, Virginia Beach, VA 23456" and a "17th YEAR!" badge. A large fish is shown in the bottom right corner.

Great Bridge Fisherman's Assoc. GBFA

ANNUAL Fishing Flea Market

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Moody's
WATER CONDITIONING, LLC
Water Treatment Specialists

CENTERVILLE
WATERWAY MARINA

Saturday March 7, 2026 8 am - 2:30 pm

17th YEAR!

Virginia Beach Field House
2020 Landstown Centre Wy,
Virginia Beach, VA 23456



2025 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday, 28 February 2026

Regular Club Meeting Hall

2605 Cunningham drive

Hampton, VA 23666

6:00 - 10:00pm

Social Hour- 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Dinner: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Awards and Raffles to follow

Please Print

Member: _____

Spouse/Significant Other/ 1 Guest _____

Name of Guest/s or Member _____

Children: _____

How Many: A member can have one non-member guest at member price.

\$20 for Members: _____ **\$10 Children (Ages 3-10) 2 and under Free** _____

\$20 for member with one non-member Guest _____ **\$40 for additional non-member Guests** _____

Buffet Includes Pulled Pork, Beef Brisket, Fried Chicken, Mac-n-Cheese, Corn Muffins, Green Beans & Dessert

Total Number Attending _____ **Amount Enclosed \$** _____

Email Address or Phone number for Confirmation: _____

Mail this form along with a check made out to PSWSFA Postmarked by 15 Feb 25 to guarantee dinner. Must be received by the February 20th.

Send To: Christina Grice P.O Box 32 Gwynn, VA 23066 For questions call Christina at 757-869-7238
Please don't call for reservations. Reservations must be in writing or done online.

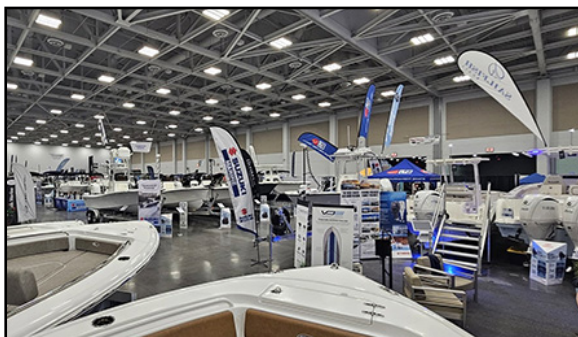
VIRGINIA BEACH BOAT SHOW 2026



Selling Raffle Tickets on Sunday



Richie with the grand prize



Story by John Page Williams



Osprey with Bunker

The New Year has brought competing menhaden bills in Virginia's General Assembly. On the one hand, Sen. Richard Stuart (R-Westmoreland) has introduced [SB-414](#), calling for the Commonwealth to withdraw its membership in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), which coordinates coastal fishery management among the fifteen Atlantic States. Passage of that bill would remove the obligation to reduce the industrial menhaden harvest significantly.

On the other hand, three proposed bills would strengthen menhaden science, specifically focused on the fishes' presence in the Chesapeake, better distribute menhaden catches in Virginia waters through the season (May-December), begin an observer program aboard industrial-scale menhaden purse seiners to ensure compliance with regulations, and establish a pause on industrial menhaden fishing in the Bay while the Commonwealth undertakes research.

The last three proposals result from increasing fears about purse netting of menhaden for [industrial "reduction"](#), spurred particularly by [studies](#) that appear to show osprey chicks dying of starvation in areas where menhaden are the primary forage their parents catch for them. In addition, watermen in both Virginia and Maryland have experienced dramatic declines in catches of menhaden for crab and sportfishing bait, primarily by pound netters. In Virginia, those watermen's bait harvest dropped from 5.4 million pounds in 2019 to fewer than 1 million pounds in 2024, according to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

Packed with protein and calories from Omega-3 oils, menhaden are vital to the Bay's food web in its saltier waters. Predators especially dependent on them include rockfish, speckled trout, red drum, ospreys, gannets, loons, and dolphins. Even so, Reedville's Omega Protein and the company's local fishing partner, Ocean Harvesters, take out about 70 percent of menhaden caught along the East Coast, all for "reduction" into products such as [high-protein fishmeal for livestock feed and Omega-3](#) oils. That catch includes more than 100 million pounds from the Bay each year, even

Continued on page 7

though these waters form a massive nursery for the species.

There has been concern for years that Omega's concentrated fishery in the lower Bay (it's prohibited in Maryland) is causing "localized depletion" here. Proving that condition scientifically is challenging for a fish that migrates up and down the coast, but it's hardly impossible. In fact, at the Virginia General Assembly's request, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and partners developed a preliminary plan for studying that issue, but industry lobbying has shut out its funding for the past several years. Meanwhile, a new calculation by fisheries scientists shows [far fewer menhaden than previously thought](#) along the Atlantic Coast from Maine to Florida. This year, Legislation under consideration in this session would provide much-needed accountability and additional conservation and protection. That includes [Senate Bill 474 \(patron Senator David Marsden\)](#), entitled Establishing a Menhaden Science Fund led by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Additional menhaden-related bills filed this year include:

[House Bill 1048, patron Delegate Betsy Carr](#), Approving a pause on industrial menhaden fishing inside the Chesapeake Bay, until comprehensive research shows it is not harming the ecosystem. The industry could still fish in the Atlantic Ocean, as they already do regularly, and would not experience an overall reduction in their harvest quota.

[House Bill 1049, also from Delegate Betsy Carr](#), Reducing the harm of the industrial menhaden industry by setting different harvest limits at different points in the year, as well as requiring fisheries observers on industrial menhaden fishing trips to collect data and ensure compliance.

There is strong public support for menhaden conservation in the Chesapeake. [According to recent bipartisan polling](#), 92 percent of Virginia voters want to leave more menhaden in Chesapeake Bay, while 79 percent support ending large-scale menhaden fishing for a reduction in the Bay until better science shows it has minimal impact.

Interested in club membership, visit our new [website](#) to find out more!

The Kiwanis Club of Poquoson Presents

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757-303-8923

Intracoastal Waterway Gets \$48 Million in Future Dredging from VA to FL

May 2024



A 2016 dredging project on the ICW in South Florida deepened the channel to 15 feet. Image: Cashman Dredging

If you're a cruiser who has put in a lot of engine hours on the Chesapeake Bay, the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) is a tempting next step. With the mouth of the Bay as its jumping off point, the 1,100-mile ICW offers adventure and a ticket to the southern locales that can extend your boating season right into winter.

One of the major pitfalls of navigating the ICW has long been ever-changing water depths, thanks to the strong currents that cause silt to be dragged into channels. When we reported on dredging funding for the ICW back in 2018, our ICW expert and cruising editor Jody Argo Schroath warned that dredging efforts would only last so long due to those unpredictable currents.

In 2024, there is still a critical need for dredging. And to that end, the federal government has awarded \$48.5 million to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for navigable channels and other critical waterway maintenance projects along the waterway that's been coined Marine Highway 95.

The state of Virginia will get \$5.3 million in dredging funds, with the lion's share going to North Carolina with \$26.6 million. South Carolina will receive \$8.5 million, while the Georgia and Florida ICW sections were funded at \$4 million each.

The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Association (AIWA) has advocated for dredging funds for more than a decade to get the waterway back to its authorized depth of 12 feet. The \$48.5 million were included in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2024, and additional funds come from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The push for ICW dredging has come a long way, according to AIWA Executive Director Brad Pickel. "It was not that long ago that we had zero federal dollars for dredging, and the waterway's future was being questioned," he said.

AIWA board member David Kennedy, BoatUS Manager of Government Affairs, said, "The Intracoastal is used by many kinds of boaters and anglers, and dredging is critical to safety and the economic development that boating brings to waterfront communities. This latest win, along with more sustained support for other shallow draft harbors, gives promise that the boater's voice is being heard in the halls of government."



As February arrives in Virginia, dedicated saltwater anglers are embracing the chill and gearing up for some outstanding winter opportunities despite the persistent cold snaps.

The highlight of the month is undoubtedly the special recreational black sea bass season, officially open from February 1 through February 28, courtesy of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). This limited window targets those chunky “knucklehead” black sea bass that congregate on offshore wrecks and reefs in 100-300 feet of water—often delivering some of the year’s most exciting bottom-fishing action with quality fish in the 3- to 9-pound range and the potential for true trophies. Vessel captains or operators must obtain a no-cost Recreational Black Sea Bass Permit through the VMRC’s online system and adhere to mandatory trip reporting requirements (including no-activity reports if no trips occur). A standard recreational saltwater fishing license is also required. Headboat operations like Rudee Tours out of Rudee Inlet provide an excellent, comfortable way to join the fray—check their current schedules for open trips, as these larger vessels frequently score limits when conditions allow safe runs offshore.

While black sea bass steal the spotlight, tautog remain a strong secondary option around hard structure, wrecks, and reefs. These hard-fighting bottom dwellers offer thrilling battles and delicious meals, though success depends heavily on weather windows to reach the grounds.

The exceptional bluefin tuna bite that lit up in Virginia in January will most likely shift southward into North Carolina waters, where action is expected to carry on strong through February and into March. Virginia anglers eyeing big pelagics may need to look south.

As always during these frigid months, the real challenge often lies in accessing the water—frozen ramps, rough seas, and safety concerns can limit outings more than the fish themselves. Stay vigilant with forecasts, prioritize safety, and make the most of the season.

Register now!

2026

Virginia Charter Boat Workshop

at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point

Saturday, March 21

Featured speakers: United States Coast Guard
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
& MORE!

Space limited, register for free:

<https://forms.gle/V2b6ZesV7YJtr8Td7>

Questions? susanna@vims.edu

Warm greetings from Gloucester Point, VA!

We're very pleased to announce that registration is open for our annual Virginia Charter Boat Workshop!

The workshop will be held the morning of March 21st at the Gloucester Point campus of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

The workshop will include fisheries resource, regulatory, and US Coast Guard updates and will be open to member of the charter fishing and recreational angling communities.

Registration is available here: <https://forms.gle/V2b6ZesV7YJtr8Td7>



The ice cover and cold temps are bad news for our overwintering speckled trout and red drum.

Way South Chesapeake Bay Fishing Report, February 6 Update:

Another winter of brutally cold temperatures is bad news for the resident speckled trout, redfish, and other species that are susceptible to cold stun events. The latest round of arctic air has hit the Virginia and North Carolina tributaries hard with fish kills. It even prompted North Carolina to shut down commercial and recreational harvest of speckled trout until July 1st. The fish in the tributaries around Norfolk and Virginia Beach were not spared either, as we have reports of anglers observing dead fish in those areas over the past week. Last winter caused widespread cold stun events in these areas, so let's hope warmer weather is on the way soon because the surviving fish are fragile at this point. Many of the creeks and tributaries are partially covered with ice, which has not made it easy for anglers to get out and fish. The overwintering reds and specks are likely to have lockjaw or be very lethargic at best. The reds tend to handle the cold better than the trout and may be more active, but this cold weather has really shut down the bite.

The special February black sea bass season offers an opportunity for Virginia anglers to fish for sea bass at the offshore grounds through the end of the month. It is a good time of year to catch some of the knotheads hanging around the wrecks and reefs in 150-300 feet of water. These fish can provide some of the most exciting bottom fishing action with fish ranging anywhere from three to 10 pounds. Vessel captains or operators must obtain a no-cost Recreational Black Sea Bass Permit through the VMRC's online system and adhere to mandatory trip reporting requirements. Tautog are another species that offer winter opportunities at wrecks, reefs, and other structures. Anglers will need to monitor weather windows for both of these offshore species, because it is a decent run to get to the grounds.

The January Mystery Fish Arapaima Sorry trick fish



The arapaima, pirarucu, or paiche is any large species of bonytongue in the genus *Arapaima* native to the Amazon and Essequibo basins of South America.

They are among the world's largest freshwater fish, reaching as much as 3 m (9.8 ft) in length. They are an important food fish. They have declined in the native range due to overfishing and habitat loss. In contrast, arapaima have been introduced to several tropical regions outside the native range (within South America and elsewhere), where they are sometimes considered invasive species. In Kerala, India, arapaima escaped from aquaculture ponds after floods in 2018.

Arapaima scales have a mineralised, hard, outer layer with a corrugated surface under which lie several layers of collagen fibres in a Bouligand-type arrangement. In a structure similar to plywood, the fibres in each successive layer are oriented at large angles to those in the previous layer, increasing toughness.

The diet of the arapaima consists of fish, crustaceans, fruits, seeds, insects, and small land animals that walk near the shore (such as mammals and birds). The fish is an air breather, using its labyrinth organ, which is rich in blood vessels and opens into the fish's mouth, an advantage in oxygen-deprived water that is often found in the Amazon River.



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 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
- 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



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, 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 2024 Sheepshead Tournament

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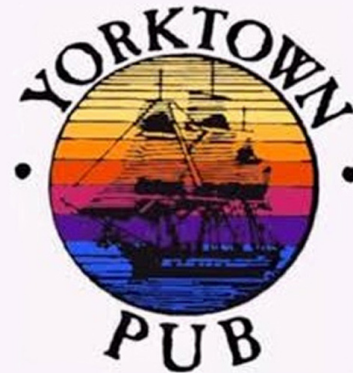


Capt. Michael Hanna, President
mhanna@southernbayyachtsales.com

757-810-7152

<https://www.southernbayyachtsales.com>

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FISH TALES



Ken Neill and nice Bluefin caught just offshore in OBX



I think this one is the keeper.



Moonrise Over the Bay - Rick Wineman



Same moonrise over the York - Mike F

Monthly Tournament List December 2025

Black Drum
Chris Harris 42"

Red Drum
Paul Downey 49"

Speckled Trout
Stan Simmerman 26"

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

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

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

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)

| 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" | Sea Bass | 18" |
| Blackbelly Rosefish | 14" | Shark | 60" |
| Black Drum | 40" | Sheepshead | 20" |
| Blackfin Tuna | 25 | Snapper | 17" |
| 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" |
| Croaker | 14" | Swordfish | Release |
| Dolphin | 35" | Tarpon | Release |
| False Albacore | 25" | Tautog | 18" |
| Flounder | 22" | Triggerfish | 15" |
| Golden Tilefish | 30" | Wahoo | 40" |
| Gray Trout | 22" | 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.



Fishing Around the World



Saltwater fishing in Sri Lanka offers world-class, year-round opportunities in the Indian Ocean, with peak deep-sea, game fishing (tuna, Marlin, Wahoo, & Sailfish) running from November to April on the Southern and Western coasts. Top locations include Bentota, Mirissa, Weligama, and Negombo, offering expert-guided trolling, jigging, and popping trips.

Southern Coast (Mirissa, Weligama, Hikkaduwa): Famous for deep-sea fishing, with catches including Yellowfin Tuna, Mahi-Mahi, Barracuda, and Giant Trevally.

Western Coast (Negombo, Bentota): Ideal for game fishing, boasting Sailfish, Marlin, Wahoo, and Trevally.

Deep-Sea/Offshore: Known for large, trophy-sized catches.

Key Fishing Methods & Seasonality

Best Time: November to April is peak season, when seas are calmer, especially on the southern coast.

Techniques: Trolling with lures or live bait is popular for large pelagics, while popper casting is highly effective for targeting Giant Trevally near reefs.

Operators: Numerous charters offer half-day, full-day, and customized, expert-led fishing trips.

So you think you know your Fish

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For the PSWSFA Coop group #

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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



2025 Awards Banquet - 28 February 2026



1st Club Meeting 17 March 2026

NEW ADDRESS

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

