



November 2019

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Line

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Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting:

When: Thursday, 11/07,2019 7:30pm.

**Where: Foundry United Methodist Church,
2801 Virginia Beach Blvd. in Virginia Beach next to Beach Ford.**

Meeting Speaker: Jared Dean.

Meeting Subject: Crappie fishing in Hampton Roads.

November & Future Information Notes:

- **Please bring a toy to the meeting for this year's Stuff-a-Boat Toy Drive**
- **Cape Hatteras Angler's Club Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament – 7 through 9.**
- **Ocean's East Black Friday Sales Event in November.**
- **Club General Election Meeting Night 12-5.**
- **Membership Dues for 2020 have increased to \$40.00.**

This Month's Quote

“I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”
— Maya Angelou

VBAC Fishing Roulette 2018

<u>Species</u>	<u>Current Leader</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Bowfin	Jerry Hughes	8.25 lbs.
Yellow Perch	Preston Mangum	12 oz.
Bluefish	John Germanos	3.15 lbs.
Flounder	James Eisenhower	5.25 lbs.
Spadefish	Kelly Hoggard	5lbs. 14oz.

Submissions
 Virginia Beach Anglers Club:
vbanglersclub@gmail.com
 Kelly Hoggard: 757-416-8817 or
fishnkelly@msn.com

Catch-A-Ride

BOAT

Preston Mangum (757) 582-1450 (FW)
 Jeremy Maguire (757) 407-0493
 Rich Maguire (757) 619-4851
 Rob Stommel (703) 244-1282
 Scott Nagen (571) 572-1023

CREW

Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817
 Victor Minak (703) 888-8992

Add your name to either list by sending an email to
vbanglersclub@gmail.com



Virginia Beach Anglers Club, Inc
P.O. Box 8602
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452
viriniabeachanglersclub.org

Proposed Slate of Officers and Board Members for 2020

President	Bob Burstein	
1st Vice President	Chris Schneider	
2nd Vice President	Mark Lozier	
Treasurer	Mike Anderson	
Recording Secretary	Russell Willoughby	
Corresponding Secty	Bob Stuhlman	

Board Members - Please vote for **FOUR** by placing your mark in the box to the right of your choice

David Anderson	
Ronnie Nixon	
Bryan Watkins	
Ike Eisenhower	

Write In Candidate

Our October Ocean's East Table



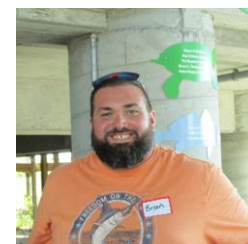
Dedication!

Thanks to those that “manned” our table, more people showed interest in our club and the upcoming Crappie Tournament!

Our 2019 Oyster Roast

Our oyster roast is always a huge hit and this year was no exception! It was a very well attended function with one of the largest group of guests this writer can remember. So many people brought food items to share that the tables were almost overloaded and at the end, almost everything had been eaten! The group managed to eat every last one of the 800 oysters provided as well as our head chef Jerry Mariano's delicious creation of halibut, trout, peppers, sausage and potatoes. Dave Smith provided a generous gift of speckled trout for all to share and Jerry did his usual magic, cooking it to perfection! Our thanks go out to everyone that helped accomplish so much. The tasks for this event are many and varied from set-up and take-down, food and site prep, constant grill attendance, raffle donations and ticket sales, gate proceeds, and those wonderful Bloody Mary's and often appreciation gets lost in the process. THANK YOU!

Congratulations to Charles Corigliano winner of the Yeti cooler drawing!





Stuff-a-Boat Toy Drive



Sea Tow Hampton Roads and The Local Angler Clubs will be collecting toys this year for the "Stuff-a-Boat Toy Drive". We will be collecting toys that are new and un-giftwrapped. Last year we were able to collect over 1840 toys due to the Angler Clubs tremendous participation. The only thing we are asking of club members is to bring a toy to your monthly Angler's Club meeting in the months of October, November and December. Sea Tow Hampton Roads will attend your meeting each month and collect the toys. If for some reason you don't make the monthly meetings, you can visit www.facebook.com/SeaTowHamptonRoads for locations where drop off boxes will be available.

In December everyone will be invited to our office for hot apple cider, donuts & pizza and we will stuff the Sea Tow Boat with toys that we collected. The Marines from Toys for Tots will come to the Sea Tow office and receive the toys. We would like to get a group shot of all clubs surrounding the Sea Tow boat stuffed with toys. This date will be determined when the time gets closer.

Every little bit helps and will make someone's holiday a little brighter. Thank-you again for all of your support.

REMINDER: For each toy you donate at your monthly meeting your name goes into a drawing for prizes.

**Enter your ad by phone, text or email to Preston Mangum
757-582-1450 or pmangum@roseandwomble.com**

Ads are free and good for 90 days or until sold.

Still Available!!



165 Quart Igloo cooler in perfect condition. Garage Kept, Used once \$55.00

Preston Mangum 757-582-1450



**Hodgeman
Waders Size
10 1/2**

**Guaranteed
No Leaks!**

\$40.00

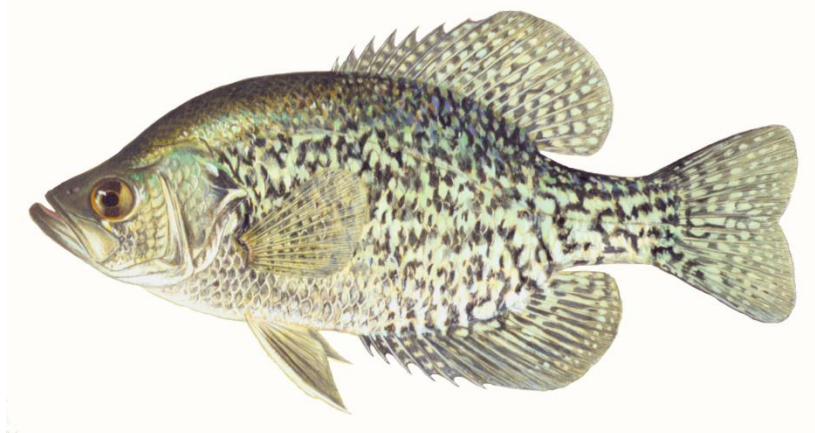
***Butch Eason*
757-681-6019**

Virginia Beach Angler's Club

Crappie Tournament

Lake Smith Shore or Boat

Saturday, December 7, 2019



Entry Fee: \$20.00 per adult angler, \$10.00 per child under 16

Please Register Early

Early Registration email: pmangum@roseandwomble.com or call: 757-582-1450

(give number of anglers child or adult)

General Registration at Lake Smith ramp on Saturday December 7th

Location: Lake Smith & Little Creek Reservoir (See Rules)

Lines In: 8:00 AM

Weigh-in Time: 4:00 PM

Prize paid on the heaviest single fish

\$150 Guaranteed 1st Place and \$75.00 2nd place prizes

Shore Anglers Only: Heaviest fish of any species wins rod/reel combo!

Virginia Beach Anglers

Lake Smith Crappie Tournament Rules

December 7, 2019

Time: Lines in 8:00am - Weigh-in 4:00pm.

Location: Lake Smith (boat and shore), Little Creek Reservoir (boat only).

Gates open at 7:00 AM

Entry Fees: \$20.00 per Angler, \$10.00 for children under 16.

Registration: Register on day of tournament at judge's table in Lake Smith parking lot before fishing.

Boat check before entering water.

Norfolk lakes day permit for boats/kayaks available if desired.

Prize paid on the heaviest single fish.

Except for shore anglers, and angler may win only one place.

Shore anglers may win shore & crappie tournament prize. (see below).

Shore anglers may enter any fish caught during competition. A single prize will be awarded to the overall largest fish caught from shore irrespective of species. Should a crappie be caught by a shore angler, it may be entered in the tournament as a crappie catch in addition to entering for the shore prize.

Use of all nets (except landing net) will disqualify angler.

Early catch submission is permitted.

All entries must be in by the 4:00 pm weigh-in time at judging table. Judging will take place and winners announced at conclusion of weigh-in.

Ties will be decided by the earliest entry.

Decision of the weigh-master is final.

General Interest

Just wanted to be sure you saw this news story. As you probably already know, this week the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission found Virginia out of compliance for overfishing Menhaden. This is very timely, as we ramp up our efforts in advance of the 2020 General Assembly. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important legislation!

Commission: Virginia let company defy fishing limits in bay

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Fishing regulators say the state of Virginia allowed a Canadian-owned company that makes fish-oil supplements to defy catch limits for a tiny and oily fish in the Chesapeake Bay. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission voted Thursday to find Virginia out of compliance with its regulations for a fish called menhaden. The interstate commission said Virginia let...

[Read More](#)

Another article can be found

here: https://www.bayjournal.com/article/action_against_virginia_pending_for_violating_menhaden_catch_limit_in_the_c

https://www.bayjournal.com/article/action_against_virginia_pending_for_violating_menhaden_catch_limit_in_the_c

Regards,

Jill

Jill Eyler

Chief of Staff

Senator Bill DeSteph
804.698.7608 (Richmond)

757.321.8180 (District)

General Interest

Thanks to everyone who expressed support for changes to Menhaden regulation, whether at our recent town hall, your visit, phone call or email. As many of you know, we have worked for years to pass meaningful legislation. Sadly, these bills have been unable to pass committee and get to the Senate floor for a vote.

This year during session, with a concerted effort and your support, we have an opportunity to pass legislation that will change how Menhaden is managed in the Commonwealth.

- Goal 1: Put the menhaden catch under the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC). Menhaden are the only fish NOT regulated by VMRC. It's time to change that.
- Goal 2: Increase the fines for exceeding the catch ratio:
<https://mrc.virginia.gov/regulations/fr1270.shtm>
- Goal 3: Add funds to VA Tourism budget for advertising of fishing tournaments

Attached is the contact information for the Senate Agriculture, Conservation & Natural Resources committee. Reaching out to each member and expressing your support of Menhaden Legislation should go a long way toward reaching our goals. If your schedule allows, coming to Richmond during session to testify in front of the committee sends a powerful message as well.

Please don't hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or suggestions on how we move forward. Again, many thanks for your support and interest in this important legislation!

Warm regards,
Bill

Senator Bill DeSteph
804.698.7608 (Richmond)
757.321.8180 (District)

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=1577932832&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1648728804256286460&th=16e1761cb4a686fc&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=f_k2bsoxmqq0

General Interest

For any of you interested in the NC wind energy area. Below it the latest information from the Fisheries Liaison officer Rick Robbins:

Jeff

Good morning. Attached please find an updated fisheries notice for the survey operations conducted by the M/V Gerry Bordelon in the Kitty Hawk wind energy area (WEA) and the corridor, which runs from Sandbridge, to the 4A buoy, passing just below the Horseshoe, out to the WEA off of Corolla.

The Bordelon will be towing survey equipment astern from November 1 through November 15. During this period, they will be towing equipment up to 1,000' astern, and a 1 nautical mile closest point of approach is requested. From November 15 through January, the vessel will be operating in the area but is not expected to be towing any equipment, and a reduced, .5 nm closest point of approach is requested. I expect to have daily phone communications with the bridge of the survey vessel and will let you know if there are any significant changes in the vessel's survey operations.

I anticipate that most of the work in the corridor will be completed on the front end of this survey cruise, which would help avoid any commercial gear conflicts. I will keep you closely updated accordingly.

Please share this notice with any captains that will be transiting the area between now and the end of January. If you or any of the fishermen on your committee have any questions, I would be glad to discuss them on the phone or in person--just let me know.

Thank you,

Rick Robins
757.876.3778
rick@fathomedgelimited

Our October meeting speaker was Mike Rexroad, the Environmental Health Manager at the Virginia Beach Health Department. He spoke on the ever-present danger of fish handler's disease which has been exacerbated by increasing water temperatures in this area.

Thanks Mike!



Hats & T-Shirts

New Shirts Available!

Short Sleeve T's \$15.00

Performance Long Sleeve,
UPF 50, Color: Sea Grass

\$25.00

T's \$15.00



Performance Long Sleeve - \$25.00



ALL HATS \$15.00 EA



2018 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

Boat Show:	Chair – Russell Willoughby
Calendar:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Crab Creek Clean-Up:	Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Great Bridge Flea Market:	Chair – Preston Mangum
VBAC Flea Market:	Chair – Bob Burstein
Banquet/Oyster Roast:	Chair – Jerry Mariano
Seton Youth:	Chair – Dave Anderson
Raffles:	Chair – Preston Mangum
Audit Committee:	Chair – Mike Anderson
Surf Tournaments:	Chair – John Germanos
Club Tournaments:	Chair – George Gabriel Co. Chair – Bob Burstein
Pier Tournaments:	Chair – Gary Doerhoff Co. Chair – Bryan Watson
Prize Fish:	Chair – Kelly Hoggard
Nomination Committee:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair Kelly Hoggard Co. Chair Beth Synoweic
Conservation and Regulations:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard
T-Shirt Committee:	Chair – Patty Searby

If You Would Like to Help on a Committee,
Please Speak to the Chair. Help is Appreciated!

Saltwater Fishing News

Largest Saltwater Fish Caught in 2019

Species	Angler	Date	Size	Where	Weight
Amberjack	Chris Schneider	11-Apr	39"	Vessel	26#
Black Drum	Preston Mangum	26-May	38"	CBBT	
Blackfin Tuna	George Gabriel	11-Apr		Vessel	36#
Blackbelly Rosefish	Kevin Synowiec	14-Jul		Norfolk Canyon	3#14oz
Blueline Tilefish	David Anderson	27-Jul		Norfolk Canyon	7#11oz
Bluefish	John Germanos	30-Apr		NC Surf	3.15#
Cobia	Dave Smith	3-Sep	49"	Sandbridge	
Dolphin	Michael Anderson	22-May	59"	Vessel	39#
Flounder	James Eisenhower	1-Aug		CBBT	5.25#
Golden Tilefish	Beth Synowiec	14-Jul		Norfolk Canyon	26#
Houndfish	Kelly Hoggard	5-Sep	42"	Sandbridge	
King Mackerel	David Smith	30-Aug		Sandbridge	37#
Oyster Toad	Kelly Hoggard	8-Sep		CBBT	2#14oz
Pinfish	Patty Searby	27-May	13"	Vessel	14oz.
Pompano	Kelly Hoggard	27-Jun	13.25"	Avon	
Puffer Fish (smooth)	Kelly Hoggard	13-Feb	12.25"	Carolina Beach	
Puppy Drum	Dave Smith	27-Jun	27 1/4"		
Red Drum	Robert Oliver	4-Jun	46.5"	4th Island	
Roundhead	Kelly Hoggard	4-May	15.75"	Ocracoke	
Sea Bass	Kelly Hoggard	28-Jun	17.5"	Ches Lt	
Shark	John Germanos	11-Apr	96"	Vessel	
Spanish Mackerel	Dave Smith	27-Jun	28.5"	Sandbridge	5#
Spadefish	Kelly Hoggard	31-May		Ches Lt	5# 14oz
Speckled Trout	Mark Lozier	1-Aug	24"	Lynnhaven	
Spot	Kelly Hoggard	21-Jul	9.5"	LC Inlet	
Swallowtail Bass	Beth Synowiec	14-Jul		Norfolk Canyon	1#2oz.
White Marlin	Kelly Hoggard	20-Aug		Washington Canyon	

Saltwater Fishing News



Speckled Trout fishing in Little Creek with Louis Glaser in October

October is usually a great month to fish speckled trout each year but this year has been exceptional. The specks have been consistently available at the jetties and when the wind doesn't allow you to go there to fish we have found them in the Pretty Lake usually in shallow water. This month I fished with Louis in the Little Creek eight times and most of those days we had our limit of ten in a matter of a couple of hours. Last week I actually fished with him four days sometimes with a third person like Taz or Gerry Gaines or Thomas then we would usually catch three limits and throw back another dozen or more. Most were 18-22". One day, 10/22/19 was particularly exceptional because we also caught over a dozen puppy drum also and of these one was 18" and one was 19", the first keeper size puppies that we had caught all year. That day I also released three club minimums, 20, 21 and 22 inch trout and kept three that weighed at Ocean's East over 3 pounds for club minimums. At this point I am only keeping fish if I have someone specific to give them to and am trying to get a state citation release. All fish have been caught on MirrOlures, 17's, 27's and 52's of almost every color I have depending on the sunlight and current. The puppies liked rubber baits on jigs and were caught close to the jetties. Finding the fish was the challenge each day depending on the wind.

Blessings,
Ike

Saltwater Fishing News Continued



Spot Fishing and Catching 9-29

Had some leftover blood worms and called Robert to see if he wanted to go fishing. He had the itch, so I set a time and met him at the boat. We went over by the tennis courts and set up near low tide on one of the ledges. The fishing was slow. Lots of pinfish, pigfish, and croakers mixed in. When the current started to roar in, we moved to an eddy and found much better spot fishing. Even managed two at a time on a pair of 9" fish. We had a great hour or so of catching and went back to the dock. Good eats are in the future for dinner. After cleaning up, I played around with the cast net and caught a bunch of small menhaden, a few on each cast. Also got a puppy drum on one throw in shallow water and 18 shrimp in a single cast later on. Luckily I had my tagging gear ready and got a tag in that puppy. I'm pretty sure that the speckled trout and puppies are targeting shrimp and it may be worth catching some and using them as bait. I have never rigged a live shrimp but I hear the Carolina guys love to do it in the back creeks and for targeting some species in the surf. I'm sure there are plenty of videos that may suggest how to rig them. Best of luck to those who go fishing in the near future.

Saltwater Fishing News Continued

Our intrepid angler Jerry Hughes went fishing October 30 and caught 12 puppy drum in Lynnhaven along with 10 speckled trout. Good fishing Jerry!



Let the Herding begin..Oct 13 Sheep Herders report By Beth Synowiec

We arrived at the CBBT late morning to the pilings. It took a couple stops and a couple islands but we found them & when we did it was better then the go fish tank at the carnival and we both felt like kids again. This is exactly what we needed to regenerate . Bite was on fiddlers and on the softer side but practically every time you dropped your line there was another contender on there.

E and I easily managed 3 person limit with just the two of us so after we boxed our 8 we had to start throwing back a lot . (good problem to have). We left them biting when it started raining and headed back . Oh and just a side note to the biggin that bent the hook and practically broke my rod tip... , “ I will be back “ .. ha



Saltwater Fishing News Continued

Submitted by Bob Stuhlman 10-29-19

Lynnhaven speck fishing high lights. Caught numerous smaller fish, but this was Jerry Mariano's best. Two 20 inch fish made it to the box.



Saltwater Fishing News Continued

Exciting Fishing Opportunities in waters of Virginia

Please click the link below to get information all fishing in Virginia

<https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/>

READ FISHTALK ONLINE

Rudow's FishTalk Magazine is a monthly magazine focused on fishing the Chesapeake Bay and Mid-Atlantic region. Read the current issue here online or browse through the archive of past issues below. If you can't find what you're looking for drop us a line [HERE](#)

CURRENT ISSUE

GEAR | HOW TO | WHERE TO | TACTICAL ANGLER | FISHBOAT REVIEWS | FISHING REPORTS

Thank you, anglers, for picking up FishTalk!

We hope you'll enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed making it, and more importantly, that it helps you catch more, bigger fish. We love to hear from you. Please send your fishing pics and reports anytime to lenny@fishtalkmag.com

<https://www.fishtalkmag.com/read-fishtalk-online>~ Lenny Rudow, Angler in Chief

Read the Latest Issue Online

See What's New in the 2019 Fishing Regulations

Click the link below.

https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_content=header

Chef's Corner: Pan-Fried Spot – The Ultimate Panfish!

NOVEMBER 2019

As Panfish go, Spot tops the list of fine table fare, and Saltwater Anglers across Virginia and the Carolinas cherish this smaller cousin of the revered Red Drum!



My Dad enjoying a plate of fresh fried Spot and a Greek Salad.



OBX-style Spot Fry Mess for Lunch!

Life was simple when I was 12. Summer meant playing baseball all day, couples-only skates with the girls at the Plaza Roller Rink, and pier fishing for Spot at 14th Street in Virginia Beach - one of the few things my Dad and I did together on occasion.

So, every once in a while, I take a trip down memory lane, hit the pier, and seek-out these tasty little relics of good times past.

Catching Spot seems different than other fish somehow. It's not a trophy fish by any stretch, and it doesn't go on drag-busting runs, but there lies in it a certain mystique of generations past and a promise to generations ahead.

Maybe it's a little like baseball. It symbolizes summer and simplicity. It's always there, and it doesn't require any remarkable knowledge, equipment, or skill. Just an old spinning reel, a simple bottom rig, and a can-o-worms.

Catching big Drum is great. The thump of Spanish and Blues hitting metal turns the adrenaline up. The drag-smoking run of a big Marlin – terrific.

But for this simple man, I'll take a nostalgic day of Spot fishing over all else...

I hope you enjoy this simple, yet essential, Southern recipe.

Except for the occasional fall run of “Yellow Bellies,” Spot typically average only 7-10 inches, but catching them always seems so rewarding – perhaps because it has the power to take us back in time, but also because it is excellent table fare!

I have filleted Spot in the past, but I must say, frying them whole is hands-down the best way I know to eat these delicious little critters!



Cleaned and Scaled – Ready for the Flour!



Typical Pan-sized NC Spot – Perfect for the Skillet!

INGREDIENTS:

Half a dozen fresh whole Spot, cleaned and scaled

Seafood Breeding Mix – options include House Autry Medium-hot or Seafood blend; hushpuppy mix; corn meal; plain flour; or any mix or blend you prefer!

Seasoning to taste – salt & pepper is the simplest, but Old Bay or any Cajun shake will work great too!

Peanut oil for frying – enough to fully cover the fish while frying

Your choice of condiments – typically fresh halved lemon or malt vinegar

Classic sides include hand-cut fried potatoes and a hearty Greek salad!

DIRECTIONS:

Roll whole fish in breeding mix to evenly coat – I like to pat some breeding inside the rib cavity as well!

Heat oil to 375 degrees F

Shake excess flour off each Spot and place in hot oil

Fry for about 5 minutes on each side if using a skillet or cook ten minutes in a deep fat fryer

Remove from fryer when brown and crisped and serve with your choice of sides and condiments!

SERVING SUGGESTIONS:

Here are a few things I'd like to share on eating these delicacies once cooked.

Our family loves to eat “The Crispies” first! These treats are the crisped tail, pectoral, and ventral fins. They are delicious and loaded with calcium. We just remove them and munch away – kinda’ like tater chips!

Next, I like to carefully pinch and remove the full length of the dorsal fin, which also removes all of the dorsal pin bones.

After that, I pull the ventral fin complex in a similar manner to remove all ventral bones.

Then, I use a butter knife to gently remove the meat from the bone on the top side.

That will leave the main skeletal bone exposed, and I simply lift up on that whole skeleton from the tail end to leave the remainder of the meat deboned on the plate.

Squeeze a little lemon juice on the meat and enjoy!

It's still wise look for any pin bones were missed, but with Spot, I tend to chew most of them up since they are so soft and small. I then pick over the ribs, head, and shoulders to nibble away and remaining meat – it's all too good to waste!



Just roll em' in seasoned flour!



Fry to a Crispy Brown!



Now that's what I call a Hot Mess!



A Modest Serving Size – I like 6 or 8



Classic plate of Old Bay Spot!



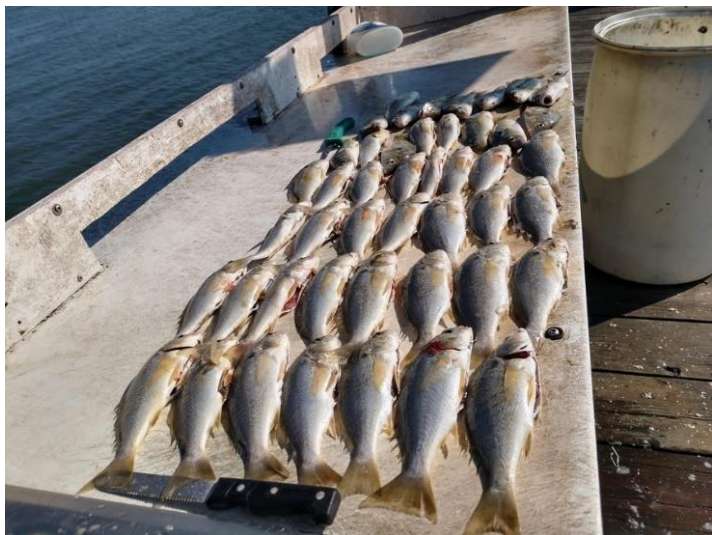
Perfectly Crisped Twins!



No Better Accompaniment than Hand-cut Fries!



A nice Greek Salad is another great Side for a Fried Spot!



Nice Mess of Spot taken off the Ocean View Pier.



Vacuum-seal and Quick-freeze for later use!

As shown above, the process is very simple, so anyone can now embrace cooking whole fish to preserve all that great flavor and optimize the use of every inch and ounce edible meat – a recurring theme in my Chef's Corner recipes!

Contributed by: VBAC Angler John Germanos, aka "The Instinctive Chef."

Surf Fishing News

2019 Long Beach Island 73rd Annual World Series of Surf Fishing 28 September 2019

TEAM 1

Greg Wehner*
Jerry Hughes*
Doug Wehner*
Robbie Parks
Jay Graber
Bob Stuhlman

TEAM 2

George Gabriel*
John Germanos*
Bill Frunzi
Bill Searby
David Anderson**
Jerry Mariano**

** = Returning Angler from 2018 ** = Angler Selected from Alternate List*

2019 RESULTS:

TEAM 1 TOTALS - 13 Fish for 144 Points good for **26th Place** out of 56 Teams.

Returning in 2020 – Robbie Parks (4 fish, 55.25 pts); Jerry Hughes (3 fish, 45.25 pts); Greg Wehner (3 fish, 27 pts)

TEAM 2 TOTALS - 12 Fish for 148.50 Points good for **24th Place** out of 56 Teams.

Returning in 2020 - John Germanos (6 fish, 69.75 pts); George Gabriel (2 fish, 27.75 pts); Jerry Mariano (2 fish, 26.50 pts)

TOP SCORER - John Germanos led all VBAC anglers with 6 Fish for 69.75 Points.

In addition, VBAC anglers Kelly Hoggard and Patty Searby competed in a separate Individual Event.

Kelly Hoggard finished 2nd out of 31 anglers with 142.75 points.

Patty Searby finished 22nd out of 31 anglers with 12 points.

The lottery drawing for the 2020 Long Beach Island Tournament will take place at the March 2020 VBAC General Membership Meeting.

73rd LBIFC World Series of Surf Fishing Tournament Results

VBAC's Team 2 successfully retains intraclub "bragging rights" for the third year in a row during the 2019 Long Beach Island Fishing Club (LBIFC) World Series of Surf Fishing!

Special Thanks go out to the Long Beach Island Fishing Club (LBIFC) Committee and all 2019 LBIFC Volunteers for their hospitality and for hosting another great tournament on New Jersey's Long Beach Island!

This year's competition was held on Saturday, 28 September 2019. The tournament field included 56 of the most competitive teams on the East Coast.

VBAC entered two teams consisting of six anglers each.

Team 2 recorded 12-fish and 148.50 points, which kept them on the left side of the leaderboard and earned a 24th-place overall finish, a slip from their 6th and 8th place showings in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Team 1 recorded 13 fish and 144 points for a 26th place finish just 4.5 points behind Team 2.

John Germanos was once again the top VBAC scorer with 6 fish for 69.75 points.

Robbie Parks recorded the largest fish with a 17.75-inch bluefish.

In addition, VBAC entered two anglers in the individual event.

Kelly Hoggard finished 2nd in the field of 31 individual anglers by recording an impressive 142.50 points, and Patty Searby finished 22nd with a 12-point total which outscored 9 local LBI anglers!

Success required hard work, perseverance, and a capability to reach the fish beyond the sandbar when little or no fishable water existed on the shoal.

VBAC's two high scorers, John Germanos (Team event) and Kelly Hoggard (Individual event), attributed much of their combined success to arriving two days ahead of the tournament to pre-fish the LBI beaches; catch fresh bait; visit local tackle shops; and generally conduct the research required to compete with local anglers on their home turf.

Thanks to all 14 VBAC anglers for representing the Club with another respectable performance, and good luck in 2020 as VBAC seeks to return to the Top 10 in the Team Event!

TEAM 1 RESULTS:

Doug Wehner captained Team 1, which included the following anglers:

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|
| • Doug Wehner (CPT) | • Jerry Hughes | • Greg Wehner |
| • Robbie Parks | • Bob Stuhlman | • Jay Graber |

Session one opened with Captain Doug Wehner beaching a 10-inch bluefish that fell 1-inch short of the 11-inch minimum required to score (i.e. a "short"). Jay Graber and Jerry Hughes each landed a 14.5-inch bluefish to get Team 1 on the board.

Session two began with high hopes based on the Judge's report that all the Bluefish taken in the earlier session came from this spot! However, with the falling tide, most of Team 1's 11 scoring fish were beached late in the session when they were able to



John with two nice LBI Blues!



Bill Frunzi's 19" Bluefish caught while pre-fishing the event!

wade to the bar. Doug, Greg, and Jay each landed a shark for a point apiece. Greg, Jerry, and Robbie landed multiple scorable Bluefish including Robbie's Club best 17.75-incher!

While Team 2 edged Team 1 on points (148.5 vs 144), Team 1's Sharkers managed to beach one more scoring fish (13 vs 12)!

Team 1 Scoring Summary:

Five Team 1 anglers recorded scorable fish. Robbie Parks was Team 1's high-scorer with a 4-fish, 55.25-point performance! Great Work Robbie!

The squad's 144-point total put Team 1 in 26th-Place on the leaderboard.

Here are the Team 1 scoring results by session.

Session 1 Results (0700-1930):

- Jerry Hughes 1 fish for 14.5 points
- Jay Graber 1 fish for 14.5 points

Session 2 Results (1000-1230):

- Robbie Parks 4 fish for 55.25 points
- Jerry Hughes 2 fish for 30.75 points
- Greg Wehner 3 fish for 27 points
- Doug Wehner 1 fish for 1 point
- Jay Graber 1 fish for 1 point

Top 3 Overall Team 1 Scorers:

- Robbie Parks: 4 fish and 55.25 points
- Jerry Hughes: 3 fish and 45.25 points
- Greg Wehner: 3 fish and 27.00 points

These three folks have earned an automatic bid to return for next year's event!

Congratulations and Well Done!



Greg "The Sharker" Wehner!



Team 1's Robbie Parks baiting-up for an 0700 start!



Team 2's John Germanos heading to the LBI surf to Pre-fish the Sunrise on Friday Morning with Bill Frunzi!

TEAM 2 RESULTS:

George Gabriel served as Captain for Team 2, which included the following Anglers:

- George "I'm Stuck" Gabriel (CPT)
- Jerry "Spanky" Mariano
- Bill "The Colonel" Frunzi
- John "Point Man" Germanos
- Bill "Not Pat" Searby
- David "Muscle" Anderson

Team 2 got off to a rough start as Captain George Gabriel buried his Suburban in the sand before the session opened – in the wrong fishing zone! In the first of several "Team-Building" exercises, all teammates dug and pushed until the vehicle was safely buried again within our assigned fishing zone! What a start!

Team 2 drew Position 35 for the first session and quickly realized they were in for a tough morning as a large shoal encompassed the entire fishing area, leaving virtually no fishable water once the slough was cut off just 30 minutes into the session.

John Germanos bombed a long cast during that first 30 minutes of marginally fishable water that produced the first and only scorable fish. While everyone fished hard, there was literally no water to fish! In fact, upon reviewing the leader board, Team 2 recorded the only fish in Position 35 all day as all other anglers were shutout in that zone!

Luck of the draw!

With only 30 minutes between sessions, Team 2 had to pack up their gear; dig and push the Suburban to the next station 10 blocks to the south; and unpack their gear to fish Position 25. Good thing we had Dave "The Muscle" Anderson!

Needless to say, Team 2 got off to a late start and struggled to get into a rhythm. Once again, shoaling was an issue as 2/3 of the area became unfishable during the second half of the session (we missed the prime part of the session!), so we packed as many anglers as we could into the 20-yd fishable area with modest success. We were shoulder-to-shoulder, but great teamwork kept lines in the water; 4 anglers scored fish; and crossed lines were never an issue! Well done to all!

John managed to beach 3 “shorts” and 5 scorable fish, including a 12-inch Bluefish at the buzzer! George, Jerry, and Bill Searby also managed to beach scorable fish against tough odds to salvage a respectable Team score before ending the day with one last dig-n-push of that buried Chevy Suburban! Rumor has it, David “The Muscle” Anderson carried the Suburban out on his shoulders after the last session!

Time to get a new truck George – preferably, a Ford!

Team 2 Scoring Summary:

Four of the six Team 2 anglers recorded scorable fish. John Germanos was Team 2’s high-scorer with a Club high 6-fish, 69.75-point performance!

The squad’s 12-fish, 148.50-point total put Team 2 in 24th Place on the leaderboard and 4.5 points ahead of Team 1 to retain intracub bragging rights for the third year in a row!

Here are the Team 2 scoring results by session.

Session 1 Results (0700-0930):

- John Germanos 1 fish for 11.50 points

Session 2 Results (1000-1230):

- John Germanos 5 fish for 58.25 points
- George Gabriel 2 fish for 27.75 points
- Jerry Mariano 2 fish for 26.50 points
- Bill Searby 2 fish for 24.50 points

John Germanos was the high scorer for both sessions. Overall, 12 scorable fish were landed, and the Team scored points in both sessions. Congratulations to John on being the Club High Scorer for the second consecutive Team Tournament (John was also high scorer in Ocracoke in May)!

Top 3 Overall Team 2 Scorers:

- John Germanos: 6 fish and 69.75 points
- George Gabriel: 2 fish and 27.75 points
- Jerry Mariano: 2 fish and 26.50 points

These three folks have earned an automatic bid to return for next year’s event!

Congratulations and Well Done!

VBAC Anglers Caught in the Act of Having Fun!

From the peaceful drive across the eastern Shore to the Cape May Ferry ride and beyond, fishing the LBI event continues to offer a unique fishing experience for all participating anglers!

Here are some more pictures of the VBAC crew before, during, and after the tournament!



John’s 30-inch Atlantic Sharpnose.



Bill enjoying a ride on the Cape May Ferry!



Doink before breakfast!



Doug "resting his eyes" with David



Team 2's Bill Frunzi preparing to join John in the LBI Surf to pre-fish the event and gain valuable hands-on insights!



View of the Pre-dawn Surf in Ships Bottom prior to Fishing a "Mock-Session" on Friday Morning!

IFC 73 RD		POSITION		POSITION		TOTAL
		AM	SCORE	PM	SCORE	
DIRTY MIKE & THE BOYS		52	55.5	64	54	109.5
Jake's Boys		34	26.25	24	0	26.25
FISH HEADS (INDIVIDUAL) ↓ *		1	205	11	98.5	303.5
David Pellon		74	0	72	13.75	13.75
Oven Ostrander		22	0	32	0	0
Elijah Ostrander		22	14.5	32	14.25	28.75
Dave Groeber		73	125	75	67.25	192.25
Cole Ragor		50	0	62	17.25	17.25

L.B.I.F.C. 73 RD TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUALS		POSITIONS		POSITIONS		TOTAL
		AM	SCORE	PM	SCORE	
JOE MARKEY		16	0	6	0	0
KELLY HOGGARD		73	85.25	75	57.5	142.75
PATTY SEARBY		73	12	75	0	12
ASHLY VOORHEES		73	28.5	75	0	28.5
CLIFTON ANDERSON		74	41.25	72	41.25	82.5
Jason Hoch		73	12.75	75	0	12.75
Fred Keefer		16	14	6	0	14
Kyle Keefer		16	51.5	6	41.25	92.75
Alexander Bilicki		25	14	35	0	14
Arlene Perkowski		25	43	35	0	43
Bob Kernan		25	0	35	0	0
Charlie Cirecha		25	0	35	0	0
Matt McDaniel		44	100.5	56	40.5	141
Rob Conchedo		44	56	56	30	86
Aaron Joyce		73	14.5	75	13	27.5
Arnold Gooch		44	72.25	56	0	72.25
Dave Brown		44	29.5	56	0	29.5
Bryden O'Connell		25	37	35	0	37
Joe Mauro		16	0	6	0	0
Joe Mauro Sr		16	0	6	0	0
Drew Buriak		74	0	72	0	0
Andrew Corbin		50	0	62	0	0
Matt Stacey		50	0	62	0	0
Don Kelly		50	0	62	29.5	29.5
George Bass		22	0	32	132.5	132.5
Adam Crocker		74	14	72	0	14

Kelly's Solid 2nd Place Finish as Reflected on the Leader Board (2nd from the top right) – NOTE the Zeros at PM Position 35!



Kelly with three of the fish caught during the individual event from left-to-right: Bluefish, Flounder, and Kingfish



Patty Searby In Action During the Individual Competition – Nice Technique on that Cast!

Be sure to register for the 2020 LBI Lottery drawing, and Good Luck to all Returning Anglers!

Contributed by: VBAC Angler John Germanos, VBAC Surf Committee Chairman

Surf Fishing News

VB Surf Fishing Recap October 2019

It's been a pretty rough few weeks along the shores of Virginia Beach. There haven't been a lot of fishable days in the surf this month. I managed to get out a couple of times when the waves would finally subside. Though I often fished with a strong N or NW wind at my back. The beach has been eroded in places so that holes have been filled and bars have been evened out. You have to approach the surf at low tide to see the small zones that have opened and allow fish to swim into the slough at high tide.

The variety of small fish this late in the year has been exceptional. I've caught bluefish and roundhead so small with the cast net, I'd have never caught one with a hook. With the storms and cooler weather, the sand fleas have been struggling to find their place in the surf. It's pushed them deeper into the sand and surf. I've been forced to use a lot more fishbites and cut fish. Kelly Hoggard 11-2



Surf Fishing News

Recap of the 2019 individual tournament at LBI

With two full teams representing VBAC, room was not available for all the club anglers that wanted to fish. Patty Searby and Kelly Hoggard made the trip with the team to fish as individuals. Fishing the tournament was similar to regular, except the fishing is based on your own performance.

Patty and myself registered as walk-on anglers and were given the site numbers 73 early morning session and 75 late morning session. We lugged our gear over the dunes and set up in the left half of the section at about 6:30 am. There was a strong wind straight down the beach from the south. It was a little stronger than forecasted but was fishable, and didn't cause any issues with grass or currents. The session started at 7:00 am and in less than a couple minutes, I had a fish on. The only issue was that I was the 5th to beach a fish already. I knew it was going to take some good fishing to stay in competition. One thing that wasn't very noticeable was the fact that after that quick run, fishing slowed for most anglers. This was due to the fact that fishing was significantly better past the bar. Anglers were quick to catch fish in the slough but only so many were running close to shore. The angler between me and the boundary was clearly going to be competitive. He had a really high quality mullet rig in a color I've never owned, and it was working. He had a bright red and silver wood/hard plastic (old style) mullet rig with hair teaser. We traded fish for the first hour. But I quickly realized that the 15 finger mullet I had wasn't going to last. After the first hour, I only had 3 left and needed to start fishing with cut bait. I initially tried metal but didn't get a bite on the colors I tried.

Patty in the meantime, started slow. Without getting over the bar, fishing was consistent but slow. She got a couple of bites in the first hour but only landed one fish. She and I both tried for the roundhead that were certainly to be swimming in the slough, but neither of us had a bite there on bloodworms and sand fleas.

I caught regularly, but went on a spree when I had 4 fish to measure at one time. Though fishing was good, the bluefish were attacking the rigs so hard that they were either missing the hook or bending the wire and getting off during the pull to shore. My catch ratio was really low. Probably in the 20-25% range and it made for a frustrating day of fishing. The fireball rigs produced bites but most fish were either too small to score or the endless supply of calico crabs would get the baits first. I spent the second half of the first session without using a mullet or mullet rig. At the end of the first session, I had 6 fish scored and Patty had 1. The gentleman to my left was ahead with 8 fish.

During session changes, we had to walk about 250 yards with our gear to the next area. Breaking it all down, moving, and setting back up took a lot of time. By the time I had reconnected all my rigs, it was time to fish. I had 3 mullet left and decided to use them. Fishing here was tougher. The water had receded closer towards low tide. Since the water was so deep right in front and the bar so shallow, it was tough to reach the fish. I was the only one if the 3 sections of fisherman able to make it to the fish. I managed an occasional bite, and scored 4 fish on 3 finger mullet. The extra bite came on a finger mullet I pulled from half way out the stomach of one of the bluefish that wasn't mangled. I wasn't able to catch up to the guy I was fishing next to. He only scored 4 fish in the second session. I would have had the chance with more bait. I threw 4 colors and shapes of metal for almost 2 hours out of the 5 hour fishing period without a single bite. Patty meanwhile struggled. The water in the slough was cut off on both sides so no fish were in it and was too deep to traverse to get to the bar and fish. My ability to throw a fireball rig out past the bar worked well to provide bites but all the fish retrieved on it were short of the 11" minimum.

At the end of the tournament, I finished in 2nd place out of 31 individual anglers with 142.75 total scoring inches. Patty scored one fish but still finished middle of the pack as many individuals only scored one or zero fish. I had a great time and was very exited to score so well compared to the competition. Of the over 300 anglers, very few caught or scored more fish than I did. It's a proud accomplishment that I am happy to have achieved. Though my points would have been a benefit to one of club teams, it wouldn't have been enough to secure a top tier finish. I will always prefer to fish for the club sponsored teams, but will definitely consider an individual entry again if presented the opportunity.

Better luck to all the teams that fish this fall in the remaining tournaments. I will be down in Hatteras for CHAC and I'm looking forward to fishing that for the first time this year.

Kelly Hoggard

2019 Nags Head Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament

9-11 October 2019

TEAM 1

Robbie Parks*
Doug Wehner*
Stan Sutliff*
John Gabriel
Vic Muron (dnp)
Butch Eason**

TEAM 2

Caroline Robinson*
Liz Nash*
Melanie Bayford**
Micki Walsh**
Mark Wray**
Carl McCoy**

* = *Returning Angler from 2018* ** = *Angler Selected from Alternate List*

NOTE: Vic Muron did not participate due to injury incurred on 9 October

2019 RESULTS:

TEAM 1 TOTALS - 2 Fish for 4 Points good for **34th Place** out of 80 Teams.

Returning in 2020 – Butch Eason (1 fish, 3 pts.); Robbie Parks (1 fish, 1 pt.)

TEAM 2 TOTALS - 0 Fish for 0 Points, tied with 34 teams for 47th place out of 80.

Returning in 2020 – A lottery drawing will be conducted to determine which 2 anglers return in 2020

TOP SCORER – Butch Eason led all VBAC anglers with 1 Fish for 3 Points.

The lottery drawing for the 2020 Nags Head Surf Fishing Club Tournament will take place at the April 2020 VBAC General Membership Meeting.

68th Annual Nags Head Surf Fishing Club Tournament Results

VBAC Teams braved the elements to diligently place in the Top Half of the 2019 Nags Head Surf Fishing Club (NHSFC) Invitational Tournament!

Special Thanks go out to the Nags Head Surf Fishing Club (NHSFC) Tournament Committee and all 2019 NHSFC Volunteers for their hospitality and for hosting another great tournament on the turbulent Nags Head beaches!

This year was particularly challenging as over a week of stiff nor'easters had battered the coast with high seas and almost impassable conditions around the high tides.

The tournament committee placed angler safety first and masterfully managed to adjust session times, durations, and structure to maximize fishing time while balancing safety and beach preservation.

Again, our sincere appreciation for a job WELL DONE under very, very tough conditions!

This year's competition was held 10-11 October 2019. The tournament field included 80 of the most competitive teams on the East Coast.

VBAC entered two teams consisting of six anglers each.

Only four points separated the two teams at the end of the tournament, and both fished hard over the course of the event.

Team 1 recorded two fish and four points, which kept them on the left side of the leaderboard with a 34th-place overall finish out of 80 teams.

Team 2 finished the tournament with zero scorable fish and zero points, just four points behind Team 1. While Team 2 caught several fish, none met the minimum sizes required to score.

Butch Eason was the top VBAC scorer with 1 fish for 3 points.

Butch also recorded the largest fish with his 13.5-inch bluefish.

High winds and rough surf required hard work, perseverance, and a capability to fish heavy weights and rigs.

Sessions were delayed and shortened on Day 1 to allow beach ingress/egress around the extreme high tides. Session 1 ran from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, and Session 2 ran from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. These adjustments were spot-on, and while the conditions were tough, participant safety was never in question!

While the weather improved and winds subsided somewhat, Day 2 tides were more severe due to the ongoing nor'easter and full moon timing. As a result, the tournament committee made a very good call by going with a single session that spanned the safest surf conditions. This assured safe beach ingress/egress while maximizing the practical fishing time equitably for the entire field. The session ran from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm as the



Team 1 Flying the Club Colors on Day 2!
Left to right: John Gabriel, Robbie Parks, Butch Eason, & Doug Wehner.



Day 2 on the Nags Head beach – surf stayed rough, but lower wind and some sun made for a much more fishable day!

waterline steadily challenged the ability to safely get vehicles on/off the beach!

Again, excellent decision making in the heat of the event kept things going as smoothly as could be expected.

Thanks to all 11 VBAC anglers for representing the Club with another respectable performance, and good luck in 2020 as VBAC seeks to move up the leaderboard!

TEAM 1 RESULTS:

Robbie Parks captained Team 1, which included the following anglers:

- Robbie Parks (CPT)
- Butch Eason
- Doug Wehner
- John Gabriel
- Stan Sutliff
- ***Vic Muron****

**** Vic pulled out of the competition on Wednesday night due to an ailing hip.***

Session one saw Robbie Parks land an 11.5-inch bluefish to get Team 1 on the board. That would be the lone fish scored as bites were few, and the water rough.

Session two began with high hopes as the Team arrived early and prepared to give it all they had. Unfortunately, the fish have a say in the matter! It seemed the fish headed to deeper waters to avoid the turbulence just out of casting range!

On Day 2, the final session showed promise as weather conditions improved, and Butch Eason was able to land his Club best 13.5-inch Bluefish. The bite improved, but the catching was at a standstill.

Although Team 1 narrowly edged Team 2 on points (4 vs 0), Captain Carl's Team 2 Angels managed to beach several non-scoring fish!

Team 1 Scoring Summary:

Two Team 1 anglers recorded scorable fish. Butch Eason was Team 1's high-scorer with a 1-fish, 3-point performance.

The squad's 4-point total put Team 1 in 34th Place on the leaderboard out of 80.

Here are the Team 1 scoring results by session.

Session 1 Results (1000-1200):

- Robbie Parks 1 fish for 1 point

Session 2 Results (1330-1600):

- No fish scorable were recorded.

Session 3 Results (1130-1430):

- Butch Eason 1 fish for 3 points

Top 3 Overall Team 1 Scorers*:

- Butch Eason: 1 fish and 3 points
- Robbie Parks: 1 fish and 1 point

**** Since only two anglers scored, the third position will be filled during the lottery drawing in 2020.***

Butch and Robbie have earned an automatic bid to return for next year's event!

Congratulations and Well Done!



Team 1 Rods a Plenty!!



Robbie chillin' at the Team cottage!

TEAM 2 RESULTS:

Carl McCoy served as Captain for Team 2, which included the following Anglers:

- Carl "The Reel" McCoy (CPT)
- "Sweet Caroline" Robinson
- Mel "PFD" Bayford
- Mark "OMG Help Me" Wray
- Liz "The Biz" Nash
- Micki "Card Sharp" Walsh

Day one was a tough go all around, and while Caroline's 7-inch Spot proved there were fish in the water, it fell short of the minimum length required to score. All anglers fished hard and battled wind and waves, but no points were recorded.

Day 2 promised to offer more favorable conditions as the wind subsided to a manageable level, and the sun came out to warm the weary anglers. Unfortunately, the tides were more severe, and the two planned sessions were combined into a single session around the low tide.

Carl's Angels worked the beach hard once again, as did Mark, but the fish seemed to stay just out of reach in the calmer waters 200-300 yards offshore!

Session 1 Results (1000-1200):

- No scorable fish were recorded

Session 2 Results (1330-1600):

- No scorable fish were recorded.

Session 3 Results (1130-1430):

- No scorable fish were recorded

Top 3 Overall Team 1 Scorers*:

- No returners based on score

** Since no anglers scored, returning positions will be filled in accordance with the VBAC Functions and Activities (F&A) Manual guidelines.*

Team 2 Scoring Summary:

None of the six Team 2 anglers recorded scorable fish. Several "shorts" were beached, and all anglers fished hard for the duration of each session.

Overall, 34 of the 80 Teams failed to record a single point – it really was that tough out there!

As a result, Team 2's zero fish for zero points put them in a 34-team tie for 47th place out of 80, still a mere 4 points behind Team 1!

Congratulations on surviving the tournament and representing the Club with your collective Positive Energy!

VBAC Anglers Caught in the Act of Having Fun!

Here are some more pictures taken by VBAC anglers before, during, and after the tournament! With the austere conditions, it was hard to get a lot of pictures, but Liz Nash and Robbie Parks were able to manage a few good shots to capture the essence of the tournament!



Caroline With Her "Spot-On" Smile!



Caroline Working in the Cold, Rough Surf!



View from the Shore at Team 2's Day 1 Morning Fishing Area – That's One Angry Ocean!



34 Teams, and over 200 Experienced Anglers failed to Catch a Scorable Fish during the event – Surf Conditions were Definitely a Factor!



Doug and Gabe Chillin' on the Deck!



Melanie Waitin' on Jaws in Her PFD!



"Liz The Biz" Sportin' A Hoodie!



Micki, Carl, Mark, and Liz in Action as they Conquer the Nags Head Surf!

Be sure to register for the 2020 Nags Head Lottery drawing, and Good Luck to all Returning Anglers!

Contributed by: VBAC Angler John Germanos, VBAC Surf Committee Chairman (Pictures by Liz & Robbie)

2019 Little Island Fall Open Complete – Final Results Are In!

VBAC Anglers did a lot of fishing and a modest amount of catching in the post-Dorian Sandbridge Surf Fishing Qualifier to complete the 2019 Tournament Series.

Special Thanks go out to all of the anglers that came out to participate in the final event in the 2019 VBAC Surf Series Qualifiers – without you, these Club activities are not possible!

Thanks also to my fellow Tournament Volunteers – Judge Robbie Parks and our Lunch Coordinator, Frances Germanos, for the excellent pulled-pork BBQ lunch with all the trimmings!

EVENT SUMMARY

This 5th of our five qualifying events was held on Saturday, 14 September 2019 and included six anglers.

Overall, zero fish were recorded with zero total points tallied by the field. Several anglers caught fish just under the minimum legal and/or scoreable tournament size limits.

Undersized catches included Red Drum, Black Drum, Spot, and Kingfish.

Since no one scored any points, the final standings were unchanged from the August totals.

Congratulations to Pat Searby for earning the top spot in the overall point standings with 283 points! Great Work!

Here are the FINAL event and overall Surf Series Standings:



Overall Tournament Champion Patty Searby with a nice Double Kingfish Hook-up – Great Job Patty!

	ANGLER NAME	L.I. Spring		Salvo Spring		OV Pier		Salvo Fall		LI Fall		TOTALS	
		Fish	Pts.	Fish	Pts.	Fish	Pts.	Fish	Pts.	Fish	Pts.	Fish	Points
1	Pat Searby	3	3	0	0	dnp	dnp	32	280	0	0	35	283
2	Kelly Hoggard	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	1	11	18	170	0	0	19	181
3	Doug Wehner	6	6	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	12	138	dnp	dnp	18	144
4	Caroline Robinson	dnp	dnp	0	0	dnp	dnp	15	144	dnp	dnp	15	144
5	Brian Watkins	1	8	dnp	dnp	4	27	11	101	dnp	dnp	16	136
6	Stan Sutliff	1	1	1	1	dnp	dnp	13	120	dnp	dnp	15	122
7	John Gabriel	0	0	0	0	dnp	dnp	9	84	dnp	dnp	9	84
8	Russell Willoughby	dnp	dnp	2	2	dnp	dnp	8	67	dnp	dnp	10	69
9	Bob Schuster	2	36	2	27	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	4	63
10	Bob Stuhlman	dnp	dnp	2	2	2	10	4	46	0	0	8	58
11	Jerry Hughes	0	0	0	0	2	13	1	8	0	0	3	21
12	Wesley Waters	2	13	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	2	13
13	Mark Wallace	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0
14	Kelly Cormican	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0	0	0
15	Herb Wise	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0	0	0
16	Matt Sharpe	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0
17	Rob Stommel	0	0	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0
18	Bill Frunzi	dnp	dnp	0	0	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp	0	0

NOTE: The Top Ten aggregate point totals across all competitions qualify for a 2020 Surf Fishing Team position!

Kelly Hoggard claimed second place with 181 points, just over 100 points behind Patty “The Champ” Searby!

Doug Wehner and Caroline Robinson each earned 144 points with Doug claiming third place on the first tiebreaker with 18 fish scored versus Caroline’s 15-fish total. Congratulations to both on a solid performance!

Brian Watkins rounded out the top five with 136 points and a respectable 5th place finish. Well done Brian!

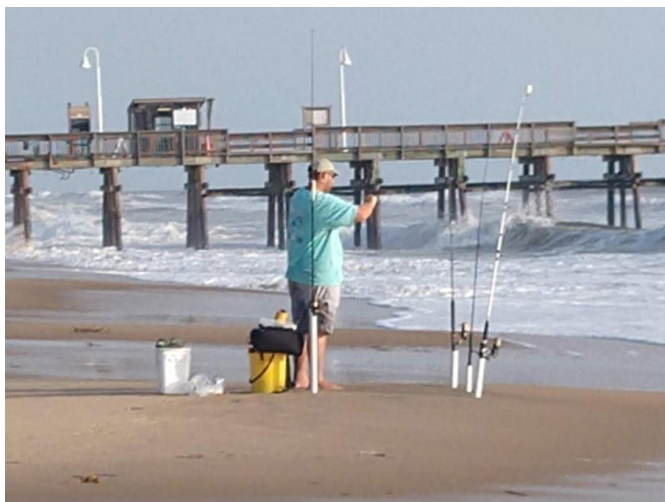
Special thanks go out to Jerry “Doink” Hughes on being the only VBAC Angler to compete in all five events! That level of commitment is what helps make these kinds of season-long tournaments possible!



Sunrise at Sandbridge’s Little Island beckoning VBAC Anglers!



Jerry Hughes Baiting-up for the 0700 AM start time!



Kelly Hoggard In Action just South of the Little Island Pier!



VBAC Anglers working the Sandbridge Beach!

Food, Fellowship...and FUN

Whether the “catching” is fast or slow, the overall fishing and Club experience more than makes each of these events worthwhile!

The weather for our final event was near perfect, and the beach was remarkably clean, with few traces of Dorian remaining.

The post-event lunch was once again worthy, and many thanks go out to Frances Germanos for coordinating the catering with Malbon Brothers BBQ!

The lunch spread included 5 pounds of pulled pork BBQ; 2 pounds of cole slaw; 1 pound of BBQ baked beans; regular and sesame seed buns; assorted chips; various sauces; brownies; and ice-cold drinks.

Needless to say, no one walked away hungry!



Kelly and Herb Indulging in the BBQ Feast!



Robbie, Bob, and Jerry enjoying a well-earned BBQ lunch!

The 2018 VBAC fall surf fishing event was canceled by Hurricane Florence, but we safely dodged Hurricane Dorian in 2019. I would be remiss if I did not offer my heartfelt condolences and support for those areas that were not as fortunate.

The Bahamas will forever remember the name Dorian, and our sisters to the South – Ocracoke, Hatteras, and Avon Villages - received serious flooding and water damage to roads, homes, vehicles, and businesses.

Surf fishing is a recreational activity for us, but it is the livelihood, heart, and soul of Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands, NC.

To our NC brothers and sisters, may your recovery be swift and complete, and may God Bless you all...

2019 SURF SERIES IN REVIEW - ENCORE PERFORMANCES!

Overall, 18 different anglers participated in the five-event 2019 Surf Fishing Qualifying Series.

Species caught included Bluefish; Spanish Mackerel; Kingfish; Spot; Croaker; Pompano; Weakfish; False Albacore; Houndfish; Smooth Puffer Fish; Striped Burrfish; Atlantic Sharpnose Shark; Stingray; Skate; Sea Robin; Sand Perch; Pinfish; Pigfish; Flounder; Red Drum; and Black Drum.

Approximately 150 scorable fish were recorded for a total of well over 1,200 points.

The two highest scoring fish measured 19 inches each (Spanish Mackerel and Bluefish).

Here is a pictorial review of the first four events from the 2019 season...

Event #1: Little Island Spring Open (May 2019)



Starting Out On The Right Track: VBAC Anglers during the 1st Spring Open Event- View from the Judges' Tent at Mid-Station.



Gabe's Trophy "Trash" fish catch!



Doug's Striped Burrfish!



Bob Schuster's 19-point Bluefish!



One of Patty's 3 Scoreable Stingrays!



John "Gabe" Gabriel!



Stan "The Man" Sutliff!



Potato Salad & Homemade Slaw!



Fresh, Crispy Fried Chicken!



Chicken & Rolls!



Presentation of Awards following a nice lunch and a great day of May fishing in Sandbridge!

Event #2: Salvo Spring Open (June 2019)



The Colorado Kid Ready for Action!



Judge Andy "The Sheriff" Olert!



Judge Robbie Parks & Stan the Man!



The Colonel in action!



Way to load-up that rod Doinkster!



Nice release there Russell!



Robbie, Jeff, & Patty havin' fun!



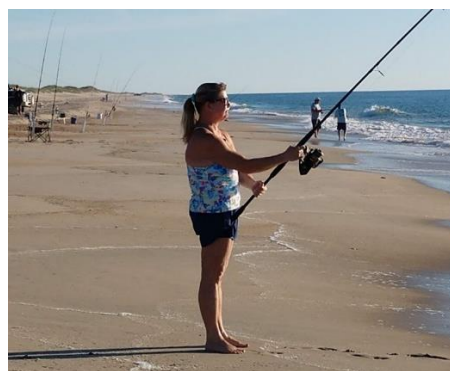
Gabe enjoying the moment...



Rob Stommel gearing up for a fight!



A fishing Bob is a happy Bob!



Caroline In Action in the Salvo Surf!



Patty Working the Salvo Surf!



Russel's 43-inch Houndfish!



Russel's False Albacore!



Shoo-Daddy baiting-up for the win!



The Lunch Sammich Build Station!



Rehydrating Watermelon Station!



Condiment Station!



Jaime and Patty at the "Build Station!"



Stan working the Condiment Station!



Assorted Chips for all!



Gabe, Bill, Robbie & Jeff lunching it!



Caroline & Shoo-Daddy just Chillin!



Andy, Jamie, Cindy, and Stan diggin' in!



The first wave of the Low Country Boil!



The Chef tending the Pot!



Second wave of the Low Country Boil!



Wave 2: fresh head-on shrimp, mussels, corn, & cabbage!



Gabe filling up his second leg with Patty & Doink!



Andy & Cindy working on seconds!



Lining-up for seconds (and thirds)!

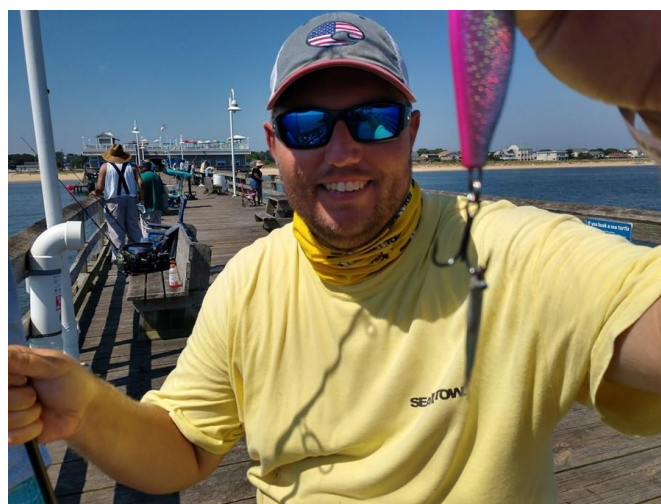
Event #3: Ocean View Summer Open (July 2019)



The VBAC Crew after a Great Morning on the Ocean View Fishing Pier!



Session Winner Brian Watkins accepting his Prize Package – Great Job Brian!!



Kelly threw Metal to Land this “noteworthy” Trophy Catch – a Whopping 1-1/2 Inch Silverside!

Event #4: Salvo Fall Open (August 2019)



AM Session and Event Winner Patty Searby Doubling down on the Kingfish!



PM Session Winner Caroline Robinson with a Nice Avon Beach Kingfish!



Brian's 16-inch Bluefish!!



Kelly with a Sweet 13-inch Pompano!



Gabe with 2 "Bobtailed" Kingfish!



Part of the VBC field working the surf!



Baiting up and getting' busy – every angler fished hard!



Future Centenarian Anglers Doug and Stan Chillin'!



Doink, Gabe, and Patty hitting the Grab-n-Go Lunch!



Sandwich Building Station for Grab-n-Go Lunch!



Fresh Watermelon – an OBX Outdoor Tradition!



The VBAC Beach Buggies in Action on the Salvo and Avon Beaches – Esprit des Corps was alive, as all Anglers had a ride!



L



Kelly intently watching his rigs!



Caroline baiting-up for another catch!



Gabe "working" the Surf!



The First Wave Ready to Serve!



The Second Wave in the Pot!



The Second Wave Post-Dump!



Patty getting some well-earned R&R!

Bob and Russell in Full Feeding Form!

Jeff in Relax-mode!



Gabe, Kelly, and Doug Chowling Down.



Caroline enjoying the Feast!



Doink in his happy Place!

Congratulations to all 2019 Competitors, and Good Luck in 2020!

Contributed by: VBAC Angler John Germanos, Surf Fishing Committee Chairman

Freshwater Fishing

Largest freshwater fish caught during 2019 in this category by species.

Species	Angler	Date Caught	Length	Where Caught	Weight
Blue Catfish	Russell Willoughby	28-Mar	44"	James River	
Bluegill	Melanie Bayford	3-Aug	10.5"	Beaver Dam Pk	
Bowfin	Jerry Hughes	15-May		NW River	8lb 4oz.
Chain Pickerel	Jay Graber	2-Mar	21.75"	LCrk Reservoir	
Crappie	Steve Harding	10-Mar		Smith	2lb 10 oz.
Largemouth Bass	Michael Anderson	21-Sep	21"	Kerr Dam	4#
Longnose Gar	Russell Willoughby	4-Apr	33"	Lake Whitehurst	
Longnose Gar	Melanie Bayford	30-Apr	33"	Piscataway Rvr	
Snakehead	Frank James	31-May		Pohick Regional	6lb 5oz.
White Perch	Melanie Bayford	21-Sep	13"	Piankitank River	
Yellow Perch	Preston Mangum	9-Sep	11.25	Lake Prince	12 oz.

Freshwater Fishing Continued

September and October were good fishing days at Beaverdam Park in Gloucester, VA. I got a Citation white perch release @ 13 inches and several more for an expert angler award, and a release Citation for a 12 inch yellow perch.

Yellow perch did not exceed Preston's fish in roulette so far. I weighed in a 11lb 9oz crappie for a club minimum and Ranger took two photos to put on their website. Melanie Bayford



Freshwater Fishing Continued



FINESSE FISHING FOR JUMBO YELLOW PERCH,(click on picture)

By: Slack High Sportfishing



Catching Big Fall Crappie (click on Picture)

By: Dominate Fishing

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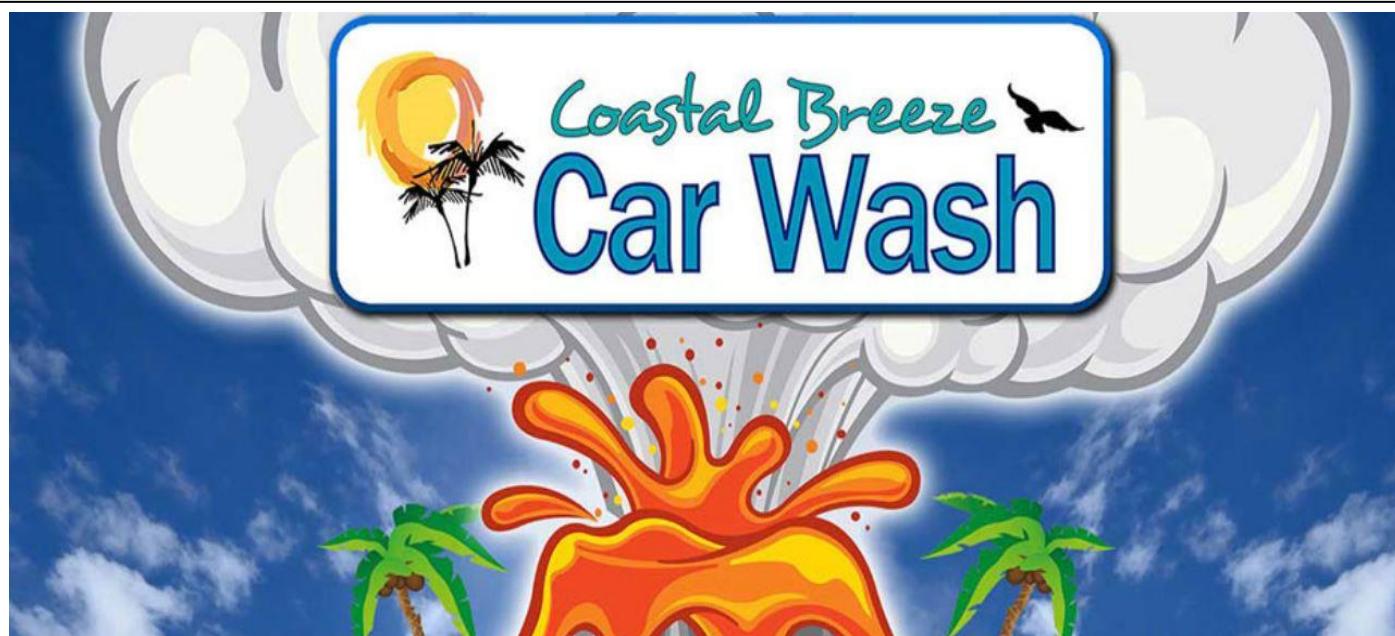
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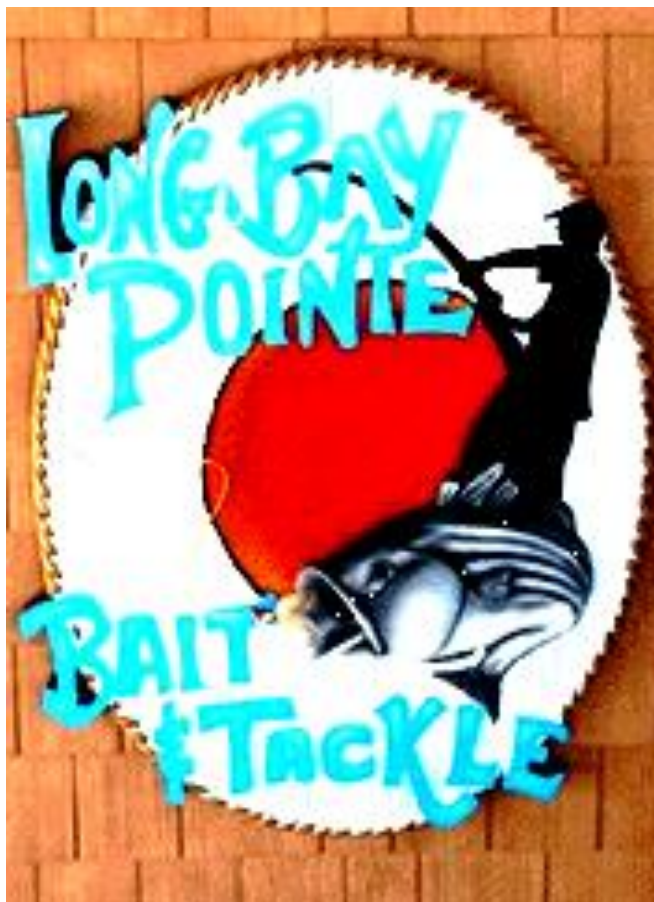
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The purpose of the VBAC is to encourage sport fishing, both freshwater and saltwater, while supporting prudent governmental and other policies that promote the preservation, conservation and ecology of all marine life.

Our Objectives:

- ❖ Monitor legislative and regulatory activities relating to management of local and regional fisheries and participating actively, where appropriate, to assure the adoption of sound management policy and practices that best serve the interests of VBAC members.
- ❖ Promote interest and participation in recreational angling by conducting programs and activities that encourage sport fishing.
- ❖ Educate members and others in the techniques of sport fishing to enhance their enjoyment of the sport.
- ❖ Conduct social activities that create a wholesome climate for deriving the maximum pleasure from sport fishing by members, their families and guests.
- ❖ Plan and conduct fund raising activities to provide the revenues needed to support these objectives.

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