



June 2023

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Line

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Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting:

When: Thursday June 1, 2023 at 7:30 PM

**Where: Foundry United Methodist Church
2801 Virginia Beach Boulevard
Virginia Beach, VA 23452**

Speaker: Kenny Davis w/ Wreck Dawg Sport Fishing

Subject: Cobia and Sea Bass Fishing.

Be sure to view his Facebook site – ([Click Here](#))

6/3 – Crab Creek Clean-up. Volunteers needed for a short time in the morning! A light lunch served afterward. Call Ronnie Nixon to volunteer (757) 536-6264.

6/3 – Club Sponsored Fishing Charter for Charter Raffle Winners.

6/9 – 6/11 – OBX Mark Wray Surf Tournament.

6/17 – Seton Youth fishing and cookout. At this heart-warming event, we host the children and their mentors for a morning of fishing and a cookout afterward. Prizes are awarded to every child participating in this event so none go away empty-handed.

6/22 – VA Fish & Wildlife Kids & Surf Fishing Clinic. To volunteer, call Bob Burstein (267) 994-7423.

6/24 – Hunt for Hardheads Tournament. Our club competes against all area fishing clubs. More boats are needed for this event so we can take club members fishing! We also need anglers to fish on member's boats!! The losing club has to cook at next year's tournament – WE DON'T WANT TO COOK! Let's fish this thing!

VBAC Fishing Roulette 2023

<u>Species</u>	<u>Current Leader</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Speckled Trout	Dave Smith	6 lb.
Spanish Mackerel		
Yellow Perch		
Blue Catfish	Kelly Hoggard	14 lb. 15 oz.
Chain Pickerel	Preston Mangum	1 lb. 5 oz.

Roulette Submissions
Virginia Beach Anglers Club:
vbanglersclub@gmail.com
Ike Eisenhower –
email:Jeisenhower@cox.net
Cell: 757-373-6051

Catch-A-Ride

Please use new Facebook connection space.

- 1) Sign into your Facebook page.
- 2) On your Home Page, go to “Groups”.
- 3) Go to the “Search Groups” section of your Facebook page.
- 4) Type in “VBAC Fishing Crews”.
- 5) When the site comes up, click the “Join” button.
- 6) Site Administration will approve your request within 24 hours.
- 7) Thereafter, the site will be listed in your “Groups” section so you can easily reach it afterwards. You can answer an existing post for anglers or post your availability as an angler or boat captain and date of availability.

The President's Corner

Paying It Forward

There is really nothing more I enjoy in the fishing community than sharing ideas and teaching others

what I have learned over the years. Sure, spending time on the water catching fish, spending time with

others and chasing personal records is great but giving back to new anglers is most rewarding. Recently I

got the offer to help a local Boy Scout Troop earn their badges for knot tying and fundamentals of

fishing. I recruited the help of Bob Burnstein to help these young men learn some basic fishing skills. The

day started with some standard classroom time learning basic knots from there we went outside to

teach casting skills. After that we regrouped and went to a local lake and put the practical lessons to

work. They were using both live bait and lures to try and catch fish and to see the looks on their faces

was priceless when they finally caught fish. The future of our sport lies in our youth. Helping them get

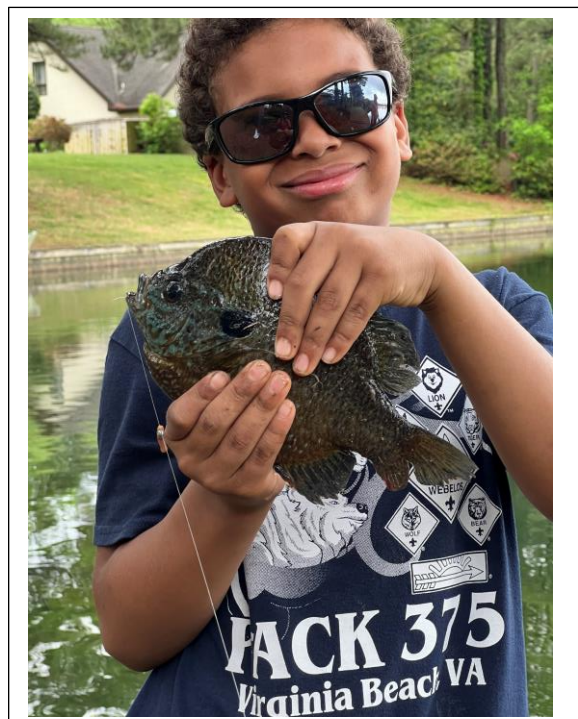
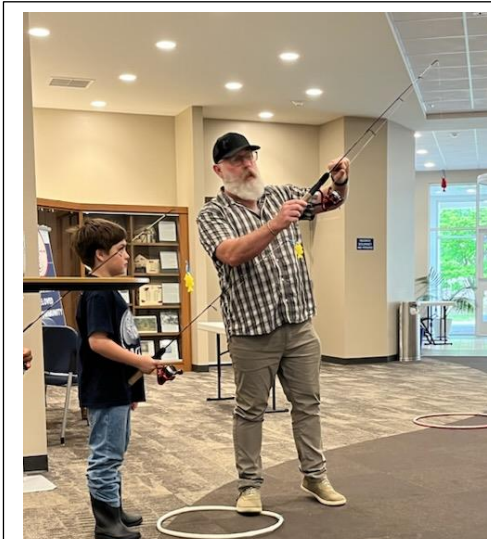
started and encouraging them to be good stewards of the sport is the least we can do.

'Til Next Tide

Mark Lozier

Pictures on following page.

The President's Corner



VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB 2023 PLANNING CALENDAR

JUNE	1	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	3	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP (CLEAN THE BAY DAY)
Date Change	3	CLUB SPONSORED CHARTER FISHING TRIP
	9-11	OBX RETREAT & MARK WRAY TOURNAMENT
	15	BOARD MEETING
Date Change	17	SETON YOUTH FISHING TRIP
	22	FISH & WILDLIFE KIDS SURF FISHING CLINIC
Date Change	24	HUNT FOR HARD HEADS CLUB CHALLENGE
JULY	1	OCEANS EAST RECRUITING TABLE
	6	FISH & WILDLIFE KIDS SURF FISHING CLINIC
	6	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	8	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP
	15	VBAC INTRA CLUBSURF FISHING QUALIFER
	20	FISH & WILDLIFE KIDS SURF FISHING CLINIC
	20	BOARD MEETING
	29	OCEANS EAST RECRUITING TABLE
AUGUST	3	FISH & WILDLIFE KIDS SURF FISHING CLINIC
	3	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	5	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP
	17	FISH & WILDLIFE KIDS SURF FISHING CLINIC
	17	BOARD MEETING
	19	ANNUAL HEAD BOAT CLUB CHALLENGE

VBAC 2023 Planning Calendar Continued

SEPTEMBER	2	OCEANS EAST RECRUITING TABLE
	7	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	8-10	HATTERAS VILLAGE INVITATIONAL SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	9	CRAB CREEK CLEAN UP
	21	BOARD MEETING
	23	LONG BEACH ISLAND SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	30	STAN SUTLIFF MEMORIAL SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
30	OCEANS EAST RECRUITING TABLE	
OCTOBER	5-7	NAGS HEAD SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	5	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	14	FALL OYSTER ROAST
	19	BOARD MEETING
	28	OCEANS EAST RECRUITING TABLE
NOVEMBER	2	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
	2-4	CAPE HATTERAS ANGLER'S CLUB INVITATIONAL SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT
	16	BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER	7	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – CHRISTMAS PARTY & GENERAL ELECTIONS
	21	BOARD MEETING

VISIT US AT: VIRGINIABEACHANGLERSCLUB.ORG
EMAIL US AT: VBANGLERSCLUB@GMAIL.COM

Prize Fish Leaders

2023 Prize Fish Leaders for May

Freshwater Catch

Species	Angler	Date	Weight	Location
Black Crappie (10)	Ike Eisenhower	2/14/23	1 lb. 4 oz.	Lake Smith
Chain Pickerel	Preston Mangum	3/28/23	1 lb. 5 oz.	Speight Run Reservoir
Blue Catfish	Alex Ramos	4/1/23	21 lb. 12oz.	Albermarle Sound

Freshwater Release

Species	Angler	Date	Length	Location
Black Crappie (10)	Russell Willoughby	2/8/23	15 in.	Lake Smith
Chain Pickerel (2)	Russell Willoughby	1/11/23	25 in.	Lake Smith
Largemouth Bass	Russell Willoughby	2/22/23	17 in.	Lake Smith
Channel Catfish	Kelly Hoggard	3/19/23	25 in.	Albermarle Sound

Saltwater Catch

Species	Angler	Date	Weight	Location
Speckled Trout (4)	David Smith	1/24/23	6 lb.	Rudee Inlet

Saltwater Release

Species	Angler	Date	Length	Location
Speckled Trout	David Smith	4/16/23	22.5 in.	David Smith
Shark, Sandbar	Wesley Waters	3/26/23	76.5 in.	Cape Hatteras Point
Shark, Sand Tiger (2)	Kelly Hoggard	1/1/23	109 in.	Ramp 38, OBX, NC
Roundhead	Kelly Hoggard	1/1/23	12.5 in.	Ramp 38, OBX, NC
Red Drum	Alex Ramos	4/2/23	35 in	Hatteras Point, NC

Roulette Leaders

Species	Angler	Date	Weight	Location
Speckled Trout	David Smith	1/24/23	6 lb.	Rudee Inlet
Chain Pickerel	Preston Mangum	3/28/23	1 lb. 5 oz.	Speight Run Reservoir
Blue Catfish	Kelly Hoggard	1/29/23	14 lb 15 oz.	Albermarle Sound

Submitted 5/27/23

Mark Wray Memorial Tourney

MARK WRAY MEMORIAL FISHING TOURNAMENT



Saturday June 10th
Hatteras Island NC
Youth and Adult Divisions

Hooked on Hope
VB 
BENEFIT RAFFLE



Mark Wray Tournament Rules

Mark Wray Memorial Tournament Rules and Information

Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023

Fishing Time: 5:00am to 5:00pm

Measure In: 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Awards Banquet and Raffle: 6:00pm

Tournament Headquarters: Frisco Woods Campground

- Open to VBAC Members, Family, and Invited Guests.
- This is a LENGTH ONLY Tournament.
- All fish must meet state regulation size minimums to qualify.
- The winning fish must be brought to the weighmaster during Measure-In time. Fish not brought to the Measure-In will not qualify for a prize (except for the drum division).
- Anglers may submit a clear, sideview picture of their drum on a flat measure device as entry.
- Anglers can compete for and win more than one division.
- Prizes not awarded will be raffled amongst eligible anglers.
- Anglers are responsible for their own travel, fishing equipment, bait, ice and related expenses. Anglers should also have any appropriate licenses and permits required while fishing on the island.

Tournament Divisions:

- 1- Roundhead/Pompano
- 2- Spanish/Bluefish
- 3- Red Drum/Black Drum
- 4- Bonita/Bonito/Cobia/Croaker/Grey Trout/Sheepshead/Speckled Trout/Spot
- 5- Youth – Any qualifying fish in the above categories

Tournament Boundaries:

- Anglers are allowed to fish from Oregon Inlet to Hatteras Inlet.
- Fishing is allowed on all oceanside beaches and soundside shoreline ONLY.
- No fishing from piers, docks, bridges, jetties, kayaks, or boats.

North Carolina fishing regulations are available here: [NC FISHING REGS](#)

Please direct all inquiries to the Tournament Chair: Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817

Hunt for Hardheads 2023

"Hunt for the
Hardheads"
Challenge



Sign Up
at the
Next
Meeting!!

"Hunt for the Hardheads"
Saturday June 24, 2023

Norfolk Anglers Club, Virginia Beach Anglers Club,
Tidewater Anglers Club, and Great Bridge Fishing Association

A Croaker, Bluefish, Flounder,
Spanish Mackerel, Black Sea Bass, Sheepshead,
Spot, Spadefish, Triggerfish
fishing challenge among angler clubs.

Date: Saturday June 24, 2023

Location: Willoughby Harbor Marina

Measure In: Starts at 12:30pm ends at 1:30pm

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per Angler. (Includes Fishing,
Picnic, and Charitable Donation)

Picnic Only \$5.00

Rules:

1. Clubs are limited to 20 angler entries. No restriction on number of boats or anglers on a boat. All anglers must be members of your club.
2. Boats depart from any Virginia Port - No fishing boundaries.
3. Measurement is length only. Girth measurement determines a tie.
4. Five Points awarded for longest fish, Four Points for second longest, etc. Up to five fish entries for each species. The Club with the most points wins!

2023

7th Annual Red Drum Rodeo Fishing Tournament

A family friendly event to benefit TIS YoungLife.

Dates

Fishing Tournament: May 31st – June 4th, 2023

Captain's Meeting: May 31st – 6:00 PM

Captain's Meeting Locations:

Eastern Shore- Cape Charles Brewing Company

Virginia Beach- Smartmouth Pilot House

Post Tournament Party & Awards– Sunday June 4th
3:00PM – Smartmouth Pilot House

Click **Date** or **Registration**
boxes to go to the online
page

Registration

Individual: \$150.00

Junior (18 & under): \$60

Boat (up to 6 anglers): \$400

Prizes

Grand Prize: \$5,000

1st Runner Up: \$1,000

Additional 50-50 Calcutta

(50% to Tournament, 50% to Fishermen)

Plus other prizes to be awarded!

[Click Here for
Newspaper article
from 2021](#)

Saltwater News

Submitted by Victor Minak



I caught a 29 inch puppy drum off the beach at the Virginia Beach oceanfront at 42nd street.



Saltwater News

Fishing Little Creek 5/11/23:.

Louis and I have been fishing Little Creek several times in May but mostly it's been too windy. But one time we heard some trout were caught at the jetties so we gave it a try when it wasn't as windy. NE winds still but only about 10-15 mph. After fishing for about 20 minutes I hooked up this trout in the pic. 19 inches and it felt like a puppy drum as it fought my MirrOlure M27 electric chicken lure. But that was the only hit of the day. We haven't been out since with the high winds except one time fished near the Pretty Lake bridge catching small spot for Louis' crab pots.

Blessings,

Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower

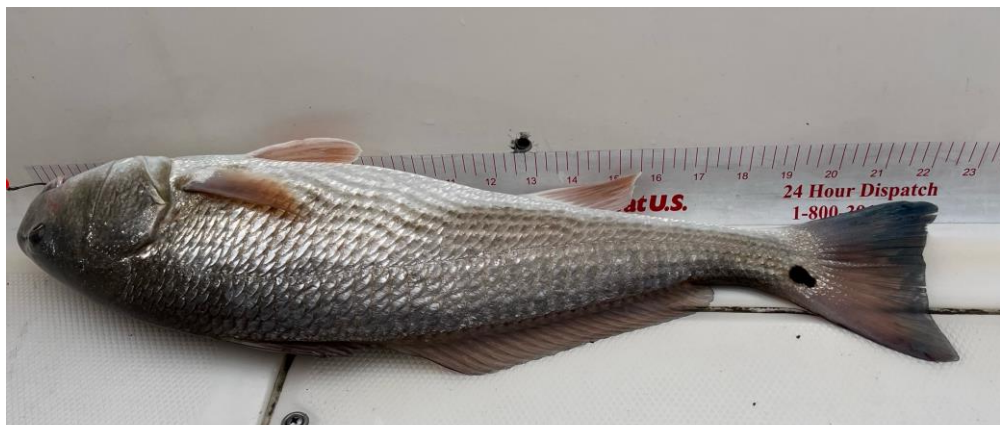
jeisenhower2@cox.net

Mobile: 757-373-6051



Saltwater News

Submitted by Lou Corigliano



Caught some puppy drum two weeks ago; 19 1/2", 20", & 22" were the largest. 7 fish total! All in less than 2 hours!



Saltwater News

Tuna Fishing with Dad

5/16/23

Looking at the weather window, the second half of may was full of North and East winds. I got the call from my dad that it was time to do a little searching for tunas. We hooked up with our friend Rich and headed offshore in a 27' in SW 10-20 forecast. The high pressure overnight created favorable conditions for our transit out. The fleet was close but there was a whole lot of nothing to start. We found one solid blackfin tuna and a quad hookup of bonita in the first two hours. Then trolled around the edge of the grass for a couple mahi. My dad got a nice 40" 13# mahi that was a brilliant blue and yellow. We trolled until noon and the SW 15 was starting to push us around.



We wanted to hit a few blueline and sea bass on the way in. The first drop was a tilefish spot. I gave my dad the jigging rod and I took the bottom rig rod looking for some good bites. It appeared that most of the smaller fish were in our starting zone but we found some really nice fish later in the drift. I took over the jigging rod and hit a solid 32" blueline, then handed the rod off to my dad and he jigged up a nice 32" as well! His was a bit chunkier and I knew it was a big fish. We finished off our limit with another 32.5" that was long and skinny.

We looked at the chart but the sea bass grounds weren't very favorable for our run back so we headed over to another piece of structure hoping that it was holding some fish worth taking home. I sent down the sea bass jig on my jigging rod and was surprised to be snagged... or was i? I finally hooked something that seemed to pull back and pulled it off.. I pulled off 5 of these unknown large creatures before the 6th one really started fighting back! It was very heavy with some exceptional head shakes. I took my time and tightened the drag trying to get the fish under control. Just as I was hoping to see the fish, it ran straight down and I was afraid it was an amberjack going for the wreck. I maxed out the tensioner and even put my thumb down on the spool to try and stop this fish. I turned the fish around and finally got it under control. When the fish surfaced, I was extremely surprised that this amberjack looked exactly like a GIANT COBIA! Fortunately we had the gaff at the ready and got the fish on board! I had to let the fish wear down a little more as she appeared very green when first surfacing. I got one of my most memorable fish on board and got a nice picture.

My dad ended up with a citation blueline at 12 lb and I got a citation cobia at 65 lb. Lots of great memories and good eats from this trip. I hope to be able to do it again but the NE blow has persisted this May and made it difficult to get out on the water.

Saltwater News



Saltwater News

Catfishing Retreat with Micki

5/20/23

At the conclusion of the intraclub, I got home around 12:30 in the afternoon and decided I wasn't done fishing for the day. I packed up a couple of rods and picked up Micki. We headed south to do some casual catfishing to see what might be going on. Lots of other fish have started to show up and we were getting tons of small bites including white perch. Micki caught a nice blue cat about 5 pounds and I caught one about the same after we ate dinner. A couple hours around the firepit and off we went to go home. It was a nice relaxing evening on the Albemarle Sound.



2023 VBAC Surf Tournament Teams (5/25/23)

Hatteras Village Civic Association: September 8 & 9, 2023

Team A:

Kelly Hoggard*
Melanie Bayford*
Micki Walsh*
Russell Willoughby*
Rick Hoggard*
NEEDED

Team B:

Bill Searby*
Patty Searby^
John Stout
Mark Boettcher
Victor Muron
Zac Thomas

Alternates:

NEEDED

Long Beach Island World Series: September 23, 2023

Team A:

Bill Searby*
Patty Searby*
Jerry Hughes
NEEDED
NEEDED
NEEDED

Alternates:

NEEDED

Nags Head Invitational: October 5 & 6, 2023

Team A:

Doug Wehner*
Jerry Mariano*
John Stout*
Robbie Parks
Zac Thomas
Melanie Bayford

Team B:

Patty Searby*
Rick Hoggard*
Micki Walsh
Kelly Hoggard
Victor Muron
NEEDED

Alternates:

NEEDED

2023 VBAC Surf Tournament Teams (5/25/23) Continued

Cape Hatteras Anglers Club Invitational: November 2 & 3, 2023

Men's Team:

Kelly Hoggard*
Doug Wehner*
Robbie Parks*
Wesley Waters^
Russell Willoughby
Dave Vachet

Women's Team:

Patty Searby*
Jenny Braithwaite*
Caroline Robinson*
Melanie Bayford
Micki Walsh
Mary K Resio

Men's Alternates:

Jimmy Boatright
John Stout
Mark Boettcher
Bill Mannschreck
Rick Hoggard
Jerry Hughes

Women's Alternates:

Liz Nash
Stephanie Easterling

***Returning Anglers for 2023 (2024 if Results are listed)**

^Intra-Club Qualifier Pick for 2023

2023 Surf Team Dues: The month after selection, members are responsible for a down payment on participation and lodging. The down payment is \$80. The remaining payment in full is due soon after.

Ocracoke - \$281

Hatteras Village - \$278

Long Beach Island – \$179 (Estimated)

Nags Head - \$203

CHAC - \$274

Ocracoke Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament Results

Virginia Beach Anglers Club Team A

38th place out of 73 teams – 2 fish for 8 points

Competing Anglers: *Russell Willoughby – 1 fish; 5 points

*C-Doug Wehner – 1 fish; 3 points

Jerry Mariano – 0 fish; 0 points

John Stout – 0 fish; 0 points

Mark Boettcher – 0 fish; 0 points

Virginia Beach Anglers Club Team B

4th place out of 73 teams – 8 fish for 70 points

Competing Anglers: *Kelly Hoggard – 6 fish; 64 points

*Rick Hoggard – 2 fish; 6 points

Melanie Bayford – 0 fish; 0 points

Micki Walsh – 0 fish; 0 points

C-Jerry Hughes – 0 fish; 0 points

Jeff Ratliff – 0 fish; 0 points

*Returning Anglers for 2024

Team A Ocracoke Report:

Written by Doug Wehner

The weather delayed the early arrival of a couple of our team members; then a switch was made between the two VBAC teams to better facilitate beach vehicles. When everything was looking good, our 6th team member called to say he'd gotten sick on the drive, visited a doctor and was diagnosed with the flu. So, we started the event one member short.

Session 1 started off in a promising fashion with several small perch, then a bluefish that was just short. However, we'd watched the team next to us land a couple nice sized blues, largely due to their very long casts. Finally, Russell landed a 15 ½ inch roundhead (sea mullet). We were on the board!

Session 2 was nice looking, but we caught nothing.

Session 3 had an outgoing tide. By the time the tide receded enough to venture out on the bar, the session was nearly over. Doug did land a 13 inch bluefish shortly before the session ended, however.

Session 4 didn't produce anything for us.

So we ended up with 2 fish for 8 points, only good for 38th place of the 72 teams entered.

The team was a great group and everyone fished hard. It was in many ways a typical Ocracoke tournament: Not many fish, but those that were present were very decent fish. That team that fished next to us in Session 1 was from New Jersey. They finished in 1st place!

Team B Ocracoke Report:

Written by Kelly Hoggard

Another fun year in Ocracoke! We had some unexpected changes on team rosters leading up to the tournament with multiple drop-outs in the days leading up. A strong SW wind blew for days before the tournament kicking up a wicked surf. The front passed through on Tuesday night that pushed the more favorable north winds on us for the remainder of the week. The north winds generated a calmer and dirtier surf that created low scoring conditions. Drum and Bluefish were very active in the rough surf before the tournament and we were hoping to see many of those on our lines Thursday and Friday.

Thursday morning started in an area producing fish for a couple of days prior. The session started with a falling tide with high tide shortly before lines-in. There were numerous smaller fish around us but we struggled to find more than a bite or two. The only decent hook up was lost by one of our anglers when pulling the sinker through that rough and jagged bottom. We finished the first session with 0 points and a similar result to almost three quarters of the teams.

Thursday afternoon was much less promising. Low tide, dirty water, and calm surf are generally clues to fish elsewhere. Unfortunately we were stuck in this spot for hours. Very little happened early in the session during low tide. There was hardly a fish caught anywhere near us. I decided to launch some drum rigs in the hope of hooking a stingray or shark. I just needed to pull on something. We were getting a few small bites and rick managed a nice little 2 point roundhead. As the judge started walking away, I hooked up to a heavy head shaker! What seemed like a long time was likely only a couple of minutes as I battled a large fish into the shallow surf. I saw a shine of silver and blue and realized it was a large bluefish! I managed to beach it and scored 34 points on a 28.5" bluefish. We finished the session 2 fish for 36 points which left us in 7th place.

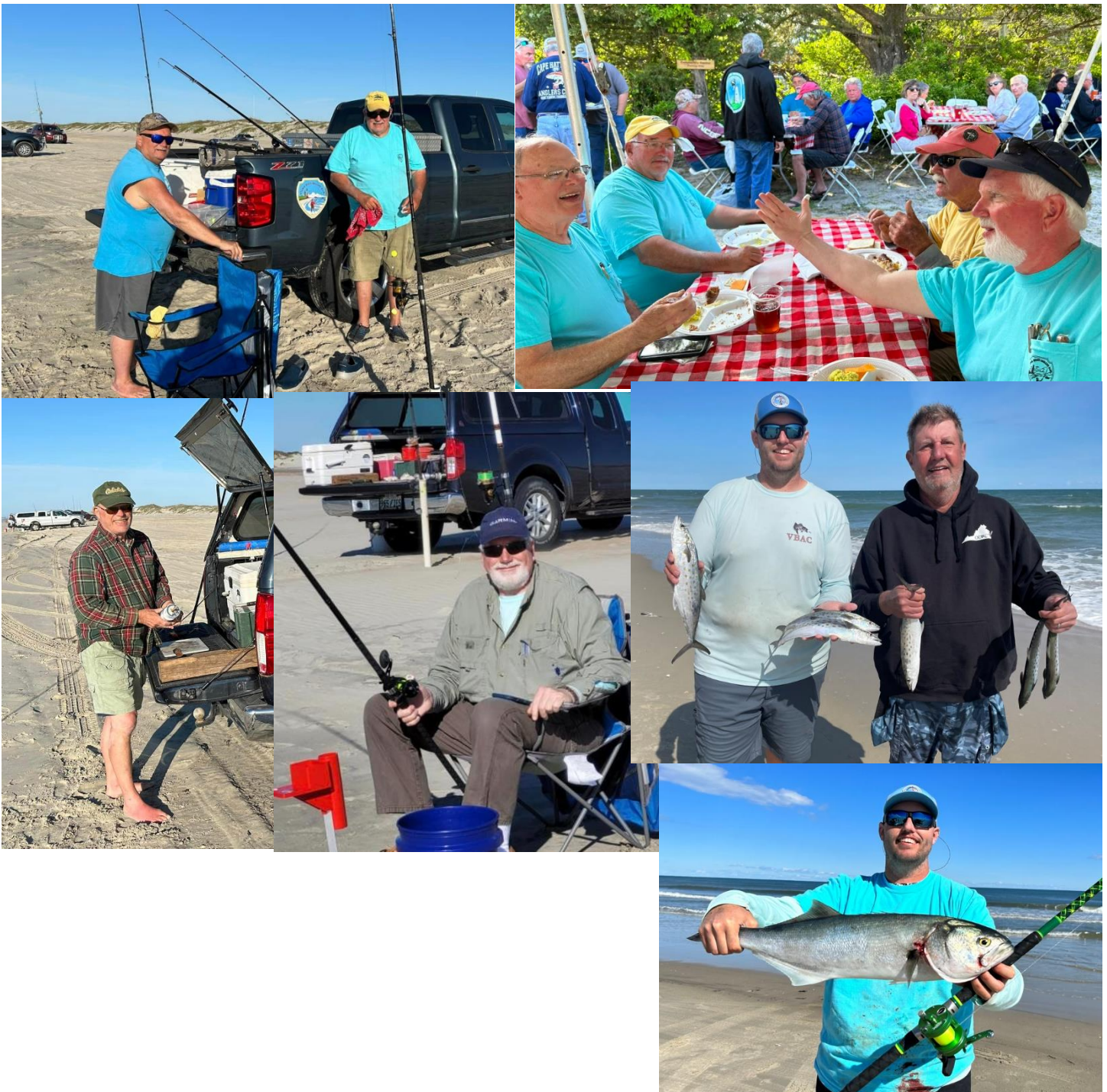
Friday morning we had high hopes for what could be. High tide at the start of the session with an overnight east wind cleaned the water up nicely. We had a good trough and sandbar area but weren't able to find any action. I worked the beach and launched baits over the sandbar while the rest of the team fished in the trough. Lots of small fish but nothing to score. I went out to the bar near the end of the session and walked past a mid 30" range red drum. He was more curious than spooked by me. Likely more focused on swimming than feeding as nobody along that beach ever caught him in the remaining 30 minutes. In the better spot on the better tide, we again got skunked for 0 points.

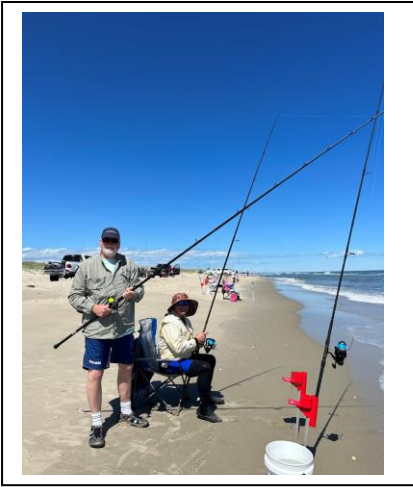
Friday afternoon was our last chance to make a big move. We moved from the nice and clean water along ramp 72 to the dirty waters of ramp 67. It was an awful looking stretch and my hopes of finding a spanish were dashed. I decided to go back to launching drum rigs hoping for another big bite. After about 20 minutes, I saw a spanish jump not 40 feet in front of where I was standing on the bar. I ran back to the truck and grabbed

my spanish mackerel gear. It was a long and strenuous 2 hours, casting and hooking the occasional spanish. My dad Rick also got into the action and brought to the beach later in the session. It was probably about 200 casts to hook 6 fish and land 5 of them, but I got the points I was hoping for. Meanwhile, the other anglers were looking for a few bites in the trough between the beach and sandbar. We saw a couple of roundhead landed but even they were coming up short. I went 5 fish for 30 points and my dad was 1 fish for 4 points giving us a session total of 6 fish for 34 points!

Our final tally was 8 fish for 70 points! It was good for 4th place overall and only 6 points behind 3rd. We didn't earn any awards though. Many bluefish were bigger than mine and in no session did we stand out. It's a great achievement to finish in the top 6 in back to back years. We are really hoping to find that podium soon!

Some Tournament Pictures:





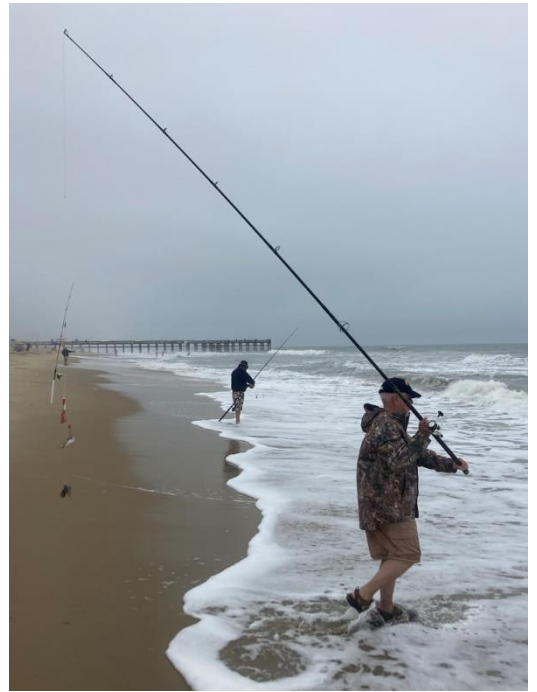
VBAC Spring Intraclub Surf Fishing Tournament Results

It was a beautiful morning in Sandbridge on Saturday, May 20th. We had about 24 people out for the event with plenty of food and drinks available for lunch. Anglers started showing up around 7:00 for registration and lines were in at 8:00. There was a bit of a heavy east wind leading up to the tournament and anglers weren't greeted to the best conditions. We were fortunate to have calm and light north winds for the tournament. A bit of a rip existed with heavy surf. But those of us who fish this condition regularly know that this is when the predators come out to play. We got numerous bluefish and drum bites but few were landed. Ron was the first to catch a fish. It was an 18.5" bluefish. Our judge Kelly also did some fishing while the action was slow and managed an 18" bluefish and a 34" puppy drum! Jeff later hooked up with a large red drum that eventually broke his rig off while fighting it. Our anglers had plenty of space and lots of fun fishing time together. Our next intraclub is scheduled for July 15th at the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Congratulations to our Spring VBAC Intraclub Winner: Ron Ramos!







Ocracoke Fishing Report for the Week

5/2/23-5/6/23

Tuesday: John and Stephanie were doing some pre-fishing on Ramp 70 and found a good hole with big blues (up to 28") and a 36" red drum. They fished a couple hours in the morning and took the afternoon off. I fished on hatteras island with some friends in the morning and switched over to Ocracoke in the afternoon. Had a couple of bites but the SW wind was kicking so hard that even 8 ounces was a struggle.



Wednesday: Our entire team headed to the beach to do some pre-fishing together at the mouth of ramp 70. We stopped and fished a while finding a couple of roundhead, blues and a dogshark. Wasn't much else hitting but it was nice to get some pullage. I went out later in the afternoon with Micki and we found a few bluefish and roundhead bites along our zone on ramp 72. Micki caught a nice 18" blue in the wash where I was walking to cast. Proof that the fish will go anywhere to feed when hungry!



Thursday: I went down to Ramp 72 with Micki for the last hour of beach access. We went down to a good hole that I've always caught drum at every evening I've been there. It took a couple casts but we finally hooked up to some big reds! I caught a huge 51" red drum that I tried desperately to break off thinking it was a shark or giant ray. Lucky I was able to land it!! Micki had a drag screamer of her own that wouldn't give up the fight. After about 15 minutes, she finally landed a 48.5" red drum of her own! It was an incredible evening and I knew I had to come back and do it again on Friday.



Friday: After the awards dinner, I found out that our team was not featured for any awards (4th place overall and finished 4th in two different sessions). I headed down a little early and was able to get a couple of other fisherman out there to fish with me. John Stout, Mark Boettcher, and Micki joined me at my favorite drum spot. We fished for nearly two hours and were once again rewarded! I got a 41 and 46" red drum and Micki got a 41" red drum. Mark and John weren't lucky enough to catch their bites though. It was an unusual evening as we went 3 of 8 on bites. My hook-up ratio is usually much higher than that. It was certainly a couple nights to remember!



Ocracoke Fishing Report for the Week

5/2/23-5/6/23

Tuesday: John and Stephanie were doing some pre-fishing on Ramp 70 and found a good hole with big blues (up to 28") and a 36" red drum. They fished a couple hours in the morning and took the afternoon off. I fished on hatteras island with some friends in the morning and switched over to Ocracoke in the afternoon. Had a couple of bites but the SW wind was kicking so hard that even 8 ounces was a struggle.



Wednesday: Our entire team headed to the beach to do some pre-fishing together at the mouth of ramp 70. We stopped and fished a while finding a couple of roundhead, blues and a dogshark. Wasn't much else hitting but it was nice to get some pullage. I went out later in the afternoon with Micki and we found a few bluefish and roundhead bites along our zone on ramp 72. Micki caught a nice 18" blue in the wash where I was walking to cast. Proof that the fish will go anywhere to feed when hungry!



Thursday: I went down to Ramp 72 with Micki for the last hour of beach access. We went down to a good hole that I've always caught drum at every evening I've been there. It took a couple casts but we finally hooked up to some big reds! I caught a huge 51" red drum that I tried desperately to break off thinking it was a shark or giant ray. Lucky I was able to land it!! Micki had a drag screamer of her own that wouldn't give up the fight. After about 15 minutes, she finally landed a 48.5" red drum of her own! It was an incredible evening and I knew I had to come back and do it again on Friday.



Friday: After the awards dinner, I found out that our team was not featured for any awards (4th place overall and finished 4th in two different sessions). I headed down a little early and was able to get a couple of other fisherman out there to fish with me. John Stout, Mark Boettcher, and Micki joined me at my favorite drum spot. We fished for nearly two hours and were once again rewarded! I got a 41 and 46" red drum and Micki got a 41" red drum. Mark and John weren't lucky enough to catch their bites though. It was an unusual evening as we went 3 of 8 on bites. My hook-up ratio is usually much higher than that. It was certainly a couple nights to remember!





Saturday: On my way back north John, Stephanie and myself were the last stragglers on the island. We got to the ocracoke ferry landing and I told John that I had to follow my instinct and turn around to fish for pompano (my goal to chase for this year). We went on at ramp 59 around the corner and picked a spot with a couple cuts in the bar. John was immediately rewarded with a beautiful 18" and 2 lb 10 oz pompano on the first cast! We fished a while longer with no luck and headed back to hatteras with our many memories of the week in ocracoke. It was an unbelievable trip and I have a feeling that next year is going to be something special.



Quick Trip to Hatteras: Pompa-Yes!

5/14/23

I slept in on a windy Sunday morning. Around 11 am, I decided to pack up and head south because I “Can’t Catch Fish On The Couch!” I stopped at the Bonner Bridge Pier to check on a friend that was fishing there. Lots of small sheepshead and I got one of my own about 12” and threw him back. I made the trek south towards hatteras and found a clean pocket of water near Ramp 55. I hooked a 15.75” pompano on the first cast! I was max casting a rig out over the bar and was hooked up before I even tied a second line up. I released this one with hopes for good fortune for the year.

The wind was howling pretty good as the afternoon progressed. At this point I began fishing more lines tighter to the beach. I had a roundhead rod set with some sandfleas only a few feet off the beach in the break and was hooked up! It fought like crazy and the flashes were dazzling. I realized at this point that I had TWO pompano hooked up at the same time! When pulling them up in the wash I unfortunately lost one and watched it swim back down with the receding wave. I stopped at Frisco and weighed the 16” I kept and it was good for a 2 lb 3 oz citation. That’s my first “Pompa-Yes!” of 2023. Hoping for many many more days like this and ultimately chasing a 5 lb bucket list fish. I was headed home early with the success of the day fresh on my mind.



2022 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

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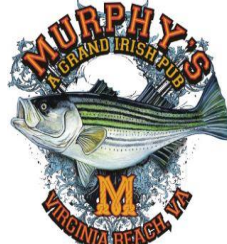


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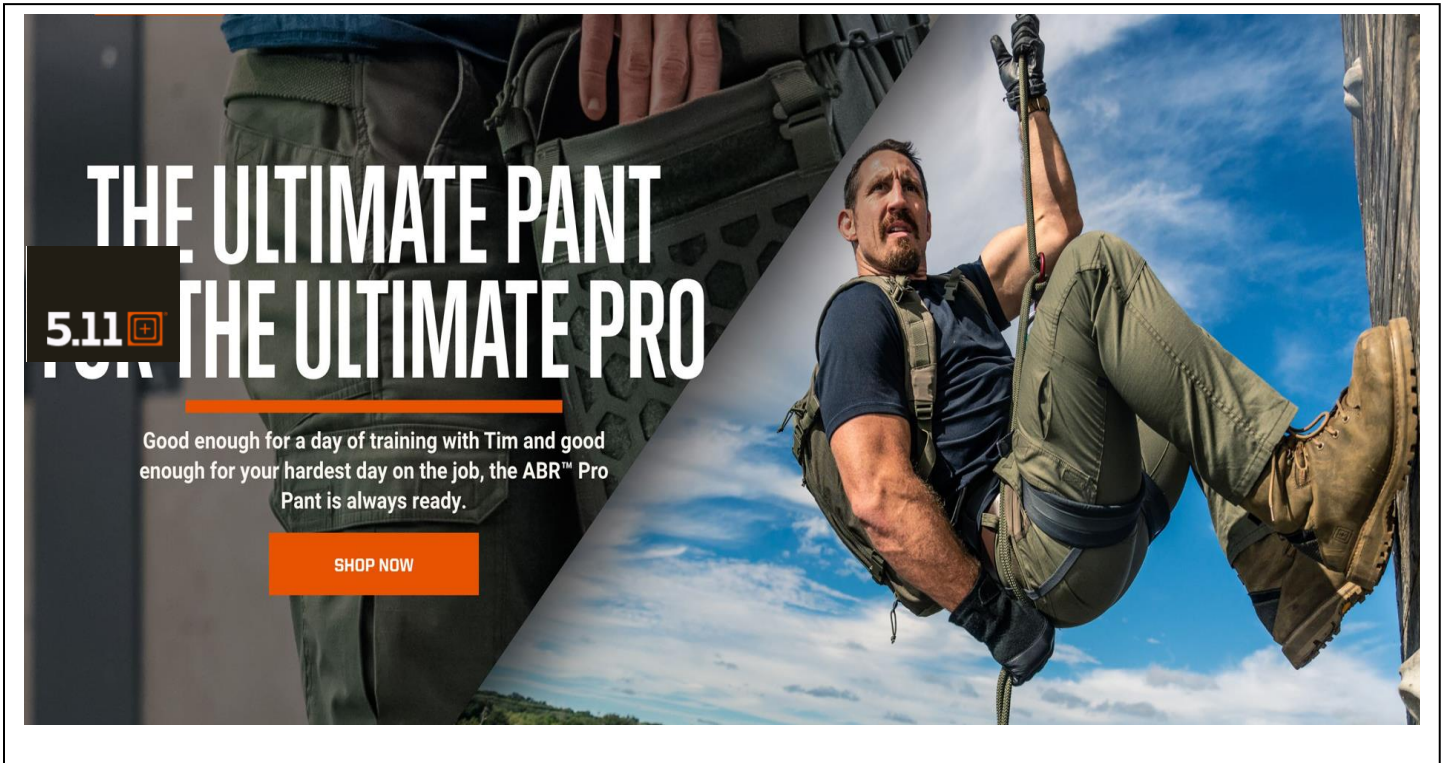


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The purpose of the VBAC is to encourage sport fishing, both freshwater and saltwater, while supporting prudent governmental and other policies that promote the preservation, conservation and ecology of all marine life.

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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