



April 2016

# VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

# Tight Lines

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### Monthly Meeting:

**When:** Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm.

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

**April Speaker:** Drew Camp will teach our audience how to target Largemouth Bass. This is the time of year that the action gets hot and the bass are caught in big size and big numbers. Drew is very active on the local bass fishing circuit. He often works as a presenter at the Bass Pro Shops in Hampton and has drawn quite the interest recently, racking up sponsor interest and is soon to be an integral part of the CNU fishing team.



## VBAC 2016 Banquet – February 27<sup>th</sup>

Another year, another awesome banquet! Thanks to all the clubs, club members, guests, sponsors and assistant chefs that came out. So many of you showed up that we had to bring out extra tables and chairs. Unlike most events, what makes the banquet special is that everyone helps to facilitate the success of our annual banquet. Whether you turned in a fish, helped with raffles, or participated in any one of our events during the year; each of you help to shape our club banquet. There are more than 100 photos of the banquet on our [facebook page](#). Check it out to see more.

Unfortunately, one of our big award winners wasn't present. We got a photo of her with her award the week after the banquet.

### **Gene Farrar Memorial Surf Fishing Award:** (Female Surf Angler of the Year)

**Winner: Stephanie Wehner**



**Member of the Year:** This award recognizes an outstanding VBAC member who has given much time and effort to improving the quality of the VBAC. This award is not based on angling efforts and excludes from consideration those duties performed in conjunction with an elected office.

**Winner: David Reynolds (below-left)**



**Dr. James C. Wright Conservation Award:** Presented to an individual who, in the opinion of the VBAC, contributed substantially to the conservation of freshwater or saltwater fish. Although not a firm requirement, this award normally focuses on conservation efforts within the state of Virginia.

**Winner: Skip Feller (above-right)**

## GBFA Flea Market – March 5<sup>th</sup>

The new indoor venue worked well for the Flea Market. There was plenty to do and see inside. Capt. Reese held his morning show indoors and the club was able to sell much of the items on our table. We also gobbled up some great deals for club raffle prizes. Thanks to the gentlemen that worked the table Saturday morning. A few of our members were spotted throughout the day, including Ray doing his best impersonation of a unicorn!



## VBAC 2016 Lead Pour – March 26<sup>th</sup>

VBAC has gone without a Lead Pouring Party for about 8 years. That streak ended March 26<sup>th</sup> when the VBAC had its 2016 Lead Pouring Party at Michael Anderson's home.

In the months leading up, club members generously donated about 850 pounds of mixed lead product. Those items were melted, cleaned and then poured into one pound ingots prior to the day. Sinker Molds, electric metal smelters, and other needed equipment were gathered from our membership. The back yard was set up with 4 pour stations, 2 assembly/finish areas and the garage was the final Inspection/sorting area.

15 Club members participated in the actual day of the pour. Members started out at 10 am making all kinds of sinkers with names like, Bank, River Bank, Bass Casting, Storm, Tung, Tringle Pyramids, Square Pyramids and Jig Heads. Lunch, around noon, was the only time lead was not pouring from the electric pots. By 2 pm all but 80 pounds of lead was made into new sinkers.

Those in attendance went home weighted down with an assortment of what they needed.

A great amount of fun, kidding and good-fellowship was had by all that attended.

The VBAC board wants to thank all that helped put this 2016 Lead Pouring on.





## VBAC Crab Creek Clean-UP – March 5<sup>th</sup>

As always, a big thank you to all the volunteers that came out to support our bi-monthly clean-up for March. There were 9 club members who showed up on a warm, sunny morning and enjoyed some time in the local wildlife park followed by a delicious lunch provided by Ronnie and his gals!

**The May clean-up has been cancelled due to schedule conflicts.**



## VBAC Fishing Contests!

Aside from our standard competition of monthly fishing divisions, we've upped the ante on some additional contests. These high stakes contests have been very successful at providing competition between anglers, even when on the same boat! Make sure you get out on the water to get in on the action.

### NEW – Monthly Fishing Contest!

Our new Monthly Fishing Contest is open to all club members in good standing. One fish is selected by the tournament committee prior to the month of competition. **The largest fish by weight will determine the winner** and must be submitted via the standard VBAC fish entry form. [The form is available on our website](#). Eligible anglers compete for a monthly prize of \$30. All entries must be received by the start of the next general membership meeting in order to qualify. The contest requires the fish to be weighed on a **certified scale**. A **photo and short story or caption** are required as part of the contest rules. There is **no minimum size limit except for the fish to meet state regulation requirements** (i.e. No flounder less than 16 inches). Submissions to the newsletter can be sent to our club email address: [VBAnglersclub@gmail.com](mailto:VBAnglersclub@gmail.com)

March: **Blue Catfish – Dr. Ike Eisenhower: 38lbs / Melanie Bayford: 42.8lbs**

April: **Tautog**

### Fishing Roulette Tournament!

The roulette fish for 2016 were selected at the March meeting. Remember, you must have paid your entry fee prior to the roulette selection in order to qualify. An up to date leaderboard is listed in the newsletter and will give you an idea of who to go fishing with or how big it's gotta be to win the gold.

**This Year's Fish:**

<u>Saltwater</u>			<u>Freshwater</u>	
Croaker	Puppy Drum	Roundhead	Sunfish	Crappie

## Fall Surf Tournament Selections

The fall surf tournament teams were selected during the March membership meeting. The top three scoring anglers from each team automatically qualify for the following year's tournament. If you were selected for a team, you owe a \$60 fee for every tournament you are fishing. This is due at the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. The lodging balance for each tournament is due the month prior to the tournament. Those who are fishing in the Long Beach Island Tournament do not have a balance for lodging or team participation. At LBI, the club reserves rooms at a local motel and payment is due when you arrive.

The Club is sending a team to the Ocracoke tournament on the last weekend of April. Wish our anglers good luck!

\*-Denotes returning angler

### Hatteras Village, North Carolina: September 8-11, 2016

Team A:	Team B:	Alternates:
Jerry Hughes*	Cheryl Johnson*	NONE
Robbie Parks*	Steve Wray*	
Larry Regula*	Butch Eason*	
Russell Willoughby	Mark Wray	
Melanie Bayford	Carl McCoy	
Bob Stuhlman	ANGLERS NEEDED	

### Long Beach Island, New Jersey: September 24, 2016

Team A:	Team B:	Alternates:
Bob Stuhlman*	Greg Wehner	NONE
Jerry Hughes*	Jerry Mariano	
Doug Wehner*	ANGLERS NEEDED	
Larry Harmon	ANGLERS NEEDED	
Kelly Hoggard	ANGLERS NEEDED	
Robbie Parks	ANGLERS NEEDED	

### Nags Head, North Carolina: October 5-9, 2016

Team A:	Alternates:
Jerry Hughes*	Bob Stuhlman
Doug Wehner*	Carl McCoy
Larry Regula*	
Robbie Parks	
Kelly Hoggard	
Mark Wray	

### Cape Hatteras Anglers Club, North Carolina: November 2-6, 2016

Team A:	Alternates:
Doug Wehner*	Robbie Parks
Mark Wray*	Stan Sutliff
Jerry Hughes*	Larry Regula
Carl McCoy	Larry Harmon
Bob Stuhlman	
Russell Willoughby	

# Coast Guard Vessel Safety Inspections

Coast Guard vessel safety inspections are available to the public for free. The process is very simple and they meet you anywhere that is convenient for you. They will meet you at a house, boat ramp, or marina... Wherever your boat is stored.

To get to the website for a Vessel Exam go to <http://safetyseal.net>.

You will be redirected to the webpage:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=i-want-a-vsc>

Fill in the form provided and submit, and a Vessel Examiner nearest to your zip-code will call you or email you to set up a vessel exam in your driveway, at a boat ramp, or in a marina, wherever you have your boat. It does not need to be in the water to be examined.

For a "Virtual Safety Check", to see for yourself ahead of time what will be examined, [Click Here!](#)

-Craig Huber

## Boater Safety Requirement

In 2007, the Virginia General Assembly enacted a law to establish a [boating safety education compliance requirement](#). This requirement was phased in over the last several years and on July 1, 2016, all operators of PWCs (Personal Watercraft such as jet skis, Sea Doos, Wave Runners) and operators of Motorboats with a 10 hp or greater motor, will be required to have a boating safety education course completion card on board when operating a PWC or Motorboat.

Click on any of the buttons or links to access those parts of the VDGIF website.

Credit: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/>

**As of July 1, 2015, all PWC operators age 14 and older and motorboat operators 50 and younger must complete a boating safety course. Beginning July 1, 2016, all PWC operators age 14 and older and all motorboat operators regardless of age need to take a boating safety course.**

**PWC Age Restriction: No person under the age of 14 may operate a PWC. Those operators 14 and 15 MUST show proof of completing an approved and accepted boating safety course either in a classroom or online. The challenge exam or other provisions of the Education Compliance Requirement do not meet the requirements of the age restriction law.**



## Regulations, Regulations, Regulations...

There is a lot of information available about fisheries management. This year happens to be one of those years where one of many decisions could define our summer fishing season. I'm going to go back to the beginning of the year to catch you all up with the current status of our fisheries management issues. Keep in mind, the club does not directly support actions or decisions by government agencies; but rather, takes a proactive and aggressive approach to keep the membership aware of fisheries management issues so that each member is fully informed and has the ability to take action for or against the issues that the angler is aligned to. Here is a little synopsis for those of you that have not been keeping up.

**Menhaden:** In December, the recreational fishing industry had a grassroots effort to make an attempt at redistributing authority of menhaden management from the General Assembly (Political Arena) to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (A less political arena with more science based management and greater authority for commercial fishing oversight). In January, anglers pushed hard to get their thoughts and opinions heard on the matter, but it appears that it was too late. When the vote was cast in late January, all bills failed to pass the subcommittee tables in both the house and senate of Virginia. This isn't the first attempt by recreational anglers, but we are all hopeful that the biggest issue we've been fighting for over many decades can soon be resolved.

**Tilefish:** Not many people fish for these deep water monsters. It's a long boat ride, sometimes 80 miles or more, and can often result in poor fishing if the conditions aren't just right. But there are some in the area that depend on this fishery both for recreational enjoyment and charter. If you know the issue well, then you've known that Virginia has done a great job to be ahead of the curb on many fishery issues, including tilefish. The Virginia creel limit sits at 7 fish per person per day. While we might feel it is unfair to be managed so tightly, the guys in North Carolina fight a 1 per boat per day limit for much of the year. We should consider ourselves fortunate to have this type of fishery within reach and be allowed to keep so many of this delicious fish.

There are some new laws up for consideration, but they don't greatly affect us. Currently, there is no specific management plan for areas north of the Carolina/Virginia border. That means that states control their own fishery. Where this really comes into play is the fisherman from places like Delaware and new jersey who steam to some of the southern waters to fish, then back north to their port. While this is mostly a commercial fishery issue, new laws will enforce greater restrictions for their catch limits and set them to a level that is similar to ours. This will likely kill a portion of their commercial fishery due to weight and creel limits. There are some stricter considerations that include our regional zone if a new management plan is enacted. Information will be available pending the outcomes of these decisions. The current expectation is that a new enforcement zone north of the NC/VA border will not immediately affect our recreational limits but could affect us long term.

To learn more about the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan, [Click Here!](#)

Cobia Meetings – FMAC April 18<sup>th</sup> and VMRC May 24<sup>th</sup>



## And Now for the Elephant in the Room...

**Cobia:** I am going to copy/paste some of this so you get the full description of the issue at hand, then I will further explain what it means for us. [Click Here for the full SAFMC bulletin.](#)

*"March 9, 2016*

*The recreational harvest of Atlantic migratory group cobia (from Georgia to New York) will close at **12:01 a.m. on June 20, 2016.** Recreational harvest of cobia will reopen on January 1, 2017.*

*The Atlantic migratory group includes cobia from Georgia through New York. Cobia off the east coast of Florida are part of the Gulf of Mexico migratory group. There are separate annual catch limits for the recreational and commercial sectors of Atlantic migratory group cobia. If the annual catch limits are exceeded, accountability measures are in place to ensure overfishing does not occur. If the Atlantic migratory group cobia recreational and total (recreational and commercial combined) annual catch limits are exceeded, NOAA Fisheries is required to reduce the length of the recreational fishing season in the following fishing year.*

*In 2015, both the recreational and the total annual catch limits of Atlantic migratory group cobia were exceeded. Thus, the accountability measure is triggered for 2016. Because the commercial annual catch limit was not exceeded, this closure is only for the recreational sector. During the closure, recreational harvest or possession of cobia is prohibited.*

*This closure is required by regulations implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region and is necessary to protect the cobia resource."*

### **The Grey Zone:**

So let me break this down as non-bias as possible. The east coast of the United States has one large migratory biomass of cobia. The stock can be differed from other regional stocks based DNA markers and gene data that separates classes of fish in the Gulf of Mexico and the East Coast. Gene testing approximates the division of stocks at about the north east coast of Florida. So why is that important? Well, that means that all the stock fished north of that point is basically part of our quota. Early this year, data was analyzed and the results were that the Atlantic migratory stock of cobia was fished about THREE TIMES the annual catch limit or ACL. This assessment granted the need for an immediate closure date of our season to ensure that catches do not exceed the ACL for 2016 and provide ample opportunity for the stock to rebound from what could be catastrophic and irreversible losses to the fishery.

What is important to remember is that the SAFMC and NOAA do not determine the closure date of state waters, but rather, all waters from 3nm (nautical miles) to 200nm offshore. Great, so we can keep all the cobia we catch in the bay this year! Well, NO! States who do not follow federal rules for fisheries management can potentially receive critical and harsh punishments. Failure to comply could, for example, cut federal funding to VMRC. And if you haven't seen the VMRC budget, they spend every dollar they have in their coffers by the end of each fiscal year. When federal fishery regulations are set, states are expected to follow these rules as their own, with exception of agreements between agencies like with striped bass.

## The Gigantic Elephant Continued...

Ask a fisherman what he thinks about the cobia management issues, and you'll likely get 100 different responses. There is an unending supply of information streaming around right now and everyone thinks they know what is best. And you know what, you might be right. Because to be truthful, we are all guessing what the right decision is with fisheries management issues because there are so many factors that affect a population of fish that you can never account for them all. But you could still be right.

### **Why anglers are mad:**

If you aren't mad, it's probably because you don't fish for cobia... at all. Cobia is one of the most popular game fish in Virginia. So much so, I personally believe it has surpassed striper fishing because the fish are bigger, you can catch lots of them, the season is longer, and it being warmer outside can't hurt the cause. That means it affects more people than ever. Charter fisherman who used to depend on striper fishing as their big buck months now depend on cobia. Tackle shops that used to sell tons of striper tackle now sell more eels, menhaden, and buck tails for cobia than they can sometimes stock.

You want to know what is one of the biggest reasons? The first cobia catches usually come around memorial day through the first week of June. While fishing is good, it usually peaks right in the last week of June, then again in late July after the major spawning runs have occurred. Catches are still great in the month of August. By labor day, most of your average anglers have passed on to some of their other favorites, but many of the charter guys will hit them for the rest of September when not chasing other favorites. With a closed season on June 20<sup>th</sup>, we get about 3 weeks of decent cobia fishing (not always "catching"). Mathematically, Memorial day to Labor day accounts for 14 weeks of fishing. A little math; about 21% of the season is fishable prior to the June 20<sup>th</sup> closure with none during the "peak" fishing!

Meanwhile, states like North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia have had a full spring and early summer season to catch all the fish they can muster, what most would consider as 100% of their peak season has already been fished. So if everyone gets to fish their peak season and keep everything they are normally allowed, then why are we forced to fish such a limited season. Now you might be able to see some of the frustration.

**Whats on the table:** There are a few options that are up for consideration. It could be a combination of all of these, or possibly some ideas that aren't even thought of yet. That is why it is important for all anglers to work together right now to achieve the best solution to our current predicament.

- Decrease possession by setting boat limits.
- Decrease possession by increasing size limits.
- Change regulations to use a rolling average for ACL.
- Close our season before the fish arrive, effectively maximizing our fishing by opening it during a "peak" period.
- Use a combination of factors that will lower our overall harvest and increase the fishing period.
- Of course, we could change nothing.
- And lastly, some have speculated ignoring the federal enactment. It technically *IS* an option.

## The Gigantic Elephant Continued Again...

### Why cuts are fair:

There is general acceptance that we had an amazing cobia season last year. Many anglers saw, caught, kept and fished for cobia more than they have in many years. There is no doubt that the cobia could have been fished over the ACL (more on that in the next section.) Cobia has been an amazing fish to fish for, whether for sport or for dinner. We kill a lot of our fish before they spawn in early to mid July. Females don't mature until around 33-36 inches in length. That's about when we start to keep them. There is potential that we kill a fish before she has ever spawned for the first time. While unlikely, I'm sure it occurs once in a while. Virginia harvests the greatest percent of annual quota. We should be cut.

### Why cuts aren't fair:

Based on a variety of measurements including stock assessments, spawning abundance, and capture data; fisheries management plans set specific values for the preservation of a species. It is general knowledge that these "estimates" were flawed due to a series of factors. That could include the size of the sample of fisherman, the time since last stock assessment, or factors that could have caused previous assessments to be lower than the actual abundance of fish.

Along with these reasons were some of the "frustration" factors that were mentioned prior.

### What effects that actions could take:

The last thing to consider is what the effects could be if action is taken immediately. Contrary to what I stated earlier, North Carolina doesn't get to keep what they can muster because they cut their fish limit from 2 per person per day to 1 per person per day. What effect did that have? 2 days. That's right **2 DAYS**. They cut their daily creel limit in half and it lengthened the season for the east coast by 2 days.

The next stock assessment likely won't be completed until 2019. Any changes we make this year, we might be stuck with until 2019. Going back to a less strict regulation could force a closure, and if we go back on our regulations, why wouldn't the other states want to do the same? You have to be careful what you ask for, because you might just get it... Permanently.

If we do something to make a cut. Keep in mind, every day we extend our season; we also extend the season of all the other states. So the quota that we open up is also open for them to catch as well.

### What I would do:

You really thought I was going to write that huh? While I have some strong opinions and believe I have some science to back it up, I will not be sharing that here. Call me up some time or hit me up at the meeting and I will be glad to share my thoughts. There is what seems like an infinite number of possible solutions. It is very important for you to make your own informed decisions about the subject. Do some research. Try crunching some numbers. Get informed and stay informed on the fisheries management issues and discuss it with others. See what you think is best and don't just assume it is 'this' or 'that'. Make an informed "decision" and not an informed "opinion". Be sure that you make your decision known so that what you believe in gets heard. Make sure you come out to one or all of the cobia related meetings. You never know. You might have the perfect solution that a lot of others can agree with.



## May Intra-Club Surf Fishing Tournament – May 21<sup>st</sup>

This is a reminder of our intra-club surf fishing tournament and is open to all members. We will be fishing the beach at Little Island Park, down in Sandbridge. Just south of the fishing pier. The tournament fishing time is usually around 8-11am but we often get there a little early to get the lines wet. Lunch will be after the tournament. Last May's winner was Bob Burstein with a largest fish format – 18.5". While we were fishing last year, there were a half dozen 30+ inch red drum caught and they are only getting bigger. The winner this year will receive a prize! A custom made, full body aluminum sand spike. If you are interested in surf fishing but don't really know how, plenty of us surf fish regularly and would be glad to help out or supply some tackle for the event. Just get in contact with us ahead of time. See you all out there!



### Seton Youth Fishing Day - June

Bob Burstein will be soliciting volunteers for our annual Seton Youth event soon. Please make sure you check with him by the June meeting so he knows he can count on you to be there. The kids had a great time last year and the weather was great. If you remember, we had tons of prizes to give away and everyone was stuffed full of hamburgers and hot dogs. Some of the kids even went home with new bikes and scooters!

### Hunt For Hardheads - Boats Wanted!

**May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Every May, NAC, GBFA, PAC and VBAC compete for bragging rights. This three fish tournament focuses on Bluefish, Croaker, and Flounder. **Puppy drum has been added for 2016!** Tournament points are based on length and the longest 5 fish score a descending number of points. Tournament boundaries are the HRBT and inwards through the Elizabeth and James Rivers. The club is looking for 5 boats to come out and fish this event. The event will take place out of Portsmouth City Park boat ramp. Next year, lunch will be provided by the loser and the location chosen by the winner. We do not want to lose!!

### Club History Preservation

Did you know that the earliest VBAC banquets were held by chartering a round trip on the ferry that went between Virginia Beach and the Eastern Shore before the CBBT was built? One of my favorite parts of being in the club is hearing about the old stories from long before I was a member. In the coming months I will be soliciting hard copy materials, stories, interviews and other club related memories from our more seasoned club members. Even if you are a recent addition, I would like you to take some time to record your favorite memories or stories about the club and share them with me. I don't wish for the rich history of our club to be forgotten. This will be a very time consuming but entertaining endeavor and I look forward to what we can share together. **-Kelly Hoggard**

### VBAC Hats, T-Shirts and Embroidered Apparel See Jack Guthrie at each club meeting.

#### VBAC Club Members – We have a good inventory of mixed colors and sizes of T-Shirts and Hats.

- Short Sleeve Tees up to size 5X – Priced by size, ranging from \$18.00 to \$22.00.
- Long Sleeve Tees up to size 5XL – Priced by size, ranging from \$20.00 to \$25.00
- Hats – mixed colors for \$12.00

**Also, if Embroidered Items are wanted between meetings, then call Jack at (757) 647-4490 for details.**

- Short Sleeve Polo Shirt
  - All Season Jacket
- Zip Up Hooded Sweatshirt
- Pull Over Hooded Sweatshirt
- Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve Fishing Shirt

Each advertisement is linked to their associated website.  
Please check them all out by clicking on their ads!  
Our 2016 advertisements will be out next month!

[VirginiaBeachAnglersClub.org](http://VirginiaBeachAnglersClub.org)

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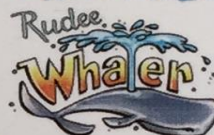


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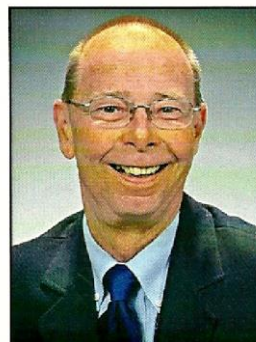


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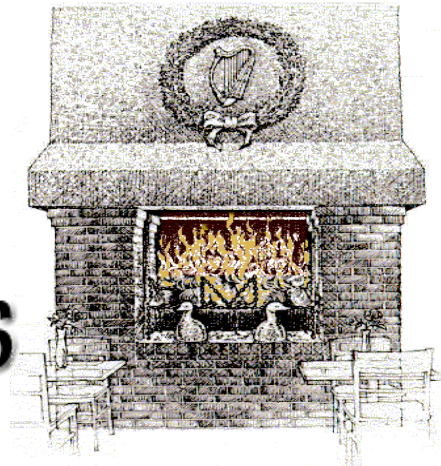
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## COOPERATING GROUP PROGRAM

As a member of Virginia Beach Anglers Club,  
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code BoatU.S. Coop # above.



# VBAC Fishing Roulette 2016

(Updated March 17<sup>th</sup>)

## Species

## Current Leader

## Weight

### Saltwater:

Croaker	No Entry
Puppy Drum	No Entry
Roundhead	No Entry

### Freshwater:

Crappie	Steve Harding	A BIG'UN!
Sunfish	No Entry	

To All Participants! A reminder that this is a yearlong fishing contest. Please remember, all puppy drum weighed must be of legal slot size length when the weight is recorded. If you have any questions, call Chris at 737-1115.

## Catch-A-Ride

### BOAT

Howard Anchors (724) 822-4933

Jon Calhoun (757) 377-3360

Preston Mangum (757) 582-1450

Jeremy MaGuire (757) 407-0493

Rich MaGuire (757) 619-4851

Rob Stommel (703) 244-1282

Bob Stuhlman (757) 374-7372

### CREW

Michael Anderson (757) 481-1296

Pete Federico (908) 887-3113

Ronny Hillin (757) 848-3535

Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817

Victor Minak (703) 888-8992



**VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB**  
**20th ANNUAL COBIA CLASSIC TOURNAMENT**  
**JUNE 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016**



**Entry Fee - \$100.00 per Boat**  
**(after June 11<sup>th</sup> - \$125.00 per Boat)**

<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM</b>
<b>Captain's Meeting</b>	<b>Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM</b>
<b>Lines-In</b>	<b>Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 AM</b>
<b>Weigh In</b>	<b>June 18<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 PM</b>

**\$1000.00 Guaranteed 1<sup>st</sup> Place Prize**

**Other prizes determined by number of entrants**

**TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS: LONG BAY POINTE MARINA**  
**WEST GREAT NECK ROAD, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.**

---

**ENTRY FORM**

Entire entry form must be filled out to be eligible for any prizes and entry fee must be sent with the completed form. No cash by mail. Please make checks payable to VBAC

Captain's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Angler #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Angler #4 \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #5 \_\_\_\_\_ Angler #6 \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entries to:

Virginia Beach Anglers Club, P.O. Box 8602, Virginia Beach, Va. 23450

Point of Contact: George Gabriel (757.619.1638) email: [VBAnglersclub@gmail.com](mailto:VBAnglersclub@gmail.com)

## **COBIA CLASSIC TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The deadline for registration is Friday, June 17, 2016 @ 7:30P.M.
2. The Virginia Beach Angler's Club reserves the right to refuse entry to any angler or vessel.
3. The Entry Fee is \$100.00 per boat if paid by June 11, 2016, thereafter the fee is \$125.00.
4. The Tournament Committee advises all participants to attend the Captains meeting to insure they are aware of any rule changes or clarifications.
5. At the Captains meeting, the Tournament Committee will decide if Saturday is fishable. If Saturday is declared not fishable, the tournament will be rescheduled for Sunday.
6. Each boat entered in the Tournament will be eligible for only one prize.
7. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to inspect all boats entered in the competition.
8. A boat may not be replaced after the entry deadline, unless broken down. A tournament official must be notified on the change before "lines in."
9. All fish must be caught on hook and line.
10. Fish shall not be mutilated in any way other than hook and gaff marks.
11. Two or more boats congregating close enough to pass fish may be disqualified from the tournament.
12. Scales will be open from 3:00P.M. to 5:00 P.M. All fish must be weighed by the official VBAC Tournament Weighmaster.
13. All fish must be weighed in at the Tournament Headquarters not later than 5:00P.M.
14. Fish will be checked for freshness and are subject to inspection of stomach contents.
15. All protests must be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the weighing of the last fish.
16. Prizes will be awarded @ 5:30P.M. at Tournament Headquarters, Long Bay Pointe Marina.
17. Prizes are awarded solely on the basis of fish weight. In the event of identical weights, the first fish weighed in will be declared the winner.
18. Winning anglers may be requested to submit to and successfully pass a polygraph test prior to being presented any prize.
19. Boat registrant must be present and positive identification is required for all prizes.
20. All fish weighed must meet the requirements according to Virginia Regulations.

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The following statement must be read, signed and turned in with the entry form.

---

"I understand that as Tournament Captain, participant, or boat owner, I am responsible for my boat and occupants at all times. I have read and fully understand and agree to abide by the rules of the Virginia Beach Angler's Club Cobia Classic. I hereby release The Virginia Beach Angler's Club, Long Bay Pointe Marina, and their affiliates from any and all liability. I further understand that the decision to fish and participate in the Tournament is the responsibility of the registrant, Captain or boat owner.

---

(Printed Name)

---

(Signature)

---

(Date)

## Participation Needed!

Listed below are many of the committees and their respective captain (or co-captains) that represent each committee. All of these hard working club members need help fulfilling their goals for the events that are planned during the year. No matter your current role in the club, everyone is encouraged to help in any way possible. There are no special skill requirements needed... It just requires a little bit of time and input. Take an active part in the club and help make a difference in our community.

Thank you all for your consideration - VBAC Officers and Directors

## 2015 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

<b>Boat Show:</b>	<b>Chair – Russell Willoughby</b>
<b>Calendar:</b>	<b>Chair – Bob Burstein</b>
<b>Crab Creek Clean-Up:</b>	<b>Chair – Ronnie Nixon</b>
<b>Great Bridge Flea Market:</b>	<b>Chair – Preston Mangum</b>
<b>VBAC Flea Market:</b>	<b>Bob Stuhlman Bob Burstein</b>
<b>Banquet/Oyster Roast:</b>	<b>Chair – Jerry Mariano</b>
<b>Seton Youth:</b>	<b>Chair – Bob Burstein</b>
<b>Raffles:</b>	<b>Chair – Preston Mangum</b>
<b>Audit Committee:</b>	<b>Chair – Mike Anderson</b>
<b>Surf Tournaments:</b>	<b>Chair – Robbie Parks</b>
<b>Club Tournaments:</b>	<b>Chair – George Gabriel Co. Chair – Bob Burstein</b>
<b>Lynnhaven Pier Tournaments:</b>	<b>NEEDED NEEDED</b>
<b>Newsletter:</b>	<b>Chair – Kelly Hoggard</b>
<b>Prize Fish:</b>	<b>Chair – Chris Schneider</b>
<b>Nomination Committee:</b>	<b>Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard Co. Chair – Beth Synoweic</b>



# SAVE THE DATE

*Saturday, October 22, 2016*

## *VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB'S 4TH ANNUAL FALL FISHING & BOATING FLEA MARKET*

*Capt. Max King's Marine  
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*For more information and vendor opportunities contact  
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Bob Burstein 267-994-7423*

*E-mail: [vbanglersclub@gmail.com](mailto:vbanglersclub@gmail.com)*



## Fishing Reports

(all by Dr. Ike... He can't be the only guy going fishing!)

### Dr. Ike's Fishing Report March 8<sup>th</sup>:

**3/8 Tuesday:** With the weather window looking great all week I got out fishing more in one week than I did all of February. Tuesday went tautog fishing with Henry and Mary Troutner on their 31 ft. Cabo to the Triangle Wrecks. Ned Smith and Henry's friend John completed our crew. Winds out of the SW 15-20 in the morning that settled down to nearly nothing by the afternoon. Started out on the Morgan, then the Webster, Clark and finished on the Luchenbach. We only caught several large black seabass and found only small togs on the Morgan and nothing much on the Webster and Clark. On the Luchenbach we also found BSB. Fished with live green crabs. We saw on the sonar some fish over one of the wrecks but couldn't get them to hit the jigs we offered. Beautiful trip back with calm seas. On our trip out and back we encountered thousands of gannets and seagulls swarming outside of Little Creek near the Thimble Shoals Channel. Beehiving on bait was our guess since we didn't get near enough to check on it. Great trip but no take home fish. Oh well that's fishing.





## Fishing Reports



**3/9 Wednesday:** Russell Willoughby and I went fishing on the Western Branch Lake in Suffolk. Beautiful day and 60's temps but winding out of SW. Looking for crappie, chain pickerel and catfish we fished all over the lake all day but only caught two chain pickerel that we didn't get to boat before they came off the hook. Fished with small silver sided minnows for crappie and pickerel and red wigglers for catfish.

# Fishing Reports

## Dr. Ike's Fishing Report March 11<sup>th</sup>:

**3/11 Friday:** Weather again was great. But this time Russell and Jerry and I chartered Captain Petey whom Jerry had fished with in previous years catching big blue catfish. We met at the Jordan Point Marina near Hopewell on the James River and went out with Capt. Petey on his 24 ft. ProCat boat powered with a 250 hp Mercury that was really laid out for serious catfishing with 10 poles fishing fresh shad on 9/0 circle hooks. Sailing down the relatively calm James River was a blast traveling at about 35 mph from place to place mostly right off the shipping channel in 16-25 ft of water. Jerry caught the first fish which was his 30 lb. citation size blue cat which we released after weighing and taking a picture. Then I caught a 28 lb. blue. Russell followed with a 14 lb. fish which we kept for eating. Jerry next caught a 17 lb. fish for keeping. I followed with a 38 lb. blue which ended up being the big one of the day. However prior to this boated fish I hooked up with an even bigger fish that got off the hook after a short fight. Russell then caught his 35 lb. blue right before we were starting to pull up our rods for the short trip to the dock. We think the biggest fish would have been Russell's when he hooked up with a huge one that surfaced during the fight and started to spin around on the hook and cut the line. It looked to be about a 45-50 lb. fish according to the Petey. This cutting the line is not uncommon with the biggest fish. All big fish were released since Capt. Petey advised that the fish aren't good to eat unless they are around 15 lbs. or under. All of us agreed this was a fabulous trip and well worth the charter fee of \$350 for two people and \$50 for each additional person up to 5 on his boat. I've got Capt. Petey's number is anyone is interested to booking a trip. He claims that March is the best month for catching blue catfish but they can be caught all year round. I'm looking forward to doing it again.

All in all this catfishing catch was a perfect end to a great weather window and first real fishing of Spring.





## Dr. Ike and Russell Crappie Fishing Lake Smith – March 24<sup>th</sup>

March is known for crappie fishing and so here's your "crappie" report:

The weather was typical March weather but a little warmer, meaning it was very windy! Russell and I went fishing around noon wanting the water as warm as possible. Tried several of our usual places in the swallow water and only found 6 fish here and there but all small, not keeping size. Then we bumped onto a bass fisherman who reported his friend did well on the previous day further north so off we went. We were very happy we did go north because the first place we stopped we found them snapping. Using bobbers with shiners on jigs with plastic Bobby Garlands thrown with our ultra-light spinning rods worked great but Russell also found a bluegill looking rubber bait that they seemed to like a lot. Russell was pulling in the biggest crappies that were around 1 1/2 lb. size with mine mostly around a pound. Lots of little ones were caught too. Plus a couple of bass, yellow and white perch and sunfish too small to even enter (we'll catch larger ones soon) in the roulette. In all a very productive couple of hours on the lake and really fun being able to watch the fish hooking up with the bobbers. I have been really enjoying the fishing on the freshwater lakes lately, something I haven't done since the '70's and spring is the perfect time to fish them.

Blessings,  
Ike



# VBAC MISSION STATEMENT

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.

## 2016 VBAC Elected Officials

### Officers:

President: Larry Regula

First Vice President: George Gabriel

Second Vice President: Bob Stuhlman

Treasurer: Mike Anderson

Recording Secretary: Russell Willoughby

Corresponding Secretary: Kelly Hoggard

### Board of Directors:

Bob Burstein

Gary Doerhoff

Butch Eason

Pete Federico

Jerry Hughes

Jerry Mariano

Ronnie Nixon

Robbie Parks

Chris Schneider