



*Fish Hawks Celebrates 46 years*  
**MARCH 2023 FISH HAWKS NEWSLETTER**

***FISH HAWKS OFFICIAL WEB SITE [www.fishhawksnj.com](http://www.fishhawksnj.com)***



**FISH HAWKS BOARD MEMBERS NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS:**

**Karl Dahl 609-693-4674 / David Bye 908-892-1385 / Gail Matuska 732-597-3494 / George Royston 908-456-3132  
Tony Guadagnino 609-242-9471 / Ken Rylak 609-575-7477 / Paul Schell 609-440-0907  
Mickey Sherry 732-421-6668 / Bob Dunlap 609-242-3745**

**SHORE CASTS**

**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO PATRONIZE ALL OF OUR SPONSORS.**

**Our Club radio channel is 19. We ask our members to please always monitor it.**

If you have changed your mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, or you do not receive or miss an issue of the newsletter, please contact Membership Chairwoman, Sandi Roy. Sandi's cell phone is 609-618-6211 or an email can be sent to [robandsandi@yahoo.com](mailto:robandsandi@yahoo.com). Please do not leave a message on her home phone.

Please call Good & Welfare Chairwoman Marilyn Dahl if you know of any member who is ill or has been hospitalized. Marilyn can be reached on her cell phone at 201-232-6896 or home phone at 609-693-4674. You may also email her at [marilynjd@comcast.net](mailto:marilynjd@comcast.net).

Yearly membership cards for those current in dues are available at the meeting. If you have paid your dues and have not received a current dues card, please see Gail Matuska, Treasurer, at the meeting. If you have or want a speaker on a specific subject, please contact our Guest Speaker Chairman Bill Browne at 732-504-9344

“SEA TOW offers 13 months for the price of 12 and an additional \$20.00 off for a yearly membership for Fish Hawk members!”

Boat US membership discount code is **GA83831B**. Ask for new member applications.

Recreational Fishing Alliance Membership discount code is **FISHHAWK**

## ***Presidents Message***

Greetings everyone,

Wow! March already, one more month to get our fishing selections in for the monthly fishing contest. First meeting in April is the deadline for all entries. Get your form in this month's newsletter. On the fishing front, Mickey Sherry has been busy as a beaver attending many fishing council meetings this winter and has been voting in our name on some of the upcoming fishing regulations. In fact, he wanted me to add this to my message:

### **2023 FLUKE REGS FINALIZED**

Much to the dismay of most fluke fishermen in our state, we are being forced by NOAA/ASMFC/MAFMC to have the exact same fluke regs as last year. This includes the season, bag, and size limits. Therefore, our season will run from **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** through **September 27<sup>th</sup>** with a limit of just one fish 18" or greater and 2 fish from 17-17.99". The special regulations for Delaware Bay, 3 fish 17" or greater and Island Beach State Park, 2 fish at 16" or greater remain the same. There is nothing at all our state can do about it. The NJBMF was all set to consider other options, but they cannot do it. This applies to all states, not just New Jersey.

What happened was that for 2023, a new model was used. Initially data was plugged in from last year which showed that we could have a 10% liberalization. A week or so later they decided to use data from the last 5 years rather than just one year. That would have resulted in us having to take a 10% reduction. Many people were very upset about that and the ASMFC and MAFMC then agreed that we should have status quo measures, but it was unclear if conservation equivalency could be used. Apparently, NOAA then approved status quo measures provided that each state maintains the exact same regulations that they had in 2022.

Looks like NOAA/ASMFC/MAFMC doesn't have the balls to make any changes and again the recreational fishermen must take it up the \_\_\_\_! Thanks Mickey, right on target as usual. I wonder how many pirates will be fishing this year???? Don't forget the flea mkt is on the 4<sup>th</sup> at the Elks, and Rich is going to need some help setting up tables Fri night. He will confirm the time at the meeting. Last time I spoke to him, all the vender tables were sold. Great job Rich! Wish the following Happy Birthday this month, Kenn Seefelt 7<sup>th</sup>, Rich Greger 11<sup>th</sup>, Dawn Itjen 12<sup>th</sup>, Walt Bohn 15<sup>th</sup>, Rich Newmark 15<sup>th</sup>, Bill Grochowicz 18<sup>th</sup>, and Mike Knoblock 18<sup>th</sup>. It was great to hear from Capt. Joe Gallinoto about boating safety last month, and I'm looking forward to meeting and hearing about the police regulations associated with boating from our guest speaker Sgt. Dale Pearse from the Point Pleasant Beach police dept. Sgt Pearse patrols the waters from Point Pleasant to Cape May. You still have until the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb. to get your 4 Tog, so you "Have to hook em to cook em" See you all at the meeting. *Karl*

### **FISH HAWKS BOAT TRIPS**

Don't loose out! SIGN UP NOW! For our 2023 club fishing trips. We have secured 5 boat trips...3 out of Belmar and 2 out of Point Pleasant. The club supplies Sandwiches, snacks, and all soft drinks cost \$90.00 per person. All bait /crabs included for targeted fish.

#### **Sign up now to reserve your space!**

Tuesday April 18, Mimi VI for Blackfish (Tog) - Point Pleasant

Tuesday June 13, Parker Pete for Sea Bass – Belmar

Tuesday Aug. 22, Parker Pete for Fluke – Belmar

Tuesday Oct. 17, Parker Pete for Sea Bass – Belmar

Thursday Nov.16, Mimi VI for Blackfish (Tog) - Point Pleasant

## **TRADERS CORNER:**

*Notice: All ads run for three (3) months and will be deleted for 4th month's issue unless you renew them. To place a new ad or renewal of a current ad(s) No later than the 2nd Thursday of the month to advertise. Call Bob Merkle 609-902-7394 or send an Email [UBFishing@comcast.net](mailto:UBFishing@comcast.net)*

**FOR SALE:** Cruisair Carry-On Air Conditioner Model CO-5000 with two hatch bags and deflector plate. 115/110, 60 Hz dockside power. Orig. cost \$650.00. Asking \$100. OBO 2/2/23  
Contact Robert Gay 732-299-9651 or email skipperbob@comcast.net

## **"THE HAWK"** **(MARCH 2023)**

**THE BIRD:** Here we are at the end of February with some very warm but windy weather. As March arrives so does many of our club activities. Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup> our Members Monthly Meeting & on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup>, our Annual FISH HAWKS Flea Market. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME March 11<sup>th</sup> (at midnight) & the first day of SPRING, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**MONTHLY FISHING CONTESTS & BONUS:** We drew the \$25 Bonus winner for DECEMBER at our FEBRUARY meeting There were 3 first place entries in the drawing. **TOM KOWITSKI** won the bonus with his 11.88 lb. Striped Bass.

Jim Schindler had a 2.91 lb. Winter Flounder & Doug Itjen had a 9.16 lb. Tog.

The Winners for the **"LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR" (2022) Final**  
**BLACKFISH: 9.16 lbs. DOUG ITJEN      BLUEFISH: 12.18 lbs. TOM KOWITSKI**  
**SEABASS: 3.31 lbs. DOUG ITJEN      STRIPED BASS: 20.25 lbs. KENN SEEFELT**  
**FLUKE: 8.47 lbs. DOUG ITJEN      WEAKFISH: 3.56 lbs. ROBERT MAURO**  
**CODFISH: 10.0 lbs. DOUG ITJEN**

**DOUG now holds a NEW CLUB RECORD:** He has caught 4 of the 7 LARGEST FISH IN ONE YEAR!!!! (He probably won't have much time to sit during the **AWARDS BANQUET IN MAY.**

**REMINDER:** Up-dated Monthly Contest & Tournament forms & entry fees are due **NO LATTER THAN OUR MEETING ON THURSDAY APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> OUR MONTHLY CONTESTS WILL BEGIN THE NEXT DAY FRIDAY APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>.**

You can buy-in 100 contest days for \$100 or you can select individual months at \$2 a box. There is a \$30 buy-in for up to 16 tournament days for 6 fish species & it also makes you eligible for THE LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR. Up-dated entry forms & rules will be available at our monthly meeting & also on our website. "NEW MEMBERS CAN ENTER THE ABOVE AT ANY TIME AFTER BECOMING A MEMBER.

**FISH BITES:** It's time to register for fishing in 2023 at:

**[WWW.SALTWATERREGISTRY.NJ.GOV](http://WWW.SALTWATERREGISTRY.NJ.GOV)**

**STRIPED BASS: OPENS IN THE BAY MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>. 1 fish @ 28" & less than 43"**

**WINTER FLOUNDER: 2 FISH @ 12".**

## Monthly Contest and Tournament Day Entry Form

PLEASE NOTE: MONTHLY CONTEST BEGINS THE  
FRIDAY AFTER APRIL'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	# Of Months	Totals Dollars
Blackfish*****	X				X	X	X	X	X		
Bluefish*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
COD	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Fluke*****		X	X	X	X	X					
Sea Bass*****		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Striped Bass*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Weakfish*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

Blowfish		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Kingfish		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Flounder	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Ling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Porgy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Triggerfish			X	X	X	X	X	X			

Place a circle around the X in the box for the species and months that you wish to enter the monthly contest for a cost of \$2 per month.

You can ***go all in*** for all species de noted by an X (100 months) for \$100

Additionally the cost for up to 16 scheduled tournament days is \$30

Entries and all money must be received by first Thursday in April at monthly meeting

Make Checks payable to the Fish Hawks.

Monthly Contest Total at \$2 per Circled X Box

OR

Buy All 100X Boxes For \$100

\$ 30 for 16 Tournament Days

Give the completed form to Kenn or Val Seefelt at the monthly meeting  
or mail it to address below.

Total Amount

Mail: Kenn and Val Seefelt  
510 Middle Branch Drive  
Forked River 08731

Contest Chairman Signature

Cell: 609-423-8982

\*\*\*\*\* Only 6 Species eligible for Tournament Days and Largest Fish of The Year \*\*\*\*\*

Only fish caught in New Jersey waters are eligible for Monthly Contests, Tournament Days and Largest Fish of The Year

Entry into Tournament day also enters you into "Largest Fish of Year" contest.

New Members can participate at any time once after becoming a new member

Note: To view all contest rules please go to <http://www.fishhawksnj.com> and select contest form and rules

# 2023 FISHING CONTEST RULES AND CHANGES

## 1-Monthly Fishing Contest:

You must enter the contest by submitting this form and paying the entrance fee of **\$2.00 per fish per month** or you can go all-in for all species for all months that are denoted by an X (100 Mos.) for a \$100 buy-in. The Monthly Contest Form must be submitted no later than our April Members Club meeting. The Monthly Contest begins on the Friday after the April Club Meeting. Phone-ins are no longer accepted, (Hard Copy Only). Example: \$20.00 is received for a specific fish ie. Bluefish, 3 blues were caught and entered (weighed in). The total money in this category is \$20.00. 1st place 50% or \$10.00, 2nd place 30% or \$6.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 20% or \$4.00. **NOTE: For the Monthly Fishing Contest and Tournament Days, Bluefish MUST WEIGH a minimum of 2 lbs.**

**NOW:** If only one fish is weighed in, **ALL** the money collected (100%) goes to the 1st place fish. If there is only a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place fish entered, the split is 60-40. Winners for both the Monthly Fishing contest and Tournament Days can only win one place in each category.

**2-Each month** our chairperson or designee for the Fishing Contest will inform the club members of the winners for the monthly contest and tournament days.

**3-Bonus Money:** For the 9 contest months (April-December), an additional \$25.00 (cash bonus) will be awarded each month to just **ONE** of the 1<sup>st</sup> place monthly contest winners for that month. **All 13 species are eligible.** The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner that is drawn at the meeting will receive \$25.00 (cash). **NOTE: All fish species listed on the front side of this form that are entered in the monthly contest for that month are eligible for a chance to win the \$25 cash bonus.**

**4-Tournament Days have a \$30 ENTRY FEE:** This fee enters you into 1 - 16 Tournament days and makes you eligible for the **LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR** for the six species listed on front with an asterisk (\*\*\*\*\*). **The Contest Days Form for Tournament Days must be submitted no later than our April Members Club Meeting.** Cash payouts are as follows 1<sup>st</sup> (\$25), 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$15), and 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$10) **NOTE: For Tournament Days and the Monthly Fishing Contest, Bluefish MUST WEIGH a minimum of 2 lbs.**

## 5 – Club Fishing Trips Tournament Days:

All club organized Fishing Trips held on a Head Boat for club Members will be considered a **FREE TOURNAMENT DAY**. Only members who participate in these club trips will be eligible for the **FREE TOURNAMENT DAY PAYOUTS**. There are 6 species eligible for tournament day payouts, as noted on the front side by an asterisk (\*\*\*\*\*). All fish will be weighed while on board the boat and the tournament winners will be announced at that time. **Note: If you are also entered in the monthly contest and want your fish to qualify for the monthly contest, you must weigh in your fish at one of the club's official weigh stations.**

**6-THE LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR** for the following six species, **WEAKFISH, BLUEFISH, STRIPED BASS, FLUKE, SEA BASS and BLACKFISH**, winners will be presented with a customized bronze name plate plus \$75 (cash) at our annual AWARDS BANQUET. **Note: You must be entered in the Tournament Days contest to be eligible for the largest fish of the year.**

**Weigh-in Station Procedures** The official club weigh-in stations are *Creek Side Outfitters, Grizz's Forked River Bait, & Tackle, Grumpy's, Fisherman's Den & Lacey Marine*. It is the Angler's responsibility, when weighing in a fish, to verify that all the information on the weigh-in sheet is accurate i.e., NAME, DATE, SPECIES and WEIGHT. The angler will initial the weigh-in sheet verifying that all the information is correct. If you are weighing a fish in for another angler, the same rules apply. **ONCE INITIALED, THE WEIGH-IN IS FINAL!** **All fish caught from Ports & Beaches in New Jersey must be weighed in at one of the above stations.** **NOTE! ONLY FISH CAUGHT IN WATERS ADJACENT TO NEW JERSEY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE MONTHLY CONTEST, TOURNAMENT DAYS AND LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR.**

## Club Record

A fish submitted for a club record may be taken from any location, there are no geographical limitations. For fish caught out of state you must submit a weigh-in slip including species name, length and weight on letterhead, or business card or invoice from that station signed by the weigh master, tournament chairman, or Captain of the vessel. A Club Record Form must be submitted to Ken Rylak and attached to the weigh-in slip from one of our official stations or other documentation as described above. The BOD shall approve all records before becoming official. Here are the guidelines for all "Catch & Release" Club Record submissions. Measurement formula for (ALL SPECIES) as follows: Length X Girth squared divided by 800. Example: Length 60" X 25" Girth squared = 37,500 Divided by 800 = 46.875 Lbs. Please Note: LENGTH is measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail and GIRTH is measured (circumference) at the widest part of the fish, usually behind the gill plate.

**One final note:** Perhaps this rule has not been properly communicated in the past, but **you personally** must catch the fish you enter in all these contests/tournaments and not enter a fish caught by someone else on your boat. This is an **individual** contest and besides we are all friends and family, and we expect **GOOD SPORTSMENSHIP**. Thank you, Good Fishing and be Safe out there.

# FISH HAWKS 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>January</b>	XXX	Thursday	NO MEETING *BOD Mtg. Thurs. 1/26
<b>February</b>	2nd	Thursday	GENERAL MEETING **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 2/23
<b>March</b>	2nd	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 3/30
	4th	Saturday	FISH HAWKS FLEA MARKET @ LACEY ELKS CLUB
<b>April</b>	6th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 4/27
	22nd	Saturday	Tournament Day #1
<b>May</b>	4th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 5/25
	12th	Friday	Tournament Day #2
	21st	Sunday	ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET (Captain's Inn)
	27th	Saturday	Tournament Day #3
<b>June</b>	1st	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 6/29
	9th 10th	Fri & Sat.	LADIES 2 DAY FLUKE TOURNAMENT
	16th	Friday	Tournament Day #4
	24th	Saturday	FISH HAWKS YOUTH SEMINAR
	26th	Monday	Tournament Day #5
<b>July</b>	6th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 7/27
	7th	Friday	Tournament Day #6
	22nd	Saturday	Tournament Day #7 and the J. MATUSKA BI-CLUB FLUKE TOURNAMENT
	23rd	Sunday	BI-CLUB AWARDS PICNIC Host: FISH HAWKS
<b>August</b>	3rd	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 8/31
	7th	Monday	Tournament Day #8
	19th	Saturday	MA 22 VETS FISHING TRIP (rain day- Sun 20th)
	25th	Friday	Tournament Day #9
<b>September</b>	2nd	Saturday	Tournament Day #10
	7th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 9/28
	9th	Saturday	ANNUAL PICNIC (Gille Park) 1 PM TO ????
	15th	Friday	Tournament Day #11
<b>October</b>	5th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs.10/26
	7th	Saturday	Tournament Day #12
	16th	Monday	Tournament Day #13
<b>November</b>	2nd	Thursday	General Meeting and NOMINATION OF OFFICERS **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 11/30
	4th	Saturday	Tournament Day #14
	17th	Friday	Tournament Day #15
<b>December</b>	4th	Monday	Tournament Day #16
	7th	Thursday	PIZZA & BEER Night and ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**NOTE: \*\* BOD** meets the Thursday Prior to the General Meeting

**\*NO BOD MEETING IN DECEMBER 2023 / \*\*\* BOD MEETING THURSDAY JAN. 25, 2024**

Revised 1/1/23, Tony G. 1/11/23 RMM





# ***Saltwater Angler's Club's 19th Annual Fisherman's Indoor Fishing Flea Market***

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**[www.fishhawksnj.com](http://www.fishhawksnj.com)**



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Debbie & Jim Rogan  
1279 East Bay Avenue  
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Fish Hawks was founded in 1977 as a non-profit fishing club whose objectives are to foster and promote:

The development of the coastal and estuaries of Barnegat Bay and to improve the aquatic environment for the general public; To promote fish stocks in cooperation with the Division of Fish and Game and Wildlife of the state of New Jersey; To provide social and recreational activities to its members. Meetings 1st Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm, at Lacey Elks Lodge, 900 Beach Blvd., Forked River, NJ 08731.

Visit our Website at:  
<http://www.fishhawksnj.com>  
for a list of our monthly speakers.

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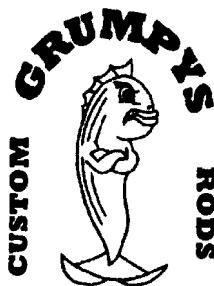
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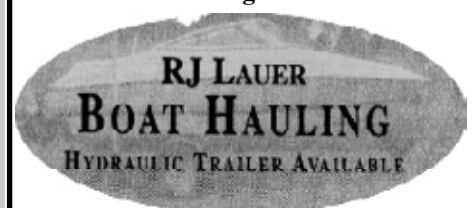
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