



Fish-On Fishing Club of New Port Richey, Florida

President: Chet Jasak
Vice President: Terry Freeman
Treasurer: Mike Spanhel

Secretary: Jerry Sweet
Sergeant at Arms: Frank Bellizio
Member at Large: Russ Thompson

2014 Committee Chairpersons:

Wish-to-Fish – Mike Spanhel
YMCA Fishing Festival – Chet Jasak
Main Street Clean-Up – Bernard Zanetti
After Holiday Party – Russ Thompson

Club Picnics – Dave Taylor
Monthly Dinner Socials – Bob Manon
Club Tournaments – Jack Hexter
Fund Raising – **Volunteer Needed**

If you want to help on any of these committees, see or call the chairperson. They can use the help. Get involved in the Club Activities!!

September 2014 Newsletter

General membership meeting: 29 members and 7 guests attended the August meeting. The members and guests gathered at 6:30 pm on August 5th, at the Gulf Landings Clubhouse to socialize. President Chet Jasak opened the meeting at 7:00.

Guests Attending were; Vic Huebner, Landon Atwood, Nick Souliere, Mark Moringstar, Bob Ray, & Mike Brumley.

New Members are: Mark Moringstar, Bob Ray, & Mike Brumley. Congratulations for joining the Fish-On Fishing Club.

Signup Sheets: The Sign Up sheets for the **CLUB SOCIAL, YMCA ROD RIGGING**, were passed around. 22 signed up for Mikes Dockside. 13 signed up for Rod rigging on Thurs. Aug 28 and 11 signed up to help at the actual YMCA Kids tournament on Saturday Sept 6.

Save the Date: The clubs **fall picnic** is scheduled for Saturday November 8. Dave Taylor will once again chair this event and will have a sign-up sheet. Club provides the meat & beverages, members bring dish to share. Games horseshoes, bocce ball, ladder ball, casting contest, etc.

Member Profile Forms: To make it easier for members to contact one another for fishing events, we have developed a member profile form showing interest and experience among other things. This profile will be posted on the club website for member access only. We encourage everyone to participate and complete the form and Frank or Chet will put them up on the website for all members to see.

New WWW.FISHONCLUB.ORG website coming soon! The new site will be easier to navigate and will have much more member fishing information and less Wish-to-Fish. You will be able to see what boat owners (captains) are willing to take members fishing with them. If you want to find someone to fish with you, you will be able to see the list of people wanting to fish with other members. To get your name on one or both of these list you will be required to complete a member profile form which you fill out on the website. There will also be a list of club member Kayakers. A complete member's directory with pictures as well as the club roster which you will be able to print out is there for you to see. All of the above information will be under the "Members Area" Tab which will be password protected. Under the "Gallery" Tab you will find and be able to submit fishing pictures. There will be social, community service and members photos under the Gallery Tab. Under the Club Info Tab you will be able to view the clubs Newsletters and Calendar. You will be able to submit items to be included in the classified Advertisement Tab. The will be tab for Wish-to-Fish and a Forum tab. You will be sent an e-mail in the very near future letting you know the new website is up and running.

Speaker for the August meeting was Doug Metco from Save our Sandbar, an all volunteer organization formed to protect Florida & Pasco residents right to access and enjoy the North Anclote Sandbar. Please visit their website <http://saveoursandbar.org/> for detailed on how you can help.

Speakers for September: Mike Kaplan & Jack Hexter will be demonstrating the art of Cast Net throwing.

Monthly Dinner Social: Was at Mike's Dockside in Hudson on Wednesday August 13. Twenty members had dinner and a great time socializing.



Fishing Regulations Jack Hexter reported:
Sector Separation -- Amendment 40

Sector Separation is the crisis of the day that is currently being considered by the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council. This is the organization that makes recommendations to the National Marine Fisheries Service and controls the seasons and limits for all species in Federal Water, and somewhat in State Waters, in the Gulf of Mexico. Sector Separation for Red Snapper was first brought up in 2008, and a lot of us have been arguing against it since then. It was the brainchild of the Environmental Defense Fund, which gets funding from The Walton Foundation (WalMart). Believe me, The Walton Foundation is not doing this out of the goodness of their heart, but sees a profit at the end game. They will end up selling Individual Catch Quotas out of WalMart.

Anyway, briefly explained, currently the Red Snapper Allowable Catch Quota is divided 51% commercial and 49% recreational. A pretty even split. But, there are 1200 charter and head boats permitted to fish for these fish in the Gulf. Approximately 120 of these Charter/Head boats have petitioned the Gulf Council to divide the quota allotted to the recreational fishermen and give them the right to fish for these fish, year round, until that quota is reached. **They are asking for 50% of the recreational quota.** Now think about this, we had a 9 day season last year. If 50% is taken away, just how many days do you think we will have next year.

The Snapper Advisory Panel, a group of fishermen, both commercial and recreational who are appointed by the Gulf Council to advise them on this fishery, has voted against adoption of this plan, which is known as Amendment 40.

Another thing to think about, is if Sector Separation is approved and comes to pass in the Snapper fishery, just how long do you think it will be before it comes to the Red Grouper/Gag Grouper/Amberjack/Sea Bass and any other fish we catch fishery. The ULTIMATE goal of EDF is to eliminate fishing in the Gulf.

I went to a meeting for public input on this topic in St Pete Beach on 8/4/14. About 130 people were in attendance and all but 2 or 3 charter boat captains were against this Amendment. But, the majority of the meetings along the Gulf coast are being held in areas where the 120 charter/head boats are concentrated and will receive a lot of support. And the advisory panel recommendations are not binding. The Gulf Council is not against stacking the deck. We don't have a vote, we can only express our feelings and our facts to discourage this action. To do this, you don't have to go to a meeting like I did. You can write them, on line.

To do this, go to the Gulf Council website and the link to read comments left by others, and write your own comments.

http://www.gulfcouncil.org/fishery_management_plans/scoping-thru-implementation.php

Scroll down to Amendment 40. I encourage everyone to visit this site and ask the council vote NO on Amendment 40.

Fish-On Club Year Long Tournament: 2014 Tournament Rules

Fish On Fishing Club Year Long Fishing Tournament

Purpose: Promote friendly competition between club members throughout the year.

Goal: To catch the longest fish in a specie during a year long period.

Entry fee: \$5.00 per species, member selects which species (one or more) he/she wants to compete for. Entry fees will be collected by Mike Spanhel and the member's name will be recorded, the club Treasurer will hold the entrance fees and distribute winnings.

Species: Sea Trout, Redfish, Snook, Spanish Mackerel, Cobia, Red Grouper, Gag Grouper, Kingfish and any Snapper. Fish must be caught in Florida Gulf waters. Other species may be added if requested by three or more members.

Winner by specie: The winner will be the longest fish as measured by law in the State of Florida to the nearest 1/8th inch. There is no minimum length for each species, only that the fish must be caught and measured. Example: If a 30 inch Cobia was the longest Cobia caught during the year the member catching it will be declared the winner. Of course we expect the undersized fish was released after being measured.

Tournament Time: The tournament begins the day after the club meeting in February and ends the Wednesday before the After Holiday Party the following January.

Members may enter the tournament at the February meeting or at any time after by contacting Mike Spanhel @ 727-807-7313 or spanhel@verizon.net and paying the entry fee. A member must be entered in the tournament for at least 24 hours before having a fish caught and listed in the competition.

The length and species of the fish caught and the date caught must be e-mailed to or called in to Mike Spanhel @ 727-807-7313 or spanhel@verizon.net as soon as possible after the fish being caught. Pictures are encouraged but not required. Total honor system.

Winners: The member catching the longest fish of each species will receive the entire amount collected for that specie (winner takes all). In case of ties the proceeds will be divided between the members catching the fish. The winning amount will be awarded during the After Holiday Party in January.

2014 Fish Of The Month Tournament Rules

Purpose: Promote friendly and fun competition between club members throughout the year.

Goal: To catch the longest fish in a specie during a monthly period.

Entry Fee: None, prizes come from the members' yearly dues.

Tournament Species: Blow Fish, Lizard Fish, Sea Bass, Lady Fish, Grunt, Flounder and Mangrove Snapper.

Fishing Member Responsibility: Each member is responsible for recording the length of each fish caught during the month (starting from the day "after" the monthly meeting to the day "of the next" scheduled monthly meeting). Bring your Catch List to the meeting to see if you are the winner!

Blind Draw Specie of the Month: The specie of the month will be determined by a drawing during each regular club meeting. The winner will be the member catching the longest fish of the drawn specie during the past month. Members **MUST** attend the club meeting and report their catch to be eligible to win. If no winner is present for the first fish drawn then another will be drawn. Fish will be drawn until a winner is found. A **WINNER EVERY MONTH!**

Winner by specie: The winner will be the longest fish as measured by law in the State of Florida to the nearest 1/8th inch. There is no minimum length for each species, only that the fish must be caught and measured.

Monthly Prize: The winner will receive Five 50/50 tickets and the winner's choice from the bait box plus one of the following: \$10.00, a club tee shirt, or a club hat.

Annual Prize: **At the after holiday party the winners from the monthly tournaments will be eligible for a \$25.00 gift certificate. This winner will be determined by a drawing at the party.**

The Monthly Trash Fish Prize: was won by Mike Spanhel with a 14" Lizard Fish.

Social Night: Mike's Dockside in Hudson at 6:30.

50/50 Raffle: Was won by Mike Kaplan, Congratulations Mike!

Membership Attendance Raffle: LUCKY Mike Kaplan won this too!

Next Club Meeting: Tuesday September 2, 6:30 PM at Gulf Landings Clubhouse.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, August 18, 7:00 PM at Bob Manon's Clubhouse

Tip of the Month Razor Sharp Edge making

At the last meeting, I was asked how I keep my knives sharp. I do a lot of offshore fishing and whack up a lot of fish. This is the best sharpening system I've found to date. It's called **Razor Sharp Edgemaking System**. This is a 2 wheel cardboard wheel system turned on an electric motor, similar to a bench grinder. One wheel is coated with diamond grit and the other is coated with jewelers rouge. Three passes on each wheel and I can shave with my knives. The closest place to purchase this system is Woodcraft, a woodworking tool store 18891 US Hwy 19 North, Clearwater, FL 33764. It's a little spendy, but well worth it if you like sharp knives and use them as much as I do. <http://www.sharpeningwheels.com/new/>