



SURFCASTERS

Committee

Ron Barnes, Chairman



The purpose of the RISAA Surfcasting Committee is to promote salt water angling to encourage and promote good sportsmanship, conservation and the knowledge of surfcasting.

Surfcasters Committee Annual Meeting

THANKS TO RICH!

As newly elected Chairman of the Surfcasters Committee, this is my first report for the newsletter.

Please join me in thanking **Rich Heffernan** for his service as Surfcasters Committee Chairman for the past several years. The committee expresses its sincere thanks for your organization of the tournaments, outings and everything else you did for the committee. Tremendous job!

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Surfcasters Committee held our Annual Meeting on November 9 via Zoom. The meeting started with our year in review. Due to the pandemic, there were only four group outings this year which included Sandy Point, the West Wall, Beavertail and Blue Shutters.

The outings subcommittee will be working on the 2021 list of meetups over the winter.

Our committee hosted the two annual Surf Fishing Club Challenges for spring and fall. Seven clubs participated in both. The \$75 entry fees are donated to local charities with the Rhode Island Food Bank and Welcome House of South County being this year's respective recipients of a combined \$1,050!

RISAA retained the spring trophy and RIMS retained the fall one. The committee feels it is important to continue the long-standing tradition of these tournaments and will do so next year.

RISAA rules require that every committee conduct an election of committee officers every year. It was decided via email that the following slate of officers was elected:

Chairman – **Ron Barnes**

Vice Chairman – **Richie Reich**

Secretary – **Mike Roy**

At the conclusion of the meeting, members stayed on Zoom and talked current fishing experiences.

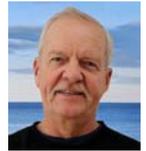
JOIN OUR COMMITTEE

Anyone interested in joining the Surfcasters Committee should send an email to Barnes@risaa.org. We welcome new and/or experienced members to the group.



SUPPORT LOCAL TACKLE SHOPS

by
Capt. Richard Hittinger



You know... I saw Gamakatsu 5/0 Octopus circle hooks on Amazon for \$14.29 per pack of 25, but I can't get that price from my local tackle shop.

My favorite reel is a few dollars less on the Tackle Direct website too, but what happens when we start buying everything online?

If I don't support my local shops, where will I go to find out if people are catching school bass in Greenwich Bay yet or if the fluke bite has started along the South County beaches?

When I started fishing there was a great little tackle shop down the street from my house – Ericson's Bait & Tackle. They actually went through 3 different owners while I was a customer there and all were great in their own way, but they have been gone for about 5 years now and I miss that shop.

When I needed current knowledge about where guys were catching or wanted some hints on technique or just wanted to talk about fishing I would go there. I bought several custom-built rods and a few reels there, but it was always worth the extra few dollars because I got advice and real personal service.

I confess that I buy some items online now (and always have), but I still try to support local shops because they are the life blood to our local fishing activities.

2020 has actually been pretty good to our local shops, but they continue to need our support now and into 2021. Please consider buying locally and helping our neighbors and fellow fishermen.

Of course I say support those shops who are RISAA members first! (see page 38)

Thanks,
Rich



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