



Tournaments Committee

John Volpe, Chairman



Tournaments are open to ALL members

RISAA's official statement of "Purpose" says: "The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association is a non-profit organization, created to provide a forum for recreational saltwater anglers; to provide education to members concerning fishing techniques, improved catches, and **overall enjoyment of fishing; to foster sportsmanship**; to support marine conservation and sound management of fisheries resources; and provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and the future of recreational fishing in Rhode Island."

That **overall enjoyment of fishing and to foster sportsmanship** is accomplished in many ways by several RISAA committees (fly fishing, kayaks, surfcasters, tournaments). The Tournaments Committee works to accomplish the joy of fishing and good sportsmanship by offering and managing several tournaments via our Yearlong and Special Tournament programs.

RISAA TOURNAMENTS EXPLAINED

Each tournament has separate competition sections for Adults and Juniors (17 and under) and most of the tournaments have separate BOAT and SHORE Divisions, giving each angler an opportunity to be involved, no matter which form of fishing they enjoy.

Yearlong Tournament

The Yearlong Tournament runs from January 1 to December 15 annually.

It consists of 13 species of fish which are common in and round New England coastal waters. Of the 13 species, five have open season all year long; the remaining eight species have different open seasons during the year, as set by the Rhode Island DEM. You can see the Yearlong Tournament species on page 18 of this issue.



Orlando Savastano displays a pair of the many tautog that he landed while fishing off Point Judith aboard the *Snappa* on November 1, one of those 70+ warm days that occurred last fall.

Special Tournaments

The Special Tournaments run for a limited period of time (usually ten days) and includes one "team tournament" and several individual tournaments.

State recreational regulations and catch limits are taken into consideration when planning the fish species and number of Special Tournaments scheduled for the year.

One very popular Special Tournament is the "Team Fluke Challenge" where two RISAA members team up. The top winning team is based on the total weight of the top four fish caught. The "Top Ten" teams receive a prize and a extra prize is awarded to the team with the largest fluke. In the past, this has always been a two-day weekend tournament, but because bad weather can keep anglers at the dock the Tournaments Committee has decided to extend it. This year's "Team Fluke Challenge" is scheduled for July 7-15.

You can see the list of 2018 Special Tournaments on page 19 in this issue.

TOURNAMENT RULES

The tournaments rules are fairly simple and straight forward, and here are all of the RISAA Tournament rules:

THE BASICS

- Only RISAA members *in good-standing* may enter tournaments. (your dues are up to date)
 - There are no fees to participate in RISAA tournaments.
 - There are two **categories: Adult and Junior.**
 - Junior members may enter fish in the Junior category only.
 - A member may submit as many entries in all tournaments as they want.
 - There shall be two **divisions: Shore and Boat.**
 - No person shall hold more than one place per species in each division (Boat or Shore) of any tournament at one time.
- (to page 33)

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Articles and submissions for the RISAA newsletter must be received by the 15th for the next month's publication.

Items received after this date will be held until the following month.

