2023 TOURNAMENT STATS & AWARDS:



The 2023 Grand Strand 20th Annual Flounder Tournament, Live Release was a great success: Thanks to all our anglers and club members.

A total of 166 anglers participated in the 2023 Grand Strand Saltwater Anglers Association Tournament.

- 1. 69 Total flounders were released. Using catch and release fishing methods helps ensure high quality angling opportunities today, tomorrow, and in the years to come.
- 08 Flounder measured at over 20 inches. Total of 24", 22.¹/₂", 21 ¹/₂", 21 ¹/₄", 21 ¹/₈", 20 ¹/₂", 20 ¹/₄", 20 ¹/₄".
- 3. The winner was a male angler with a flounder measuring in at 24", weighing 5-6.2 oz.
- 4. 10 flounders were 19" or more.
- 5. 11 flounders were over 18".
- 6. 21 flounders were over 17".
- 7. 19 flounders over 16".
- Saturday, April 29, 2023 Tournament Date. Fishing Best Times Major Times: 7:51 a.m.-9:51 a.m. & 8:13 p.m.- 10:13 p.m. Minor Times: 3:01 a.m.-4:01 a.m. & 1:46 p.m.-2:46 p.m.
- 9. Note: Look at our Leader Board weigh-in times. This shows the falling tide to low tide flounder catches and the rising tide to late afternoon.

10. The Tide Chart for Murrells Inlet, 4:09 a.m. High Tide/ 11:21 a.m. Low Tide/ 4:54 p.m. High Tide/ 11:28 p.m. Low Tide.



- 11. Moon phase Waxing gibbous 66.5% for 9-days.
- 12. April 29, 2023 Tournament Sunrise 6:30 a.m. Sunset 7:58 p.m.
- 13. **GoOutdoors SC app** will provide you with the best fishing information. The fishing forecast for our tournament was 5-Stars.
- 14. A total of ten fifty minute weigh-in periods were recorded. One Tournament Angler won 3-separate times during the day.
- 15. A total of 10 Bluefish were also brought in by anglers for the weigh-in.
- 16. The largest Bluefish was 15 ¼ inches 1-10.8 oz.
- 17. Thank you to Kris Reynolds and his team from South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for providing weigh-in assistance. All the flounders were tagged and placed in oxygenated tanks The flounders were then transported by boat to a non disclosed location.

- 18. Thank you to Sean Bond, owner of Crazy Sisters Marina for providing his back patio area for the weigh-in and making easy access for the anglers to dock their boats and bring their flounder catches to us for the weigh-in.
- 19. Thank you to Officer Tommy Buchanan, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division and the anonymous donor for donating a \$900.00 value, South Carolina Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License for one lucky youth. This special donation was in honor of Chick Mcdaniels. This lucky youth, a 10 year old boy from Jefferson South Carolina was the recipient of this very special license.





THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WILL AWARD ONE YOUTH A LIFETIME HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE IN HONOR OF GSSAA MEMBER CHICK MCDANIELS.

SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE GRAND STRAND SALTWATER ANGLER ASSOCIATION FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT. CHICK HAS ALWAYS RECEIVED THE EARLY BIRD ENTRIES AND WAS OUR WEIGH MASTER. CHICK HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN KEEPING THESE RECORDS TO MAKE THE EVENT A SUCCESS.

CHICK HAS BEEN RECOVERING FROM A LONG ILLNESS. CHICK, YOU'RE IN EVERYONE'S THOUGHTS AS YOU RECOVER. BEST WISHES THAT YOU WILL BE BACK WITH US SOON.



2023 TOURNAMENT AWARDS

ADULT MAJOR PRIZE DIVISION



1st Place (Largest Flounder by weight) \$1,500 #162 Peter Gerace, Murrells Inlet, SC. Flounder 24" inches 5-6.2.



2nd Place (Largest Flounder by weight) \$700

#1 Bill Blakley, Conway, SC. Flounder 22 ½" inches 4-10.0 oz.



3rd Place (largest Flounder by weight) \$400 #57 Marc Michael Murrells Inlet, SC. Flounder 21 ½" inches 4-04 oz.

HEROES FLOUNDER CONTEST Sponsored by Dagwood's Deli & Sports Bar



6

#1 Bill Blakley Veteran United States Air Force.

YOUTH DIVISION Sponsored by Trilogy Outdoors



1st Place (Largest Flounder by weight) \$200 & GSSAA & Trilogy Outdoor plaque #141 McClure Hopkins age 14, Murrells Inlet, SC Flounder 16 %" inches 1-3.6 oz

GSSAA CLUB MEMBER AWARD

#100 Lou Sands, Murrells Inlet, SC. Flounder 16 %", 1-11.2 oz

BLUEFISH CONTEST

#33 Larry Kelly Summerton, SC. Bluefish 15 ¼ " inches 1-10.8 oz

TAGGED FLOUNDER CONTEST

No Winners



Who We Are

The GSSAA was established in 1983. It is a family oriented, non profit organization dedicated to promote and advance the enjoyment of saltwater fishing along the Grand Strand.

The Club is actively involved in resource conservation, artificial reef building, youth projects and community service. Through education and economic contribution, the GSSAA strives to do its part to preserve and enhance the precious marine resources for future generations to enjoy.

Our Live-Release Flounder Tournament helps to ensure high quality angling opportunities today, tomorrow, and in the years to come.



Website: <u>https://grandstrandsaltwateranglers.org</u> Email: <u>info.grandstrandsa@gmail.com</u>

A BIG THANK YOU! TO ALL OUR ANGLERS, MAJOR SPONSORS AND COSPONSORS AND ESPECIALLY OUR GSSAA CLUB MEMBERS FOR MAKING THIS YEARS 2023 TOURNAMENT A GREAT SUCCESS!