

# FLAGLER SPORTFISHING CLUB

# THE CHUM LINE



## FROM THE HELM - BY CAPTAIN MIKE VICKERS JR.



Dear Flagler Sportfishing Club Members,

### 2026 Red Snapper Season Thoughts

For those of you fishing one or more of the 39 days during the 2026 Atlantic Red Snapper season, consider yourselves fortunate. That opportunity did not happen by accident. I have read the Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) request that the State of Florida submitted to NOAA Fisheries, and the data collected during the 2025 EFP pilot programs played a major role in securing this season for anglers.

In 2025, Florida conducted four separate EFP trial periods throughout the year. Participating anglers and captains were required to declare their trips and report detailed information, including catch totals, released fish, release conditions, and other trip data. Combined with the responses from the voluntary dockside and boat ramp surveys during the limited 2025 Red Snapper season, Florida was able to provide NOAA Fisheries with real-world, on-the-water data collected directly from recreational fishermen. That data mattered. Without it, we likely would not have received the 39-day season we have today.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **June Monthly Meeting: Installation of Officers and Swap & Shop 6/4/26**
- **Club Team Tournament 6/20/26**
- **Fall Classic Tournament 9/19/26 Registration is OPEN!**

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for more updates & tips!



**FROM THE HELM CONTINUED**

I have watched many anglers and captains become angry and frustrated with Florida's handling of the 2026 Red Snapper season and aggregate bag limit. While everyone is entitled to their opinion, I believe many people are missing the bigger picture.

For decades, NOAA has managed Red Snapper under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) of 1976. Under that authority, NOAA controls Atlantic waters from 3 to 200 miles offshore and uses what it calls the "best science available" to determine season lengths, harvest limits, and regulations. The problem is that many anglers, captains, and even state fisheries officials believe that science has not accurately reflected the true abundance of Red Snapper off Florida's Atlantic coast.

For years, fishermen have argued that NOAA's stock assessments rely too heavily on mathematical modeling and outdated assumptions instead of actual observations from people who spend time on the water. During the NOAA Amendment 59 hearings in early 2024, countless anglers, charter captains, and representatives from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) voiced opposition to the proposed bottom closures. The message was clear: Amendment 59 was not the solution. Fishermen consistently asked for practical management measures such as longer seasons, reasonable aggregate bag limits, and slot limits that would both protect the fishery and allow greater public access.

Florida listened.

The EFP programs were the first real opportunity for the state to collect independent, angler-generated data to challenge NOAA's assumptions and advocate for better access. That is exactly why participation and reporting are so important.

Here is my opinion: I fully support what the State of Florida is doing.

If we truly want longer seasons, larger bag limits, and better management, then anglers and captains must participate in the process. The state is not asking for your secret fishing spots or your favorite tackle setup. They are asking for data — accurate catch and effort information that can be used as evidence in negotiations with NOAA. Data is power. Without it, Florida is forced to fight for us with one hand tied behind its back.



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## FROM THE HELM CONTINUED

For years, fishermen have complained about NOAA's mismanagement of Red Snapper. This is how we start fixing it. The EFP programs and reporting requirements give Florida the tools needed to push back against flawed federal estimates and advocate for a management system based on actual fishing activity and real fish counts.

If anglers refuse to report their trips and catches, then we weaken the state's ability to fight for expanded access. Silence helps NOAA maintain the status quo. Participation strengthens Florida's position.

If you want longer seasons, bigger limits, and fairer regulations, then speak up, participate, and provide the information being requested. Complaining after decisions are already made changes nothing. The people who engage in the process are the people who shape the outcome.

Stand up. Be counted. Help build the case for better Red Snapper management in Florida.

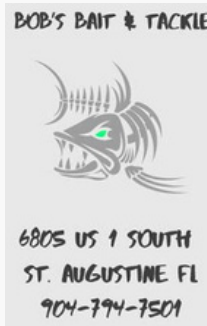


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# THANK YOU CLUB SPONSORS!



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**MICHAEL EDMONDS INTERVIEW - "DON'T LOSE YOUR VISION"**

Michael Edmonds knows what it means to lose sight — but not vision.

The new Flagler Sportfishing Club member has spent his entire life outdoors. Hunting and fishing were more than hobbies growing up in South Carolina. They were part of the foundation built by his father and grandfather, who taught him not only how to be an outdoorsman, but what it meant to be a good man.

In 2013, Michael's life changed forever after a devastating chemical accident at work left him blind and badly burned. Like many people facing sudden vision loss, he believed the outdoor life he loved was over.

"I thought I'd never enjoy the outdoors again," Michael said.

For several years, he struggled to imagine returning to the woods or the water. Then in May of 2017, Michael's youngest child took him catfishing for his birthday. Sitting beside the water, Michael realized he could still feel the bite through the rod and experience fishing in a different way.

That trip changed everything.

While there, Michael met a game warden who was talking about turkey season. Michael mentioned how badly he wished he could still hunt. The game warden asked him a simple question:

"What's stopping you?"

Michael replied, "Well, I'm blind. You've got to be able to see to hunt."

The warden answered, "Not exactly. You can still hunt as long as you have a sighted person with you."

That conversation inspired Michael to start researching adaptive hunting technology. Supported by a friend, he returned to the shooting range and began learning how to safely line up a shot using shoulder taps and directional guidance from his buddy.



You Tube



## “DON'T LOSE YOUR VISION” CONTINUED

On October 14, 2017, he returned to the woods for his first hunt since the accident.

“I cried tears of joy,” he said.

After hunting every Saturday that season, Michael harvested his first deer on December 22, 2017.

Today, Michael is a highly successful turkey and deer hunter who uses AccuFire Technology scopes with the assistance of a spotter. He ties his own fishing knots, hunts regularly, and recently began exploring saltwater fishing after moving to Flagler County to be closer to an eye specialist in Miami, where he has been receiving treatment since 2014.

Surf fishing is Michael's newest challenge. After repeatedly seeing posts from [Fishbites](#) on Facebook, he reached out and connected with Brett Burford, who personally called Michael and invited him out for his first surf fishing experience. Michael received his first surf rod for Christmas and landed his first pompano just one month ago.

“The biggest challenge is balance in the sand while casting,” he said with a laugh.

Technology also helps Michael navigate daily life outdoors. He uses Meta smart glasses that can take photos and verbally describe what is in front of him, helping him stay connected to the experiences many people take for granted.

Wanting to help others facing vision loss, Michael founded [Blind Outdoor Adventures](#), a Facebook group dedicated to encouraging blind and visually impaired people to continue hunting, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors.

“I originally thought blind people couldn't do things anymore,” Michael said. “Now I want others to know they can still live a full life.”

His mission also focuses on helping older individuals who lose their vision later in life regain confidence and independence outdoors.

Michael has also recently added songwriter to his long list of accomplishments. Using AI tools and assistance from another blind friend, he wrote a song called “Don't Lose Your Vision,” inspired by the lessons his father and grandfather taught him growing up.



You Tube



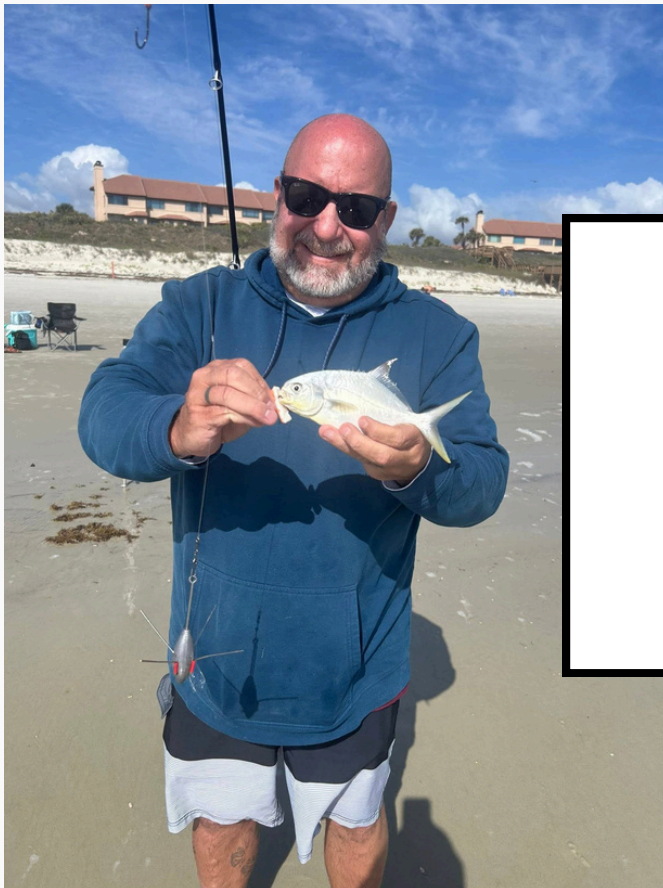
**“DON’T LOSE YOUR VISION” CONTINUED**

In addition to his outdoor advocacy, Michael returned to school in 2024 and became a certified massage therapist.

Michael and his wife Tobie recently made the move to Flagler County, where he is excited to continue learning Florida fishing and becoming part of the local outdoor community through the Flagler Sportfishing Club.

Michael’s story is a reminder that even in life’s darkest moments, you don’t have to lose the things that make you who you are. As the title of his song says, “Don’t Lose Your Vision” — because vision is about far more than eyesight. It’s about purpose, passion, and learning to “harvest from the shadows.”

Those interested in learning more or helping encourage others with visual impairments to reconnect with the outdoors are invited to join and share Michael’s Facebook group, [Blind Outdoor Adventures](#).



**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN REPORT BY CLIFF WAY**

Cliff Way  
[fsfctourdir@gmail.com](mailto:fsfctourdir@gmail.com)

June is already here, and we have only five free club tournaments remaining this year. If you haven't participated in one yet, now is the perfect time to join us.

In case you missed it, our Surf Tournament took place on May 23rd. Members enjoyed a wonderful lunch and beautiful views at the Betty Steflik Preserve; please see the Tournament Report in this issue for more details.

Our next event is the Team Tournament on June 20th. This is a two-person team event and a great opportunity to fish with your significant other. As with most of our tournaments, this will feature a prize for the longest legal fish in the Catch, Photo, and Release category. Additional information can be found on the flyer included in this issue.

The annual Catch, Photo, & Release tournament is also in full swing. So far, 18 members have released over 168 legal fish across 12 different species. Get your club bump board and start entering your catches for a chance to win prizes at the end of the year. You only need to upload one fish to qualify for the prize drawings, and every five fish thereafter earns you additional entries.

Please visit our website to view all upcoming events and to sign up for tournaments:  
<https://flaglersportfishing.com/>

Finally, I want to thank all the volunteers who make these magnificent events possible. We are still looking for helpers to arrange and serve food for the Overnight Tournament on August 15, 2026, and the Red, White, and Blue Tournament on November 21, 2026. We also need assistance with setup and teardown for these events.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

Cliff Way  
[fsfctourdir@gmail.com](mailto:fsfctourdir@gmail.com)



**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN REPORT CONTINUED**

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Thank you to everyone who volunteers. We are currently seeking Tournament Chairs for the following events:

- Overnight Tournament: weigh-in the morning of Saturday, August 15th
- Red, White & Blue Tournament: Saturday, November 21st

The primary responsibility for a Tournament Chair is coordinating food service. If you can help, please sign up or contact me directly.

Cliff Way  
 561-358-0891  
 fsfctourdir@gmail.com



**FLAGLER SPORTFISHING CLUB**

## Monthly Meeting Thursday June 4th, 2026

**Public  
Welcome!**

**7:00pm Quick Tips / Swap & Shop**

**7:30pm General Meeting & Officers Installed**

**7:45pm Break**

**8:00pm Guest Speaker:**  
TBA

**Meeting Location:**  
 Club 51/Social Club  
 51 Old Kings Rd. N  
 Palm Coast, FL 32137

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**Thank you, Sponsors!**



**BOTTOM TRIP RECAP BY TIM MILLER**

The Club Bottom Trip aboard the 65' Sea Spirit out of Ponce Inlet took place on May 16, 2026. After a two-hour ride offshore, anglers arrived at the first reef approximately 21 miles out in search of some great bottom fishing action.

The crew and anglers were greeted with sunny skies and choppy seas, making for a rough ride throughout much of the day. Despite the conditions, the captain worked hard, making multiple moves between reefs to stay on active fish and keep rods bent. The captain and crew were friendly, helpful, and worked nonstop to make sure everyone had a great experience on the water.

The day's catch included Vermilion Snapper, Mangrove Snapper, Lane Snapper, Red Snapper, Triggerfish, Porgy, Grouper, along with what seemed like a boatload of Grunts keeping anglers busy between keeper fish.

When the scales settled, Cliff Way took 1st Place with a 2 lb. 3 oz. Triggerfish. Tim Miller earned 2nd Place with a 1 lb. 11 oz. Mangrove Snapper, while Mark Skelly claimed 3rd Place with a 1 lb. 10 oz. Mangrove Snapper.

Even with the rough seas, the trip delivered plenty of action, good company, and another memorable day offshore for the club.



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**MEMBER SURF TOURNAMENT RECAP BY CLIFF WAY**

## SURF TOURNAMENT RECAP BY CLIFF WAY

The Flagler Sportfishing Club's Surf Tournament took place on May 23rd, with the weigh-in held at the Betty Steflik Preserve. While it was a beautiful day on the beach, heavy seaweed made fishing conditions challenging. Despite this, club members persevered and filled nearly all prize categories. The prize money for the vacant CPR and Junior Angler categories will roll into the Reel of Fortune.

We had a great turnout, with over 50 registered anglers and 52 attendees at the weigh-in. Everyone enjoyed the lunch of hot dogs, beans, chips, and cookies while taking in the scenery at the preserve. Please refer to the Weighmaster's report for the full list of winners. After lunch, we got down to business with the raffle drawings, followed by the 50/50 and Show-Up Prize.

Here are the lucky winners:

## Raffle Prizes:

Penn Battle Surf Rod & Reel – Sheila Sinotte

Frabill Bait Cooler, Braid Scissors & Hookout – Sheila Sinotte

50/50 Winner: Cookie Zimmer – \$68.00

Show-Up Prize: Kayt Parry – \$20.00 gift certificate from Houligan's

A huge thank you goes out to our volunteers who made the day run smoothly: Abi Lugo for prepping and serving food, Tom Wood, Mike Vickers Jr., Mark Heffley, Cookie Zimmer, Monica Sosa for photography, and the usual Board Member Crew of Carol Carter, Bill Zimmer and Scott Robertson.



YouTube



**MEMBER SURF TOURNAMENT WINNERS**



Surf Tournament		23-May-26
	NAME	WEIGHT
<b>Heaviest Fish</b>		
1st. Place	Karen Dougherty	1lb. 7oz. Bluefish
2nd. Place	Andy Petersen	1lb. 7oz. Black Drum
3rd. Place	Mike Vickers Jr.	1lb. 6oz. Whiting
4th. Place	Andy Block	0lb. 9oz. Whiting
<b>Most Species</b>		
1st. Place	Tim Miller	2 - Sheephead & Whiting
2nd. Place	Francis Dougherty	1 - Whiting
3rd. Place	Bill Zimmer	1 - Pompano
4th. Place	Cookie Zimmer	1 - Whiting

**MORE PICTURES  
ON FACEBOOK!**



**SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS: AVID ANGLER****Premium Fishing Gear Backed by Local Expertise**

For nearly 30 years, Avid Angler has been a trusted name in the Northeast Florida fishing community. Located in St. Augustine, the family-owned shop has built its reputation on local knowledge, quality gear, and customer service that keeps anglers coming back season after season.

Founded in 1995 by Tommy Vaughan and family, Avid Angler is much more than a bait and tackle store. The shop carries a wide selection of rods, reels, tackle, apparel, hunting supplies, and live and frozen bait for inshore, offshore, surf, and freshwater fishing. From weekend anglers to serious fishermen, customers know they can walk in and get honest advice based on real local experience.

That local knowledge is one of the things that truly sets Avid Angler apart. The staff stays dialed into current fishing conditions and enjoys helping anglers choose the right bait, tackle, and techniques for what's biting around Northeast Florida.

Avid Angler is also recognized as a Gold Label Shimano Dealer and carries many of the top brands in the fishing industry, including Shimano, Penn, Daiwa, St. Croix, Berkley, Star Rods, Nomad, and more. In addition to tackle and bait, the shop also offers reel repair services and fly-tying classes.

The store has become a true part of the local fishing culture, regularly sharing fishing reports, customer catches, new gear, and fishing tips through their active Facebook page and community involvement.

For Flagler Sportfishing Club members heading toward St. Augustine, Avid Angler is well worth the stop whether you need fresh bait, a new setup, or simply some local insight before heading out on the water.

Avid Angler is located at 2101 North Ponce De Leon Boulevard in St. Augustine. Learn more at [avidanglerinc.com](http://avidanglerinc.com) or follow [Avid Angler on Facebook](#).



**FISHING REPORT BY CHRIS CREGO****Inshore Fishing Report – Palm Coast / Flagler County Area with Chris from Skinny Water Lures**

May fishing throughout Palm Coast and the greater Flagler County area was nothing short of outstanding. As water temperatures climbed and larger schools of bait began flooding the creeks, flats, and backwater systems, the inshore bite turned on strong across the region. Redfish, trout, snook, and flounder all provided steady action throughout the month, with anglers finding success along the Intracoastal Waterway, creek mouths, oyster bars, residential canals, and shallow grass flats. The combination of warming water, active bait movement, and longer feeding windows made May one of the most productive months so far this year.

**Understanding the Late Spring Pattern**

May marked the transition into a more aggressive summer feeding pattern. Finger mullet, shrimp, and smaller baitfish became increasingly active throughout the system, pulling predator fish shallow during moving tides and low-light periods. Early mornings and evening tide changes produced the best action, especially around creek drains, oyster edges, and shallow flats with active bait presence. Fish were far more willing to push shallow this month compared to spring, and many areas held consistent feeding activity throughout the day during stable weather conditions. As we move into June, expect bait schools to continue increasing while predator fish feed even more aggressively around current seams, structure, and shoreline ambush points.

**Redfish**

The redfish bite was one of the highlights of the month. Slot-sized reds were actively cruising shallow flats and feeding aggressively around mullet schools during moving tides. 3-inch and 4-inch Skinny Water Lures paddle tails in natural colors like Smoked Mullet, Purple Haze, and Texas-T produced excellent results throughout May. Anglers targeting oyster edges, creek mouths, and shallow grass flats saw consistent hookups, especially during outgoing tides and early morning conditions. Redfish were also heavily keyed in on live finger mullet fished near shoreline structure and current seams.

**FISHING REPORT CONTINUED****Trout**

Speckled trout fishing remained steady all month long, particularly during low-light conditions and outgoing tides. Trout stacked up over grass flats, drop-offs, and creek intersections where bait concentrations were highest.

Smaller Skinny Water Lures paddle tails and twitch baits worked exceptionally well when retrieved slowly with occasional pauses. Live shrimp under popping corks also continued producing solid numbers of fish throughout the month.

As water temperatures continue warming into June, expect trout to remain active early and late in the day while pushing slightly deeper during the hottest afternoon periods.

**Snook**

Snook activity increased significantly throughout May as warmer water temperatures pushed fish farther into residential canals, creek systems, and dock lines.

Live mullet and live shrimp under popping corks produced quality fish during evening tide changes and around moving current. Artificial anglers also found success throwing paddle tails tight to docks, mangroves, seawalls, and current lines.

Many of the better snook bites occurred during lower light periods when fish became more aggressive around shoreline ambush points.

**Live Bait Report**

Live bait played a major role throughout May. Finger mullet, mud minnows, and live shrimp all produced depending on conditions and target species.

Finger mullet fished near docks, creek mouths, and oyster bars consistently attracted redfish and snook, while live shrimp under popping corks kept trout rods bent throughout the month.

As bait schools continue growing into June, live bait should remain one of the strongest options for anglers targeting larger fish.

**Best Areas**

- Creek mouths along the Intracoastal
- Oyster bars during outgoing tides
- Shallow grass flats during early mornings
- Residential dock systems and canal edges
- Matanzas River shorelines and feeder creeks

**FISHING REPORT CONTINUED****Best Techniques**

- Slow-rolling paddle tails near bottom structure
- Twitch bait retrieves with long pauses
- Popping cork rigs with live shrimp
- Free-lining finger mullet near current seams

**What to Expect in June 2026**

June should continue the strong inshore pattern seen throughout May.

- Larger schools of bait will continue moving into the system
- Feeding windows should expand during early mornings and evenings
- Snook activity should continue increasing in creeks and canals
- Redfish and trout will remain active around moving tides and structure
- Warmer water temperatures may push fish slightly deeper during midday heat

Anglers should continue focusing on moving water, active bait presence, and low-light conditions for the most consistent action.

**Key May Takeaways**

- Bait movement triggered aggressive feeding activity
- Outgoing tides remained highly productive
- Paddle tails in natural colors produced consistently
- Live shrimp and finger mullet remained top live bait choices
- Creek mouths, flats, and shoreline structure all held quality fish

May delivered excellent inshore fishing throughout Palm Coast and Flagler County, with quality fish being caught daily across a variety of locations and techniques. As we move deeper into summer, expect the bite to remain strong with larger bait schools and increasingly aggressive predator fish throughout the system.

Whether you're throwing tournament-proven Skinny Water Lures or soaking live bait around structure, now is the time to get on the water and chase that next trophy fish.

WEIGHMASTER REPORT BY BILL ZIMMER

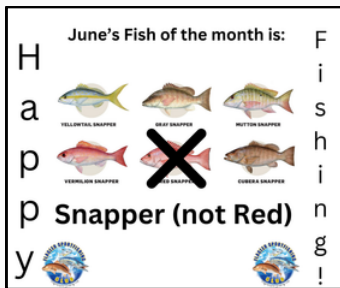


Bill Zimmer

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June's Fish of the Month is Snapper (not Red)



**\*\*NOTICE** - The overall species Leaders and Full Point Standings are updated at the end of each month on the club website: [flaglersportfishing.com](http://flaglersportfishing.com) Then under Fishing click on YearLong Club Standings.

Since there were no Amberjack reported in May, we do not have a fish of the month winner. The good news is that this money will be included in the Reel of Fortune at the June meeting. The fish of the month for June is Snapper (not Red). Some nice Mangrove Snapper have been caught lately!

We've had numerous Year Long entries this past month and the competition is heating up. Points are given for the first 6 places in each species category and standings can easily be checked on the Flagler Sportfishing Website. If you need help in your search, please let one of the club officers know and we will walk you through it.

Tournament Check-In Procedures: Just as a reminder, if you have a fish to weigh in for our tournaments, please be sure to check in with the Weighmaster when you first arrive and then see Carol to register your attendance. If you come early to the weigh-in, you can place your fish bag at the weigh-in area and check in with the Weighmaster at that time. If you have a live fish in the live well, check in as soon as you arrive so you will be placed in line for your weigh-in. You will need to stay in the area close enough to hear your name called when it is time to weigh your fish.

Fish brought to the tournament weigh-ins are required to be measured on the official club bump board before being weighed. Please take your fish to the bump board at the weigh table before putting it on the scale. If you weigh in a fish at a club tournament, I will enter the data in the Yearlong Tournament. There is no need to take the fish to a weigh station.

**Important reminder:**  
The rules for each tournament are clearly stated on the flyer published for that tournament. PLEASE READ THE RULES. There will be no exceptions to the rules.

All fish must comply with FWC rules. Fish weighed in for our club tournaments must be caught in St. Johns, Flagler, and Volusia counties. Fish being photographed and released for CPR entry must be caught in state of Florida waters.



**WEIGH MASTER REPORT CONTINUED**

Official bump boards available to buy for \$20 at any of our club meetings. They are also available (cash only) at Hammock Bait & Tackle. If you have a different brand of bump board, please see me to approve the accuracy and obtain a Flagler Sportfishing Club sticker to place on your bump board.

For our CPR Competition, all Year Long fish species (including Whiting in 2026 that are at least 14 inches in length) are eligible and just one CPR submission gets you into the CPR drawing at the end of the year. One additional ticket into the drawing is obtained for each 5 additional submissions so the more photos you submit, the better your chances of winning a great prize.

CPR photos must be caught in State of Florida waters and meet FWC requirements including in season, length, and proper measuring method. Please check FWC rules to make sure you are measuring properly (i.e. nose to tail, pinch the tail, nose to fork etc). Photos not meeting FWC requirements will be deleted.

Please note that for the species Yearlong Tournament, if your fish is not heavier than the 6th place fish for that particular species in the Men's or Ladies' standings, there is no need to weigh-in the fish. Points are only given for places 1 through 6.

NOTICE - The overall species Leaders and Full Point Standings are updated at the end of each month on our website: <https://flaglersportfishing.com/>

Then under 'Fishing' click on 'YearLong Club Standings'.

Thanks for everyone's support, and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Bill Zimmer - Weighmaster - (850) 728-1937    bzgolf@pga.com



YouTube

**MAY MEETING MINUTES BY CAROL CARTER, SECRETARY**

**Club Meeting Minutes 05-07-2026**

**No Quick Tips tonight.**

**Meeting held at Social Club 51**

**Pledge of Allegiance-Pat Laurienti**

**Meeting called to order by President, Mike Vickers, Jr. at 7:30 PM**



**First Responders/Veterans/Active Duty Recognized**

**Welcome New Members/Visitors/Welcome Annual Sponsors – Erica Vickers – Hammock Bait & Tackle, the Riano Family - PC Boat Rental, Dana Syens – CCI and Greg Kucharewski – Play Hook-e Go Fishing**

**We have 7 guests tonight.**

**Approval of 04-02-2026 Minutes** – Motion was made by Tim Beebe and seconded by Rick Chapman. Minutes were accepted and approved.

**50/50 (Pat and Reel of Fortune \$718.00 (Becca)** – Make sure to see Pat to get your 50/50 tickets and Becca, pay her your dollar to get entered into the Reel of Fortune game – Pot starts tonight at \$718.00 and every entry will build it up to be bigger winnings!

**Membership Director** – Becca Price said we have 134 members.

**Treasurer Report** – Scott Peterson said that Sherry, our bookkeeper, is working on our data. Everything is great and there are no problems! Sponsor activity was strong, spent a lot of money also.

**Marketing Director** – Dena Laurienti said, many of the past sponsors have renewed and we now have Texas Roadhouse on board. She also said that this year Texas Roadhouse will sponsor the food for the Classic Trnmt.

**Youth Programs Director** – This position is still Unfilled. If you would like to take this position talk to or email Mike Vickers, Jr. to discuss it-Email is [fsfcpres@gmail.com](mailto:fsfcpres@gmail.com).

**MAY MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED**

**Weighmaster Report** – Bill Zimmer said the FOM for April was a Florida Pompano– winner was Monica Sosa, she received a \$50.00 gift card from Hammock Bait & Tackle. The FOM for May is Amberjack. Bill said to make sure you bring your fish to the participating weigh stations and have them weigh it. Spanish Mackerel are showing up now. Pinch the tails on the Reds when measuring them.

**Tournament Director** – Cliff Way said the Member Classic Trnmt. had a high payout of \$1800.00, all species slots were filled, it was a nice fishing day, lunch was sandwich platters and cookies. The Surf Trnmt. will be on May 23rd weigh in at Betty Steflik Pavillion, Cliff will be the Chairman on this event. Total payout amount will be \$700.00. Tim Miller will be discussing the Bottom Trip and Cliff Way, the Surf Trnmt. later in the meeting. 18 members have entered 149 entries in the CPR Trnmt. Need help for the upcoming trnmts. and for transportation of the food to the trnmts. The Surf trnmt. food might be pizza & pasta with cookies from Costco. Sign up sheets are in the back.

**Quartermaster Report** – Ray McCall said bump boards can be purchased from him or at Hammock Bait Shop, they are \$20.00, Hammock only takes cash for them.

**Old Business**

**Elections** – Mike Vickers, Jr. got 3 nominations for President and there were no other nominations. He has accepted the position and will stay on. There were no nominations for Vice President – this office is still vacant.

**Kids Fishing Tournament, June 06, Bings – Jr. Place Holder****Spring (now the Fall) Classic** – Sept. 18 & 19th

Sept. 18th will be the Captain's meeting to be held at the Social Club 51, fishing will be on Sept. 19th, weigh in at Herschel King. Flyer will be in an upcoming Chum Line. Dena & Pat Laurienti will be co-chairs on this event. Weigh-in will be at Herschel King Park from 3-4 PM. Fish by boat or kayak. If there are 100 people signed up, there will be a guaranteed \$1,000.00 cash prize for 1st place. Food will be pulled pork from Texas Roadhouse. Dena is collecting items for the silent auction and raffle prizes, if you have any donations, contact her.

**Members Classic Recap** – Cliff Way said this event was held on 04/11 and for this trnmt. you could win more than one place. Johnny Johns won 1st & 2nd place. Cliff thanked Tom Wood, Carol Carter, Cliff Germano and all the other volunteers that helped that day.

**MAY MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED**

**Bottom Trip** - Tim Miller said this event will be on May 16th at Ponce Inlet. Flyer is in the May Chum Line. See him to sign up tonight, \$100.00 entry fee for members. The FOM is Amberjack and you have a good chance to catch one. The back of the boat is reserved for the club.

**Members Youth Angler Clinic 5/02** - Becca said this event drew 5 kids, it was a hit with the kids and parents that attended.

**Upcoming /New Business**

**Public Kid's Clinic** - Becca said this clinic will be held on May 09 at Herschel King Park - Flyer will be in the May Chum Line. This will be our first Public Clinic for the kids. See her to sign up. We will need people at the stations that will be set up, need help with kids fishing on the dock, Clinic is 9-12, Vol. should be there at 8:30 AM to help set up and get ready. Kevin Clymer will have a special gift for the mothers.

**Red Snapper EFP** - Mike Jr. said this year, Red Snapper will be open to fishing for 39 days - we fought for this! The state submitted in EFP and NOAA granted it. May 22-June 20, and 3 weekends in Oct. - Oct. 2-4, Oct. 9-11, and Oct. 16-18, you can keep 1 per day - aggregate if you catch a red snapper, you can only catch one red snapper in a group of 10 with other fish. In the state of Florida, bottom fishing/reef fishing, you need a reef fishing permit - it is free. If you target bottom fish, fill out the survey they will send you. NOAA's science is wrong and their information is wrong. FWC has a new APP for red snapper, you have to report your landings or catches through this APP. One red snapper within 10 fish. No minimum size limit.

**Tournament Rules** - Mike Jr. said our monthly tournament rules are on the flyers. If you have guests, they must fish with a member, in the same boat.

**Surf Tournament** - Cliff Way said he has some nice prizes for this event, a Penn Battle rod & reel with a value of \$250.00, a live bait aerator & dehooker. May 23rd is the date, fishing starts at 7 AM, weigh-in 2-3 PM at Betty Stefluk Preserve.

**June Member Meeting Swap & Shop** - Mike Jr. reminded us about the Swap & Shop on June 4th at the Member Meeting.

**BREAK****Guest Speaker - Roy Mattson - Roy's Surf Fishing Guide Service**

Roy said now was a perfect time to surf fish, there are a lot of bluefish. Cut up mullet for blues, they also will go after sand fleas and crab knuckles. In the Spring/Summer flounder are running. Use a ¼ oz jig head with a light line, short rod and cast down wind to the south, count to 10 before you set the hook.

**MAY MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED**

Flounder get big and fat when they come back out of the river. Pompano are on the move, find a sandbar when it is calm and set up by the run out. Pompano caught on a lower tide in Volusia Co., move the rod from the right down to the left. This also applies to the pier. FWC has plain clothes people on the beach to catch undersize fish like Pompano from being taken. Whiting run early morning and late afternoon. When the water is calm, sting rays come in. At night, Pompano don't flop, they act like silver flounders. He said he may hold a Surf Fishing Trnmt. in the Fall and has requested a big restaurant with liquor and beer in a good location. He uses a Banana Rig to catch Pompano, that he hand ties. He has boxes of floats in different colors. Hammock Bait & Tackle and High Bridge are the only places to buy his rigs. He wants to rename his rig, The Lazy Man Rig, because it catches the fish on the corner of its mouth. His favorite place is Matanzas Inlet, the beach ramp will be open to drive right on the beach on May 20th. Summer Haven Bridge, so South from it on the east side, park and walk your cart through 2 or 3 houses on the south side, lots of nice fish there. He does not use braided line, uses 20-25 lb fluorocarbon line and 12 lb. Bass Pro monofilament. He changes his reel lines every 10 days, bright orange or yellow line is good. Around Thanksgiving or Christmas it gets foggy, he likes to fish in the fog. One morning he got 140 Pompano. Back in the day, he would drive to Matanzas and get nice flounder like a 9 lb. one. He is a commercial fisherman. To use crabs for bait, break the back, take the legs off, run the hook into the body between the knuckles. You can use frozen crabs but he prefers fresh. Find the Fall runout, ask a lifeguard where the bad runoffs are, the sandbar is calm, then rough in the middle and another sandbar and that rough spot is the runout. If there is a strong side current, you still want to be in the runout. If you are fishing for Pompano, look at the beach and if you see periwinkle shells, don't fish in that area. Roy brought prizes in to raffle off – a Spudnick sinker, a banana rig, pack of fish bites and a measuring tape. Thanks, Roy!

*Prize winners were:*

*Joy Spevak, Cliff Germano, Tim Miller, Ron Wiese -Sportsman Wholesale (one of Roy's sponsors), Greg Kucharewski, George Riano, Erica Vickers, Jake Buksar, Karen Dougherty, Tim Beebe, Sheila Sinotte & Bill Pleskach.*

**50/50 Winner of \$105.00 was Nick Sinotte. Congrats!**

**Reel of Fortune Winner – Brian Dobis was absent from the meeting and not present to win the drawing, the amount of \$596.00 will go back into the pot. At the June 4th meeting, get into the drawing and you could be a winner! A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN BY Sheila Sinotte and seconded by Nick Sinotte. MOTION WAS APPROVED.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM .**

**Minutes submitted by Carol Carter, Secretary, Flagler Sportfishing Club**

CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT FLYER



# CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT

Saturday, June 20th, 2026

Species: Flounder, Redfish, Bluefish, Pompano  
Spotted Sea Trout (15-19")

50/50  
&  
Raffles

Bigger  
Cash  
Prizes!

**MOST ELIGIBLE FISH  
WEIGHED IN, ONE OF EACH  
SPECIES PER TEAM.**

- 1st PLACE \$200
- 2nd PLACE \$150
- 3rd PLACE \$120
- 4th PLACE \$80

**CPR LONGEST FISH - \$150**  
\*ALL ELIGIBLE SPECIES\*

**TIE-BREAKER:** 1ST PHOTO SHOWN  
SHOW PHOTO OF RELEASED LEGAL  
ELIGIBLE FISH ON CLUB APPROVED  
BUMP BOARD AT WEIGH-IN. CPR  
PHOTO

**MUST INCLUDE TIME STAMP.**

**Show Up Drawing -  
\$25 gift card  
Win by just SHOWING UP!**



## EVENT RULES

Fishing Starts 6:00AM - FWC Rules Apply—Participants may fish anywhere in Flagler, Volusia, or St. Johns Counties.

- One cash prize per team including bonus.
- Each team must consist of 2 anglers.
- Team members must fish together in the same boat or within the same vicinity if surf or kayak fishing.
- Both Team Members must weigh-in their catch as a TEAM.
- Junior Anglers (under 16) fish free with a Member.
- Free to members, non member guests are welcome with a donation of \$20 & must fish with a member.

Lunch starts at 2pm. Free for 1 non-member with a member, \$10 donation for additional non-members

**Sign-up:** Members may attend the weigh-in whether or not they plan to fish. Total count needed for food.

Sign up at [www.flaglersportfishing.com](http://www.flaglersportfishing.com) or at the June 4th club meeting. For more info, contact Dean Turner at [dtbamboo@gmail.com](mailto:dtbamboo@gmail.com)



**Weigh-In  
2pm - 3pm (TEAM)  
Herschel King Park**

Click Here to Sign Up Now

FALL CLASSIC TOURNAMENT FLYER

Flagler Sportfishing Club

30th Annual Fall Classic Tournament September 19th, 2026

Benefitting: DAV Disabled American Veterans

Over \$5000\* in CASH PRIZES

Guaranteed \$1000 1st Prize each species!

Silent Auction, Registration, & Raffles: Open to the Public! Friday, September 18th, 2026 @ 5:30pm (Prior to Captain's Meeting) Social Club of Palm Coast, 51 Old Kings Rd N
Mandatory Capt. Meeting: September 18th, 7:00pm, Social Club of Palm Coast, 51 Old Kings Rd N
Tournament Check-Out: Saturday, September 19th 6am - 7am, Shotgun Start: 7am
Check-Out Locations: Bing's Landing, under 100 bridge, High Bridge, Herschel King Park
Weigh-In Time: Saturday, September 19th 3:00pm - 4:00pm, Herschel King Park, 1000 Grady Prather Jr Cove, Palm Coast, FL 32137

Entry Fee: \$100 per Angler, includes 1 food ticket

Late Entry after September 1st \$105

Fish by boat or kayak!

1st 100 paid anglers receive tournament shirt!

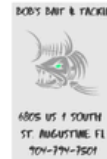
Junior Anglers Under 12: Free with paid angler. Not eligible for cash prizes



Commercial Coverage, INC YOUR TRUSTED FULL SERVICE AGENCY



Species Tournament Trout (19"max), Redfish, Flounder Cash Prizes per Species 1st - \$1000 CASH Guaranteed 2nd - \$450 \*based on 100 paid anglers 3rd - \$350 \*based on 100 paid anglers



For more info contact:

Pat Laurienti: 720-585-5988

fsfcsaa@gmail.com

or Cliff Way: fsfctourdir@gmail.com

561-358-0891

Entry forms available: flaglersportfishingclub.com

Deadline to register is September 18th (Capt. Meeting)

Fish may be brought to weigh-in by car or boat.

Please, no outside alcoholic beverages permitted on Social Club's premise



## Quick Tips for FSC

- **The Chum Line** newsletter is delivered to your inbox each month to inform you of all Club activities.
- Visit the **Club website** for valuable up to the minute information on all activities that the club has to offer.
- Connect to other Club Members on our **Facebook page** and **Instagram page**.
- The Club provides Quick Tips Videos on **YouTube** to help introduce our members to the various types of fishing that is available in the area.
- Electronic communications come out every month called the "Fishing Line" with the upcoming events for the Club.
- A monthly meeting is held at the **Club 51/ Social Club on the 1st Thursday** of every month with excellent speakers to improve your fishing knowledge and techniques.
- You can attend wonderful social events like ice cream socials, chili cook-offs, family picnics, holiday parties and so much more.
- You can participate in 10 free fishing tournaments, plus two for-fee charity event during the year as well as Free Kids' Clinic, Free Members' Clinics, Offshore Fishing Trips & more.
- FSC takes pride in community through FSC's gifting commitment to Veterans' organizations, UF's Whitney Laboratory, Coastal Conservation Association, and other diverse nonprofit organizations.
- You find the current calendar for 2026 **HERE**

Flagler Sportfishing Club  
 800 Belle Terre Pkwy  
 STE 200-128  
 Palm Coast, FL 32164

President - Cpt. Mike Vickers, Jr.  
 fsfcpres@gmail.com

Vice President - OPEN

Treasurer - Scott Robertson  
 fsfctres@gmail.com

Secretary - Carol Carter  
 fsfcsecy@gmail.com

Sergeant At Arms - Pat Laurienti  
 fsfcsaa@gmail.com

WeighMaster- Bill Zimmer  
 fsfcwmstr@gmail.com

Quarter Master - Ray McCall  
 fsfcquartermaster@gmail.com

Membership Director - Becca Price  
 fsfcmembership@gmail.com

Tournament Director -  
 Cliff Way fsfctourdir@gmail.com

Webmaster - Peter Bessette  
 hotrod1282@gmail.com

Marketing Director - Dena Laurienti  
 fsfcmktdir@gmail.com

Club Photographer - Becca Price

Social Media, Chum Line Editor - Erin Yates  
 erinstaugustine@gmail.com

Youth Programs Director- OPEN



UPCOMING EVENTS

FLAGLER SPORTFISHING CLUB SCHEDULE OF EVENTS JUNE 2026 - AUGUST 2026

JUNE

Snapper (NOT RED)

04- Member Meeting, Officers Installed, Swap & Shop - Club 51 / Social Club of Palm Coast

06- Public Kids' Tournament, Bing's North



20-Team Tournament, Herschel King

25 - Directors Meeting, DAV 7:00pm

JULY

Flounder

02- Member Meeting, Ice Cream Social- Club 51 / Social Club of Palm Coast

15- Flounder Tournament, Bing's North (Wednesday)

30 - Directors Meeting, DAV 7:00pm

August

Spotted Sea Trout

01- Member Kids' Clinic, Herschel King

06- Member Meeting- Club 51 / Social Club of Palm Coast

08- Local Brands Expo- Club 51 / Social Club of Palm Coast

14- Overnight Tournament Starts

15- Overnight Tournament Weigh-in, High Bridge

27 - Directors Meeting, DAV 7:00pm

