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**February 2023**

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## ***Jersey Coast Shark Anglers***

### **2022 Tournament Schedule**

5/21 - Bluefin Fever  
6/16 - 6/19 THRESHER FEVER  
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7/30-8/30 MONTH LONG FLUKE TOURNAMENT  
8/20 VETERANSTOURNAMENT  
9/10-9/11 ST. JUDE'S KIDS WITH CANCER  
11/19-11/20 FALL STRIPER TOURNAMENT

For information go to [www.jcsa.org](http://www.jcsa.org)

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### **2022 Tournament Schedule**

**White Perch Tournament April 16**

**Ladies Catch of the Day July 9**

**Tuna Tournament July 16**

**Annual Tournament (Fluke) August 20-21**

**Blackfish (Tog) Tournament Nov. 26-27**

**Mark Your Calendar**

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### **A Saltwater Anglers Club**

*New Members Welcome*  
Go to [www.FISHHAWKS.NJ.com](http://www.FISHHAWKS.NJ.com)

Meetings are at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday of the month  
at the Lacey Elks, Forked River, NJ



### **New Jersey Beach Buggy Association**

P. O. Box 511, Seaside Park, NJ 08752

Membership Info: Ken Hollins 732-814-7021

[www.NJBBA.org](http://www.NJBBA.org)

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### **Raritan Bay Anglers Club**

**PO Box 546**

**Perth Amboy, NJ 08862-0546**

**Membership Info: Don Beyer 908-494-0980**

[www.raritanbayanglersfishingclub.com](http://www.raritanbayanglersfishingclub.com)

# JCAA NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2023

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on January 30, 2023)

## Monthly Meeting Via Zoom Meeting Until Further Notice "WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

### **JCAA REGULAR MEETING**

**February 28th, 2023 via Zoom Meeting**

**Starting at 7:30 PM**

**NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, February 9th**

**Via Zoom Meeting**

### **OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.**

**1594 Lakewood Road (Rt. 9), Victoria Plaza Ste. 13  
Toms River, NJ 08755**

**Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975**

**JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote**

**JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi**

This publication is printed and mailed one week prior to each regular monthly meeting of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association. One of the prime goals of JCAA is to get accurate information into public hands as soon as possible.

Anyone wishing to reproduce any part of this newsletter has the permission of the JCAA and the authors. Wherever possible, please credit the JCAA Newsletter as your information source.

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**JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
~~~~~

### **2022 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Mark Taylor	732-245-9445
<b>1<sup>st</sup> V.P.</b>	Greg Kucharewski	732-429-9637
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.</b>	Don Marantz	908-347-1434
<b>Treasurer</b>	Doug Tegeder	732-575-2661
<b>Rec. Sec.</b>		
<b>Cors. Sec.</b>		
<b>Mem. Sec.</b>	John Toth	732-656-0139
<b>Tournament Dir.</b>		

**Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

**February 9<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting**

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

**March 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Atlantic City Boat Show**

**March 9<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting**

**March 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Saltwater Expo**

**March 28<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

**May 21<sup>st</sup> Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament**

### **President's Report**

*By Mark Taylor*

The start of YR2023 is off and running. If you think this is going to be a quite smooth year, you're wrong. The month of January is coming to an end and there are a lot of meetings going on with NOAA, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, New Jersey Marine Fishers Council and the endless fishery advisors. They are working hard behind the scenes going through data to come up with our options for our recreational size, quota and seasons. We all need to keep our eyes and ears open so we can have input for our piece of the fishery. There will be other articles in this newsletter as well as others plus social media posts giving you the latest.

As February is about to start there have been many clubs holding flea markets in January and many more in February. If you are looking for great deals on all kinds of fishing gear you should attend them and support those clubs. In March there are two shows that JCAA will be having a booth; Atlantic City Boat Show which is March 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> and Saltwater Fishing Expo on March 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. You should attend these great shows because there is a lot of items you may be interested in. I am assigned to get volunteers to staff these booths. If you are willing to volunteer your time for JCAA in staffing these booths, contact me so I can

enter your name on the sheet. What I try to do is split the show day into two 4-hour shifts. I can be reached at [mtsport64@aol.com](mailto:mtsport64@aol.com) or 732-245-9445. This is one of the ways to reach anglers that don't belong to a club or have the latest information. We need to educate them. Remember to purchase your High Roller Raffle Tickets, we will be selling them at the shows as well.

Paul Haertel and committee put together the 2023 JCAA High Roller Raffle. Times are being tough on all of us, and the prices of things continue to rise. It is getting tougher to raise money for clubs, this association as well as others to continue to operate. We all need to dig deeper to help each other out if we want to have a future in fighting for what we love doing for recreational fishing. JCAA will be rolling out this fundraiser shortly and will have tickets at each of the shows we have a booth. For more information read Paul Haertel's article and contact us if you want to purchase a few tickets. Help support JCAA Fundraiser.

Membership Chairman John Toth has already started putting a schedule together to attend clubs and groups meetings to give a presentation for the coming year. John has done an outstanding job this past year reaching and attending their meetings. If you belong to a fishing club or group that currently does not belong to JCAA and wants to learn more about us, read John's article in this newsletter for more information. Please reach out to John Toth at 732-656-0139 or [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net).

If you want to get involved with JCAA contact me at [mtsport64@aol.com](mailto:mtsport64@aol.com) or 732-245-9445. We all need to get involved so the future of fishing as we know it will be gone.

## JCAA Newspaper Goes Digital

*By Tom Fote Publisher*

I started the JCAA Newspaper when I became Vice President of JCAA in 1988. I realized JCAA needed to do more than send out a postcard to the club representatives letting them know about an upcoming meeting. Remember, this was before cell phones, the internet and fax machines were available to everyone. I felt that we needed a communication vehicle to get word out in a timely fashion to our member clubs, the press, state and federal legislators, the governor's

office and departments that deal with our issues, the president and the federal agencies and the general public.

The newspaper grew over the years from 4 pages to 20. What has also grown is the cost of paper, postage and printing. Even with donations we couldn't cover the cost. The \$25 dollars a year from associate members didn't pay for their copies. Our other fundraisers had to fund the cost of the newspaper. We made that commitment because we thought the information was vitally important. We have always verified all the information we printed, making our newspaper trusted by our readers. When there were outdoor writers, they would often just copy our articles since they knew they could rely on our research. Our members were gathering much of this information by attending the Councils and the ASMFC state meetings, which created an additional cost. We didn't pay people to go but we tried to pay their expenses. The last ten years have been difficult financially. The Fluke Tournament is no longer a huge fundraiser. In fact, we barely broke even the last few years. We have been running in the red for the last four years and have been using our reserve. Since the newspaper is one of the most expensive parts of our operation, we need to go digital to preserve the newspaper and still save money.

There are advantages to going digital. We can increase the number of pages without worrying about printing and mailing. This will allow us to include more information. The sponsors to our Fluke Tournament will have access to the newspaper to talk about their products. We can list our donors and all of our associate members. Since we are an organization of clubs, we can help our clubs spread the word about their issues and events by giving them space in the newspaper.

If we have your email address in our database, you should now receive the newspaper via email. If you are not receiving the newspaper via email, you can go to the JCAA website ([jcaa.org](http://jcaa.org)) and hit the gold button that says "[subscribe](#)" and fill in the information. You will start getting an improved copy of the online newspaper and start receiving alerts. We do not share our database with anyone, including our sponsors. If at any time you want to stop receiving the newspaper by email and other JCAA emails, just hit unsubscribe on the email and you will be removed from the list automatically. While visiting the site to sign up, please support JCAA by hitting the other gold button – "[DONATE](#)."



# Fisheries Management Legislative Report

*By Tom Fote*

## Upcoming Fisheries Decisions

By the time you get this newspaper, the ASMFC will be meeting. You can find the agenda at [this link](#). I hope we have better decisions made at this meeting than the disastrous decisions regarding summer flounder, scup and black sea bass at the joint meeting. That information was included in last month's newspaper and you need to read it. There will be some interesting decisions made by the NJ Marine Fisheries Management Council on how to implement new regulations on summer flounder for the upcoming summer flounder, scup and black sea bass for 2023. Because of the new process there will not be as many options as in the past and it will be more complicated. At the next NJ Marine Fisheries Council meeting those options will be discussed. If you care about the seasons for next year, get involved, sign up as an advisor to NJMFC. JCAA will be sending alerts as we learn the different options. If you feel strongly you might want to attend the meeting in person instead of virtually making your voice heard.

## Windmills in the Press Again

The death of the whales in the New Jersey/New York area has been very concerning. This is an endangered species that we need to rebuild and precautions must be taken. JCAA is strongly behind the protection of the whales with all decisions based on the best available science. Because of the number of deaths, some NGOs who have an agenda to stop windmills are using the deaths to criticize and blame the windmills. It reminds when we were supposed to get Red Bird subway cars from New York for an artificial reef. There was no evidence that the asbestos in those cars which was non-friable and covered with epoxy would harm the fish. But they managed to hold up the process long enough that we lost the use of the cars. I see the same tactic using the whale deaths to stop the windmills. Honest questions about the impact of windmills and the impact on fishing are appropriate. We need to ask the hard questions and demand answers. What we don't need to do is use

false information to support any agenda. I have enclosed NOAA's fact sheet on whales and windmills.

## Opponents of Windmills Fail to Address Global Warming

What concerns me is that many of the discussions about windmills demand that no progress be made until every single question is answered. With climate change we don't have the luxury of time. I was on a MAFAC call on climate resiliency concerning fish populations.

We at JCAA have been testifying before Congress and NOAA about global warming and its impact on fish since the late 80's.

When there was a lack of cold ocean water in the mid-Atlantic region in 1988 and 1989, sand eel populations stopped reproducing. Any of us who were fishing in the 60's, 70's and mid 80's in New Jersey and New York saw unprecedented numbers of bluefish, the best in recorded history. There were large bluefish tournaments from Maine to North Carolina with hundreds of boats and beach buggies. During the migration from Maine south, the bluefish would gorge on sand eels off the New Jersey coast. Then the water got too cold in December and the bluefish migrated to North Carolina, they were breaking size records. To get big press you had to catch a blue fish over 30 pounds. That all stopped in 1990 when the sand eels disappeared. Similar to the red knots that need to feed on horseshoe crab eggs before they migrate north, blue fish need to feed on sand eels before they head south. Those same blue fish that weighted 30 ponds in 1989, after 1990 they migrated to North Carolina with big heads and skinny bodies. I asked Bruce Freeman, NJ Chief of the Bureau of Marine Fisheries, what happened and he said the water was too warm for the sand eels to reproduce and there was no recruitment. This is just one example of the impact of global warming.

We could also talk about lobsters. As the water warmed in the 90's they started having better reproduction. That was until the water reached a higher temperature and the recruitment stopped in the mid-Atlantic region. We at ASMFC recognized that we had no control over the collapse of the lobster stocks and the lobster fishermen had not caused the problem. Maine is now having the same problem now. The water warmed and the lobster stocks grew until the water warmed further and recruitment had stopped for five years. There were only 30 – 40 lobster boats permitted in New Jersey. In Maine

however there are thousands of lobster permits and the entire state economy will take a huge hit, hundred of millions of dollars.

The last example I will use today is surf clams. We had a thriving commercial industry in New Jersey for harvesting surf clams. This industry to harvest and process was worth over 200 million dollars. It was the most important commercial fishery in New Jersey. I have been fishing at Island Beach State Park since 1970. When the season would open in October and November I would see 12 or 13 boats working off Island Beach, just harvesting surf clams. On the beach in the summertime we could see the spats of the clams all over the beach. I learned the surf clams lived to be 150 – 250 years. Now there is no inshore fishery for surf clams in New Jersey. The water has warmed to where they have moved north and offshore. These are the canaries in the mine and fishermen have always recognized that global warming is a huge problem.

When we discuss how to create climate resilient fisheries, I am often at a loss. I can't put ice cubes in the water to make it colder. We can't bring the glaciers south since they are already melting at an escalating rate. Fisheries in 5 – 10 years will have to look much different than they do now. Your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren will not recognize these fisheries.

JCAA decided 20 years ago that we must support renewable energy as one way to deal with climate change. We also supported more efficient cars and more efficient motors for our boats. My question to those who oppose windmills, "What is your alternative?" Until they can tell me a more effective way to reduce greenhouse gasses, JCAA stands for renewable energy, including windmills.

Next month we will talk about environmental justice and the health emergency being created by climate change in our poorer neighborhoods.

## **NOAA FAQ Offshore Wind and Whales**

*NOAA: January 24, 2023*

*Frequently asked questions about interactions between offshore wind energy projects and whales on the East Coast*

**What does NOAA Fisheries do to minimize the impact of offshore wind development on whales?**

NOAA Fisheries is a science agency, and like our marine mammal stranding network partners, we value marine life and strive to conserve these species. We are dedicated to ensuring the nation's robust deployment of offshore wind energy is done in a manner that avoids and minimizes risks to protected resources, habitats, and managed fisheries. We are responsible for several [regulatory processes](#) that help reduce impacts to marine animals and their habitats from human activities, including during [offshore wind development](#).

### **Is U.S. offshore wind development linked to any whale deaths?**

No. At NOAA Fisheries, we work with our partners to analyze and understand the causes of death when we are able, following the science and data. At this point, there is no evidence to support speculation that noise resulting from wind development-related site characterization surveys could potentially cause mortality of whales. There are no specific links between recent large whale mortalities and currently ongoing surveys for offshore wind development. We will continue to gather data to help us determine the cause of death for these mortality events.

### **What is the cause of recent whale deaths off New York and New Jersey? Is it related to offshore wind development?**

No, it is not related to offshore wind development. Since January 2016, NOAA Fisheries has been monitoring an [Unusual Mortality Event for humpback whales](#) with elevated strandings along the entire East Coast. To date, there are 178 humpback whale mortalities included in the UME. Partial or full necropsy examinations were conducted on approximately half of the whales. Of the whales examined, about 40 percent had evidence of human interaction, either ship strike or entanglement. Vessel strikes and entanglement in fishing gear are the greatest human threats to large whales.

### **Why are there currently a high number of large whales in the waters off New Jersey? Is it related to offshore wind?**

As the humpback whale population has grown, they are seen more often in the Mid-Atlantic. Along the New Jersey shore, these whales may be following their prey (small fish) which are reportedly close to shore this winter. These prey also attract fish that are

of interest to recreational and commercial fishermen. This increases the number of boats in these areas. More whales in the water in areas traveled by boats of all sizes increases the risk of vessel strikes. As such, we advise boaters to go slowly (less than 10 knots) and keep a [lookout for whales](#).

There is currently a [voluntary slow zone](#) in effect for the waters off New York and New Jersey due to recent detections of endangered North Atlantic right whales. There are also active [Seasonal Management Areas](#) (where all vessels 65 feet or longer must travel at 10 knots or less) off the ports of New York/New Jersey and Delaware Bay due to known seasonal distribution of endangered North Atlantic right whales.

### **Is climate change a factor in the number of whales we're seeing close to shore?**

We know that our climate is changing, and one of those key changes is the warming of our oceans. In response to this, we are seeing populations of many marine species adapting by moving into new areas where conditions are more favorable.

Changing distributions of prey impact larger marine species that depend on them, and result in changing distribution of whales and other marine life. This can lead to increased interactions with humans as some whales move closer to near shore habitats. Work is ongoing to investigate the increase in humpback whale deaths beginning in 2016, and certainly this most recent string of devastating losses.

The impacts of changing species distributions reach far beyond the individual species experiencing the shift, to affect entire ecosystems, as well as fisheries interactions, and coastal economies.

### **What is the current status of the humpback whale population in the North Atlantic?**

There are different populations of [humpback whales](#) around the world, some of which are listed as “threatened” or “endangered” under the Endangered Species Act. The population of humpback whales in the North Atlantic (also known as the West Indies Distinct Population Segment) is not listed as threatened or endangered. However, all humpback whales are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. More information about the status of humpback whale stocks in U.S. waters can be found in NOAA Fisheries [Marine Mammal Stock Assessment Reports](#).

### **What is NOAA Fisheries doing to minimize the effects of offshore wind development on endangered North Atlantic right whales?**

NOAA Fisheries is heavily invested in the conservation and recovery of endangered North Atlantic right whales. NOAA Fisheries recently proposed a rule to modify existing vessel speed restrictions that would apply to many offshore wind-related vessels. In our permits and authorizations, we also require mitigation measures to avoid and minimize impacts from offshore wind development.

Finally, NOAA Fisheries and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management recently released a [joint draft strategy](#) to protect and promote the recovery of North Atlantic right whales while responsibly developing offshore wind energy. This strategy is part of NOAA Fisheries’ comprehensive [Road to Recovery](#) for North Atlantic right whales.

### **What can I do to help whales in distress?**

If you see a dead or injured marine mammal or sea turtle, please call the [NOAA Greater Atlantic Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding](#) Hotline at (866) 755-6622 to be directed to a trained responder. The best way to assist these animals, and keep them and yourself safe, is by calling trained responders and maintaining a distance of 150 feet.

Please remember that all marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which makes touching, feeding, or otherwise harming these animals illegal. It is also illegal to take any marine mammal part from live or dead animals including bones and teeth.

If you are a boater, download the [Whale Alert app](#) for real time updates on management areas and whale sightings on digital nautical charts. When you are boating in these areas, slow down and keep a watchful eye on the water.

### **What does “harassment” mean under the Marine Mammal Protection Act?**

Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, [harassment](#) is statutorily defined as:

- Level A Harassment, which has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (i.e. non-serious injury)
- Level B Harassment, which has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of

behavioral patterns, including migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering but which does not have the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (i.e. behavioral disturbance).

### **How do I find more information about marine mammal incidental harassment authorizations?**

We track [all active and in-progress incidental take authorizations](#), including those related to offshore wind. There are 12 active IHAs authorizing the take, by Level B (i.e. behavioral) harassment only, of marine mammals incidental to offshore wind site characterization surveys in the Atlantic Ocean from southern New England to the Carolinas.

### **General information about the MMPA take authorization process**

There are two active IHAs for offshore wind construction activities that authorize take of marine mammals by both Level A and Level B harassment. Level A harassment includes non-serious injury—in this case, in the form of auditory injury resulting from exposure to noise from pile driving. NOAA Fisheries carefully considers possible impacts to marine mammal species. These details and mitigations are included in the relevant documents for each [active IHA](#).

### **What are NOAA Fisheries and its partners doing to determine the cause(s) of recent whale deaths?**

The local stranding network partner is responsible for leading the examination, but large whale responses generally involve multiple agencies from across the network working together. These stranding network partners responded to each of the recent cases to document and examine the carcasses. At a minimum, each carcass was documented with photos, measurements, and an external examination. Since the cause of death is not always clear at first examination, biologists took samples from these whales, and will work with laboratory partners to review them in the coming months. Decomposition can limit our ability to determine a definitive cause of death.

### **Why aren't all large whales necropsied?**

Large whale necropsies are very complicated, requiring many people and typically heavy equipment (front loaders, etc.). Some whales are found dead floating offshore, and need to be towed to land for an

examination. There can be limitations on the location where the whale stranded, including protected lands (parks or concerns for other endangered species) and accessibility (remote areas, tides that prevent access at times of day). Also, necropsies are the most informative when the animal died relatively recently. Some whales are not found until they are already decomposed, which limits the amount of information that can be obtained. Finally, funding is limited, and varies by location and stranding network partner.

[Link](#) to NOAA Fact Sheet

## **JCAA Comments on Striped Bass Addendum I**

*By Paul Haertel*

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is considering allowing the transfer of ocean commercial quota for striped bass from one state to another through Addendum I to Amendment 7 of the Striped Bass Management Plan. The fate of this proposal will be decided at the ASMFC meeting which will be held on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:30-5:00 PM. Those interested may sign up for the webinar via the link below. The comment period has ended so the committee chairman has discretion as to whether further comments will be allowed at this time. JCAA's previously submitted comments are below. There is also a chart showing the tabulation of all the comments that were submitted. Those who commented were overwhelmingly opposed to allowing the transfer of the quota so we will just have to see if the comments mean anything to the commissioners. I am cautiously optimistic that in this case they will do the right thing. [Here is the link](#) for the ASMFC Winter Meeting.

*ASMFC Striped Bass Board,*

*The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is association of fishing clubs throughout New Jersey. Allowing the transfer of unused commercial quota from one state to another will result in many more stripers being killed at a time we are trying to rebuild the stocks. Though overfishing is not occurring, the stocks are overfished. Recruitment has been poor in recent years and yet while recreational fishermen*



*have been forced to establish slot limits, commercial fishermen are allowed to harvest the larger breeders. That is counterproductive! Many of the clubs who belong to JCAA have members who are avid striped fishermen. They hold an element of distrust towards our fisheries managers and even considering transfers at a time like this has further raised their ire. Therefore, the **Jersey Coast Anglers Association supports Option A - (status quo) Commercial quota transfers are not permitted.** JCAA urges you do the right thing by rejecting any transfers.*

Sincerely,  
Paul Haertel  
JCAA Striped Bass Committee Chairman

## **Launch Ramp and Angler Access on Point Pleasant Canal gets Major Improvements**

*By Capt. Paul Eidman, Forage Fish/  
Habitat/Offshore Wind*

As stated in the original proposal, “The objective of this project is to improve the Point Pleasant Wildlife Management Area Fishing Access and Boat Ramp. This project scope includes repairing/replacing the fence along the canal, reclaiming upland area within the lagoon and enhancing fishing access, reinforcing a single-lane boat launch, creating a living shoreline, controlling erosion caused by runoff from onsite pond, and parking improvements in two locations.”

Specific goals of the project were as follows:

- Repair/Replace the fence and guiderail along the bulkhead of the canal
- Replace bulkhead return and timber bulkhead. Reclaim formerly filled area
- Build a new reinforced concrete boat ramp to replace the existing natural ramp
- Build a new A.D.A. accessible dock
- Enhance existing fishing areas for fishing in the canal.
- Create a living shoreline
- Improve parking area adjacent to the canal

- Improve the parking area near Beach Boulevard.
- Control erosion caused by overland runoff from the pond to the northwest of the boat ramp

The state was confined to the existing footprint at the site, and they had to maximize what they did to ensure a quality experience for boaters and fishing access. The boat ramp was designed to accommodate a 23–25-foot boat, and this was the maximum size boat that the engineers could design with the constraints of the existing property.

Before the work began, the ramp property had some real issues. The fence had fallen along the canal creating an unsafe condition, there were issues with runoff and erosion from the pond overflowing and the sand ramp had been eroding away from the wave action from the canal as well as the erosion on the banks across from the opening of the canal. The US Army Corps of Engineers owns the canal and a section of land on the border. The ADA compliant sidewalk is meant to be driven on as part of the access road and was a requirement to be part of the project. The material for the road surface was the only material allowed through the permitting process with regards to impervious surface and nowhere is it eroding into the lagoon. Non-native vegetation was removed, and a living shoreline was created to stop future erosion.

We encourage you to report any trash dumping at the spot as this has been common in the past. Please carry out what you carry in. It’s up to the local angling community to keep this area great. I have visited the site and the state really did a great job. The ramp and shoreline fishing areas will be ready for the 2023 spring fishing season!



## JCAA Membership Report

*By John Toth*

During 2022, President Mark Taylor and I have visited 10 JCAA member clubs to present an in-person PowerPoint presentation to them on what the JCAA is all about. We have also made presentations by ZOOM to 2 clubs due to weather and scheduling issues. We plan to do more in-person presentations to our clubs during 2023 and ZOOM presentations to clubs that prefer this type of presentation.

We started off 2023 by giving a January 17th in-person presentation to the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County. Another one is scheduled on April 4th to the Newark Bait & Fly Casting Club. A new club, the Coastal Fly Rodders, is interested in having us to do a ZOOM presentation to them on January 26th. We also plan to meet with the Surf Kings Club for an in-person presentation and we are working on setting up a meeting date with them. I met with the Manasquan Fishing Club on January 6th to give them an update on a few issues that the JCAA is involved with.

Invoices for 2023 Club Membership and Associate Membership dues have been prepared and are waiting to be sent out but have been delayed due to the changeover to our new Office Manager. These invoices will be sent out in the near future.

Our JCAA presentation can be customized to fit into your club meeting schedule either by in-person or by ZOOM. We have done it in about 20 minutes or about 45 minutes. We cover a lot of ground starting with the beginning of the JCAA, what the JCAA has accomplished, what it is working on today and the fishing challenges all of us anglers face in the future. We also take questions and provide answers to them to the best of our ability.

To schedule this JCAA PowerPoint presentation, I need to know the date when your club has its meeting, the time of it, the address of the meeting location and the contact person to arrange your meeting with me. I have been contacting clubs to schedule this PowerPoint presentation and I would appreciate your getting back to me at your earliest convenience so that I can arrange our meeting with you.

Also, I would like to have updated emails of your club representatives so that we can send you the agendas of our General membership meeting and also

contact you on important issues that may quickly come up about our fisheries.

Our next JCAA General Membership meeting is on January 31st and it will be done both as an in-person meeting and also by ZOOM at the Shark Anglers building in Herbertsville.

I can be contacted at [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net) or at (732) 656-0139 if you have any questions.

## Let's Take Advantage of Matching Funds

*By Tom Fote*

*JCAA has not gotten enough donations to cover my match so I Have Changed the Date to February 28*

Because of the letter I wrote below for **Giving Tuesday**, I realized JCAA needed another way to generate funds for 2023. We have managed to reduce our budget but we are still looking at a deficit. For this reason, I have pledged \$5,000 to JCAA for matching fund drive. For every dollar, up to \$5,000, that you donate by January 31, I will match it. If you are generous enough, JCAA will have \$10,000 to fund our work for the next year. If everyone who receives this newspaper would donate \$20 or more, we could make this goal. I know many of you already donate to JCAA but I am asking you to do a bit more this year, doubling your impact. Please read the letter below to get a better idea of the work we do.

Jersey Coast Anglers Association that started in 1982 needs your support. We have been operating in the red since before the pandemic. The pandemic just exacerbated the existing problem. The Fluke Tournament, which used to fund JCAA has barely covered its expenses in the last couple of years. Last year we gave away over \$80,000 dollars in prizes. The \$50,000 prize for the fluke over 12 pounds is paid for by an insurance policy which JCAA must pay for. We didn't take in enough money from the \$25 to even cover the insurance policy.

### Why support JCAA?

JCAA has always sent members to meetings, gathering firsthand information to share with our members and the public. The people covering state meetings have absorbed most of the expenses of going to state meetings in the last couple of years, but out-

of-state meetings get expensive and our current budget does not allow for all the meetings we would like to attend. Two of the meetings I attended this year cost \$1,000 each and I absorbed the cost. This is not sustainable. The people who will replace me and other board members may not be able to fund their attendance. And they shouldn't have to.

Because of the hard work of Don Marantz and Greg Kucharewski, JCAA has expanded our work with Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs, to include special days for Wounded Warrior and handicapped children. We had over 500 participants at our most recent fishing day with everyone going home with a prize and other goodies.

We need to expand our presence on social media to draw in younger members. I am seventy-five and I am still the 5<sup>th</sup> youngest board member. I was the 5<sup>th</sup> youngest board member when I joined the board in 1986. Expanding our social media will cost us time and money. Our board is not strong with social media, and we need to pay someone to do this work for us. Volunteers would be wonderful but are hard to come by.

The JCAA Office, all of our events and our board members all need insurance. That's the world we live in. The liability for the office, the board insurance all cost a lot of money. You all know how much you pay for your personal insurance.

Tom Fote started the JCAA Newspaper in 1988 and he was running on a shoestring out of his home. As we grew and the newspaper grew to thousands of copy each month that was not an option anymore sustain. Our office provides storage for all our events, keeps our records, and is a place for us to meet and to work on the newspaper.

Without all this infrastructure, we cannot do the job we need to do for our member clubs. Just to list a few

- We need to make sure legislation that is passed protects the interests of recreational anglers and the environment.
- We worked to make striped bass a gamefish in New Jersey in 1991.
- In 1989, JCAA after working since 1983 on getting the reduction boats we made stay 1 nautical mile off the beach through the NJMFC. JCAA did not give up and many more years later, working with other groups, to get them out of state water completely.

- We worked to end ocean dumping of chemicals, wood burning, dredge spoils and any other materials that would harm the ocean.
- We worked on C1 designation for streams to prevent further pollution of New Jersey's streams.
- We worked to end mercury contamination of our streams and estuaries and we continue that work today.
- We have sent people to testify before Congress on a variety of issues and those testimonies are posted on our webpage.
- We have been in the forefront of the fishing community working on getting endocrine disruptors out of the environment because they impact the sexuality of fish. This may be one of the reasons for low recruitment.

These are some of the battles JCAA continues to fight. We need your help to fund this important work. We understand that many of you are not available to attend meetings. We try to be your voice. Because JCAA is an association of clubs and our decisions are made to represent all of our members clubs, we sometimes make difficult decisions. But every decision JCAA makes about policy, every club has a vote at the General JCAA Meeting not a board meeting and the board follows the lead of our member clubs.

We know there are many worthwhile organizations asking for your support, your money. Think about what you spend on a new, high-priced plug, just one, and donate that to JCAA. The cost of one plug from everyone on our email list would help us get back in the black. It would allow us to plan for the future and protect your rights as recreational anglers and the environment. One less plug will hardly be noticed but that could keep JCAA operating! It is easy just go to JCAA [webpage](#) and hit the gold button that says Donate!!





# Youth Education Report

*By Greg Kucharewski*

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER JUDGE AT ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

The State of New Jersey 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Surf Fishing Tournament at IBSP is looking for volunteer judges to ride the beach during the tournament and verify the length of fish caught by contestants.

Volunteers that would like to be a part of the tournament and measure fish will receive a 2023 Judges hat and compensation for fuel. We already have some Play HOOK-e from PTSD veteran volunteers signed up to judge. To become a volunteer judge, please contact Ken Hollins, Judge Chairman, at [rugburnsbleed55@optimum.net](mailto:rugburnsbleed55@optimum.net) or phone Gary Conk at (609) 556-9241.

## NJ HOFNOD LEADER MEETING

Liz Jackson and Alana Newmark will host a NJ HOFNOD leader brainstorming workshop on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, Allentown, NJ. If you would like to become a certified NJ HOFNOD instructor, please contact Liz Jackson, NJ DEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs, 605 Pequest Road, Oxford, NJ 07683, (908) 637-4125 x122. Visit the [NJ HOFNOD website](http://NJHOFNOD.org) to view a group near you.

## JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION

It's show season so look for our JCAA booth at hunting and fishing expos. Stop by the JCAA booth and learn about how you can help protect recreational fishing. Become a member, volunteer or an associate member to support the voice of recreational anglers. Is recreational marine fishing getting better or worse? Let us know so we can do something about making saltwater fishing better for the future of fishing. Become a JCAA associate member today. [Click here](#) to download the JCAA Associate Membership form.

## HOFNOD YOUTH FISHING CHALLENGE

The 8th Annual Hooked On Fishing – Not On Drugs Youth Fishing Challenge will be held on the weekend of June 3-4. Find [details here](#) on the NJ DEP site. [Click here](#) for registration form.



**Fish & Wildlife**

**8th Annual Hooked On Fishing –  
Not On Drugs Youth Fishing  
Challenge**

If your organization would like to host a FREE  
community-based youth fishing event on  
either Saturday June 3 or Sunday June 4,  
return the completed form below by March  
17, 2023, via email (preferred), by regular  
mail or fax to (908) 637-6735.

## NJ TROUT SEASON OPENING DAY

New Jersey's Opening Day of Trout Season this year is Saturday, April 8, and the Division of Fish and Wildlife will again be celebrating by hosting a special event at the Pequest Trout Hatchery in Oxford. The Division would be honored if Veterans and their families would join Division staff at the hatchery for a morning of camaraderie and fishing at the Pequest fishing education pond. Breakfast provided by the Summit Elks Lodge 1246. For more information or to register, visit [this link](#). Space is limited so register early.





## HIGH SCHOOL SURF FISHING CHALLENGE ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

The Jersey Coast Anglers Youth Education Committee is encouraging high school students to participate at the Island Beach State Park 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Surf Fishing Tournament. High school teams are already gearing up for the tournament. Five students per team plus a high school representative must accompany each high school team. If you know a school team that would like to register for this event, please email Karen Byrne at [karen.byrne@dep.nj.gov](mailto:karen.byrne@dep.nj.gov).



Please visit the JCAA Website for updates and don't forget to [register](#) for the Free NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program.

## DISABLED VETERAN FREE MOBILE SPORTFISHING PERMIT

We remind all eligible disabled veterans to apply for an IBSP 2023 Mobile Sportfishing Permit to drive on the beach. Veterans must provide the following: Form DD 214 Honorable Discharge, Valid NJ Driver License and Registration, Veterans ID Card proof of service-connected disability. If you plan to fish on the beach you must [register](#) for a Free NJ Saltwater Recreational Registration Card. It is suggested new beach drivers take a beach safety driving course. NJBBA offers a beach driving course at [this link](#). For more information about permits and hours contact: Island Beach State Park, 732-793-0506. Visit [VVA Chapter 12](#) for Play HOOK-e veteran news and discounts.



*Morgan Woods PHWFF & Michele Kohler Play HOOK-e at Pequest Trout Hatchery, Opening Day 2022*

## RIVER RANGERS SUPPORT

We received a request to support the River Rangers, Navesink Maritime Heritage Association with a presentation during the summer of 2023. If your club members are interested in volunteering to present a program about saltwater fishing, please contact Greg @ [gkucharews@jcaa.org](mailto:gkucharews@jcaa.org).

# Please Support our Sponsors!

## 2022 Sponsors List

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### Gold Sponsors (\$1000+)

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- **Liberty Landing Marina** – [www.libertylandingmarina.com](http://www.libertylandingmarina.com)
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### Silver Sponsors (\$500+)

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### Bronze Sponsors (\$200+)

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- **Jersey Coast Shark Anglers** – Brick, NJ (see on FB)
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- **Tony Maja** – [www.tonymajaproducts.com](http://www.tonymajaproducts.com)
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- **Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association** – [www.bhcfa.net](http://www.bhcfa.net)
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- **Bob Campi Plugs** – see at BSC flea market
- **Bob's Bay Marina** – [www.bobsbaymarina.com](http://www.bobsbaymarina.com)
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- **Fisherman Magazine** – [www.thefisherman.com](http://www.thefisherman.com)
- **Fishermen's Den** – [www.fishbox.tv/Belmar/FishermansDen](http://www.fishbox.tv/Belmar/FishermansDen)
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- **Glitter Plugs by Ron Mucci** – [ronk@comcast.net](mailto:ronk@comcast.net) RIP Ron
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- **Great Bay Marina** – see on FB
- **Grumpy's B&T** – [www.Grumpystackle.com](http://www.Grumpystackle.com)
- **Hi-Mar Striper Club** – [www.hi-mar.com](http://www.hi-mar.com)
- **Hook House B&T** – [www.hookhousebaitandtackle.com](http://www.hookhousebaitandtackle.com)
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- **Pell's Bait and Tackle** – Brick, NJ – see on FB
- **Skelfish Metals** – [skelfishmetals@gmail.com](mailto:skelfishmetals@gmail.com)
- **Sporting Wood** – [www.northbartackle.com](http://www.northbartackle.com)
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- **Tak Waterman** – [www.takwaterman.com](http://www.takwaterman.com)



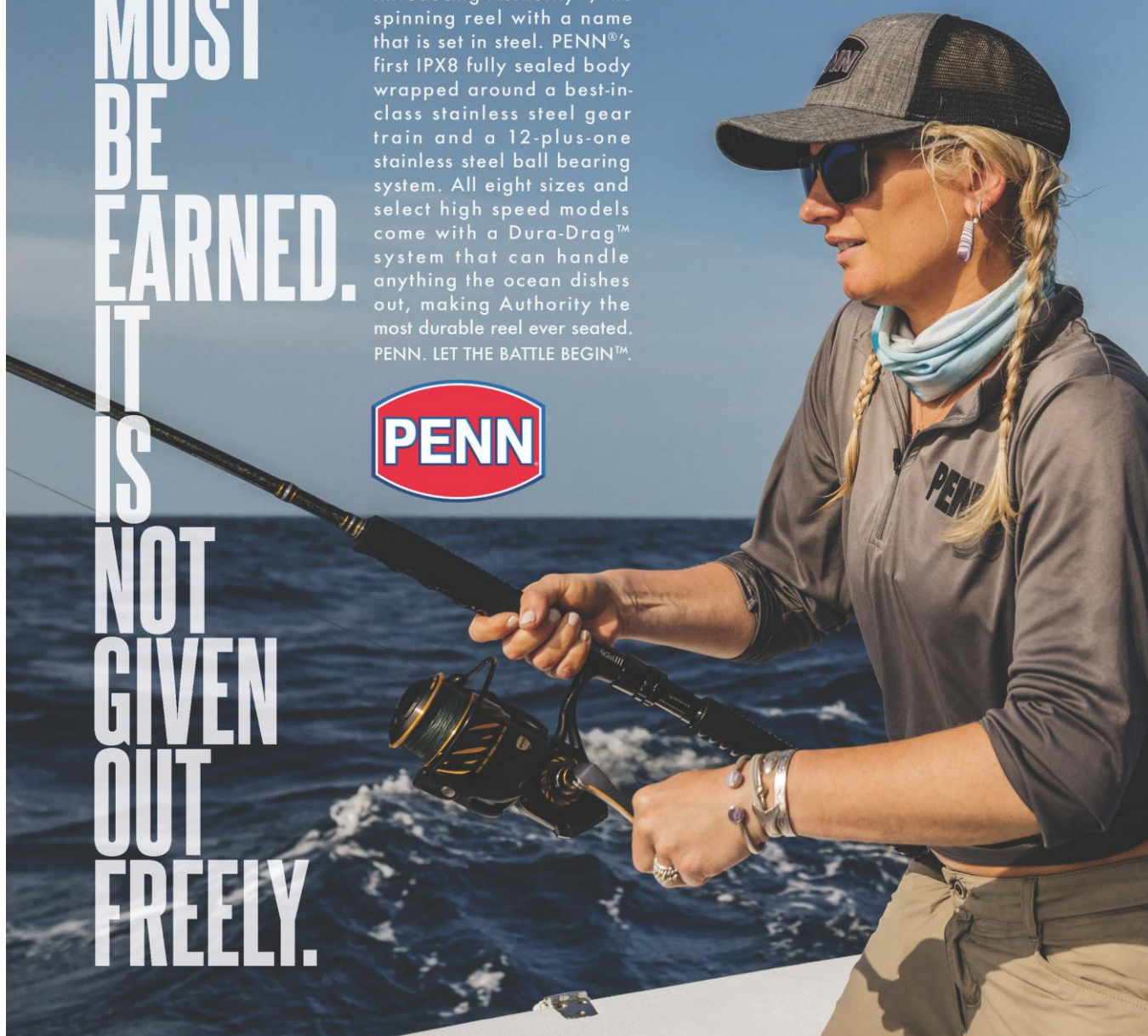
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## We need the support of your club and its members

Your club should be a member of JCAA and make a difference for only \$50 a year. Your club will have a voice in all JCAA positions that affect your fishing future. Your club will receive up-to-date information on vital issues each month.

### Club Membership Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pres. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check \$50 payable to JCAA

## **JCAA SPONSORSHIP**

**The JCAA has four levels of sponsorship, \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500.**

Dues paying clubs or individuals can also provide additional help by becoming Sponsors. Sponsors are recognized in our newspaper. For more information call JCAA at 732-506-6565. Become a JCAA sponsor and help our cause. As you can see by our newspaper many of our member clubs are also JCAA sponsors. If your club is not contact us today to become one. With all the new battles we are engaged in, we need to raise more funds in order to be effective. Become a sponsor now and help us to continue the fight.

## Individuals can join JCAA as an Associate Member

**Only \$25 per year!** Support the Goals of JCAA and receive a subscription to JCAA NEWS that gives you the Most Up-To-Date News about Fisheries Management and Environmental Issues

### JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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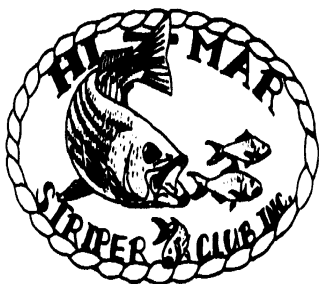
## **COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS**

Legislative	Tom Fote	732-270-9102 <a href="mailto:tfote@jcaa.org">tfote@jcaa.org</a>
Office Manager	Paul Turi	732-506-6565 <a href="mailto:jcaa@jcaa.org">jcaa@jcaa.org</a>
Access: (North)	George Browne	732-674-7060
Access: (South)	George Browne	732-674-7060
Blackfish	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Blue claw Crab	Bill Browne	732-504-9344
Blue Fish	Al Marantz	732-859-0020
Habitat	Paul Eidman	732-614-3373
Fluke	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Forage Fish	Paul Eidman	732-614-3373
Highly Migratory Species	Eric Engard	609-913-2281
Science & Research	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Seabass	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Sponsorship	Frank Richetti	732-477-3120
Striped Bass	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
Ways & Means	Don Marantz	908-347-1434
Webmaster	Phil V. Celmer	<a href="mailto:philipc@highlandstech.net">philipc@highlandstech.net</a>
Youth Education	Greg Kucharewski	732-840-9197

If you would like to receive JCAA Email alerts email your Name, Club, if you belong to one, and your interest to [tfote@jcaa.org](mailto:tfote@jcaa.org) or just go to the JCAA Web and subscribe from there.

Meetings:  
1st Tuesday  
of month  
7:30 PM

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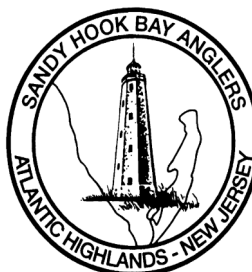
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