



## WHAT'S BITING

### Upcoming

- 2/3 Artificial Tournament
- 2/8 Board Meeting
- 2/17 Oyster Roast @ Bethesda
- 3/14 Board Meeting
- 3/21 Shakedown Capt. Meeting
- 3/23 Shakedown/General Tourn. 1

### Board News and Update

Please check the website and Facebook often. Please note officer email addresses:

[president@ssfc.org](mailto:president@ssfc.org)

[treasurer@ssfc.org](mailto:treasurer@ssfc.org)

[secretary@ssfc.org](mailto:secretary@ssfc.org)

**We look forward to a great year, Please let any potential sponsors know of the handbook opportunity!**

Check out our newly designed website, [SSFC.ORG](http://SSFC.ORG), for our events schedule, committee assignments, and committee chairs. Thanks to Chris Lain for all his hard work on this!

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	Bruce Greene, Jr.
Vice President	Stephen Coomer.
Treasurer	RJ Schmelter
Secretary	Zack Bentley
Past President	Ryan Martin

### BOARD MEMBERS

2024 John Beasley	2026 Sean Duggan
2024 Jordan McCullough-Hecht	2026 Beverly O'Hearn
2024 Chris Lain	2026 Ted Moore
2024 Ben Liipfert	2026 Raphael Roybal
2025 Lynn Tootle	
2025 David Holton	
2025 Jackson Timmons	
2025 Drew Zeigler	

### ODDS & ENDS

**We are guests of the Savannah Yacht Club.** As such, please be mindful of your overall appearance, behavior and language. Please remove all hats when indoors.

**We look forward to the upcoming year starting with the artificial tournament!**

**Fish Basket was stolen, please let a board member know if you have any information regarding this matter!**

Please send in photos/videos to include in next month's "What's Biting" to [secretary@ssfc.org](mailto:secretary@ssfc.org)

We are looking for members to contribute articles or commentary they feel are important to the club. If you would like to be a contributing author to this publication, please contact [secretary@ssfc.org](mailto:secretary@ssfc.org), we are open to all contributions.

**"Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity!" – Unknown**

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership stands at 195 and 5 Honorary Members.

We would like to welcome our newest members: Geno Sauers, Mikey McCullough, Brian Dooley, and Gary McMurray to the Savannah Sport Fishing Club!

Waiting List: Bryce Davidson, Brannon Leggett, Fred Bergen, Jr., Drake Reinke, John Christy, Joseph Dillon IV, Garrett Ross, Rhett Strickland, Trent Warren, Billy Lappin, Andrew Cree, Mark Meehan, Steven Ricciardi, Kyle Daigle, and Richard "Riley" Hale.

First Reading: Watson Grapengeter, Cole Peters, Billy Campbell, and Randy Tinley

Second Reading: N/A

Please make any board member aware of any feedback regarding any of the potential members on the first reading list!

We are now capped out on the waiting list, but please keep an eye out for additional openings to present themselves! Please email [secretary@ssfc.org](mailto:secretary@ssfc.org) with any questions.

# Fishing Report

Offshore Report: The winter weather can make it tough to get out there with blowing winds and cold temperatures... that being said, we get some glass calm days with hungry fish this time of year! The wahoo bite has been hot lately, with tuna and bottom fish following suit! The swords were fired up last year this month and hopefully will be back this year!



Inshore Report: The inshore bite has still been hot recently and looks to stay that way throughout the winter! The sheepshead and bull red bite has also been a lot of fun nearshore and will only continue to get better as the months go on! Its going to be a great couple months.

# SSFC Awards 2023

**Area A Angler:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Robert Hale, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Joel Carter, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Jim Austin

**Area A Boat:** 1<sup>st</sup>- No Bueno, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Teachers Pet, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Easy Rider

**Area B Angler:** 1<sup>st</sup>- RJ Schmelter

**Area B Boat:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Doubled Up

**Area C Angler:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Gary Wammach

**Area C Boat:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Lonesome Dove

**Inshore Angler:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Marion Harkleroad, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Bill Bradley, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Mike Smith

**Inshore Boat:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Reel Diamonds, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Floatsam, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Reel Deal

**Young Angler:** 1<sup>st</sup>- Fischer Valbuena, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Hunter Bryant, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Grant Buck

## Perpetual Trophy Winners

**Darvoe Trophy- Offshore Angler:** Robert Hale

**Mingledorff Trophy- Offshore Skipper:** Robert Hale

**Inshore Skipper:** Marion Harkleroad

**Inshore Angler:** Marion Harkleroad

**Rosalind Demere- Powder Puff:** Area A- Grace Moore,  
Area B- Becky Schmelter, Area C- Aida Avendano,  
Inshore- Lauren Bremer

**Bobby Haines- Blue Water Captain:** Geno Sauers

**James Lynah Award:** Beverly O'Hearn

**Woody Woodward- Young Angler:** Fischer Valbuena

**Congratulations to all the winners and good luck to  
everyone in 2024!!**

## **Notice to Members Regarding the Weather Rule:**

Weather Rule - Found under Tournament Rules and Procedures (1.) (pg. 29 of 2022 SSFC Handbook

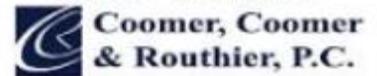
“A General Tournament will be automatically cancelled for Areas A, B, & C if at **1800 (6PM)** the evening before the fish day there is a “small craft advisory” forecast for “any time” the following tournament day out to 60 nautical miles from the Savannah River, GA to Altamaha Sound, GA. Area I will still fish”

Interpretation/definition of “tournament day”

“Tournament Day” is not the same as “Tournament Date.” “Tournament Day” does not include “PM night” but does include “AM night/morning” of the tournament date.

The offshore divisions of a tournament will not be cancelled if a small craft advisory is only included in the forecast for “Saturday Night” but is not included in any of the weather forecasts of any earlier segments of the tournament date .

# A Big Thanks to our 2023 Major Sponsors!!!



***SAVANNAH SPORT FISHING CLUB***

**2024 SCHEDULE**

*Subject to Change*

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>January</b>	Thursday, January 11, 2024	Board Meeting	Savannah Country Club
<b>February</b>	Saturday, February 3, 2024 Thursday, February 8, 2024 Saturday, February 17, 2024	Artificial Fishing Tournament Board Meeting Oyster Roast	SYC SYC Bethesda
<b>March</b>	Thursday, March 14, 2024 Thursday, March 21, 2024 Saturday, March 23, 2024	Board Meeting Shakedown Capt. Meeting General Tournament #1 / Shakedown Tournament	SYC TBD SYC Bilge Club
<b>April</b>	Thursday, April 11, 2024 Saturday, April 13, 2024	Board Meeting General Tournament # 2	SYC SYC
<b>May</b>	Sat. May 4, 2024 Thursday, May 9, 2024 Friday, May 10, 2024 May 13-18, 2024	General Tournament # 3 Board Meeting Bluewater Captain's Meeting Bluewater Tournament Fish Days	SYC SYC TBD SYC Bilge Club SYC Sail Loft - 5/27/23
<b>June</b>	Thursday, June 6, 2024 Saturday, June 8, 2024 Thursday, June 13, 2024 Saturday, June 29, 2024	Powderpuff Captain's Meeting Powderpuff Fish Day Board Meeting General Tournament # 4 / Powderpuff Backup	TBD SYC Bilge Club TBD SYC Bilge Club
<b>July</b>	Thursday, July 11, 2024 Saturday, July 13, 2024 Saturday, July 20, 2024	Board Meeting Young Angler Tournament Young Anger Awards Party	SYC SYC Playground Savannah Country Club
<b>August</b>	Wednesday, August 7, 2024 Thursday, August 8, 2024 Saturday, August 10, 2024 Saturday, August 17, 2024	Board Meeting Greenwater Captain's Meeting Greenwater GT # 5	SYC SYC Pool SYC Bilge Club SYC Bilge Club
<b>September</b>	Saturday, September 7, 2024 Thursday, September 12, 2024 Saturday, September 28, 2024	General Tournament # 6 Board Meeting General Tournament # 7	SYC Bilge Club SYC SYC Bilge Club
<b>October</b>	Thursday, October 10, 2024 Saturday, October 12, 2024	Board Meeting General Tournament # 8	SYC SYC Bilge Club
<b>November</b>	Thursday, November 7, 2024 Saturday, November 9, 2024 Sunday, November 10, 2024 Thursday, November 14, 2024	Inshore Tournament Captain Meeting Inshore Tournament Inshore Fish Fry & Awards Board Meeting	TBD SYC Bilge Club SYC TBD
<b>December</b>	Saturday, December 7, 2024	Annual Banquet	SYC