

JCAA NEWSPAPER MAY 2021

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on April 30th, 2021)

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

JCAA REGULAR MEETING

April 27th, 2021 via Zoom Meeting

Starting at 7:30 PM

385 Herbertsville Rd, Brick

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 13th, 2021

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.

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.

2020 OFFICERS

President	John Toth	732-656-0139
1 st V.P.	Mark Taylor	732-656-0139
2 nd V.P.	Bill Browne	732-504-9344
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-575-2661
Rec. Sec.	Sue Rothermel	732-547-8730
Cors. Sec.	Paul Turi	609-709-9215
Mem. Sec.	Paul Eidman	732-614-3373
Tournament Dir.	Paul Turi	609-709-9215

Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

April 27th JCAA General Meeting

May 3rd-6th ASMFC Virtual Spring Meeting

May 23rd Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

August 5th-8th JCAA Heavy Hitter Fluke Tournament

September 4th JCAA 26th Annual Fluke Tournament

September 10th Awards Presentations

Note from the Board of Directors

Jersey Coast Anglers Association hopes you and your family are all healthy during these concerning times. There have been calls about upcoming events that JCAA is running or involved with. To keep informed, go to the JCAA web page or Facebook page for up to date information.

We are planning two more raffles to try and make up for the loss of revenue from our events. We need our member clubs to help in selling these tickets and increasing their sponsorship of JCAA to make up for loss of revenue.

JCAA'S General meetings and Board meetings will also be done online. If you are the person designated to be the club's representative, please make sure you are on our JCAA email list as a club representative.

JCAA Fundraisers Please Help Us Out!

By Paul Haertel

Currently JCAA has two fundraisers. One is that we are selling \$25 gift cards Applebee's Restaurant. JCAA will receive a check for \$200 for every \$1000 worth of cards we sell. The other fundraiser is our Hi-Roller raffle with prizes having a total value exceeding \$3000. All of the shows that we normally sell these tickets at were cancelled this year

so we really need you to help us out by buying some. Checks for either the gift cards or raffle tickets can be made out to JCAA and mailed to: JCAA, 1594 Lakewood Rd., Unit 13, Toms River, NJ 08755. We will mail you the gift cards. Regarding the raffle tickets, we can fill them out for you and mail you the stubs or we can mail you books of tickets and you may fill them out and return them to us with your payment. Either way is fine and we appreciate your anticipated support. We also accept Paypal and credit cards. For more information call our office at 732-506-6565. Please leave a message if no one answers and we will get back to you.

2021 Hi-Roller Raffle Tickets - \$3 each, 3 for \$5 or a book of 7 for \$10

List of Prizes (*retail values*)

1. Jersey Nutz Six Man Charter (6 hour, 6 man inshore weekday charter) – **\$950**, *Donated by Captains Robert and Cody Melton*
 2. Star 6' Handcrafted B03806SHC Conv. Rod/Canyon EX-16 Reel – **\$590**, *Donated by JCAA and Star Rods*
 3. \$500 gift Certificate from Fisherman's Headquarters – **\$500**, *Donated by Fisherman's Headquarters*
 4. Fenwick 7' HMG70MH-FC Conv. Rod/Shimano 14 HG Reel – **\$320**, *Donated by Grumpys Tackle and Shimano*
 5. Tica 12' UEHA936502S Spinning Rod/ Tica Taurus TP5000S Reel – **\$300**, *Donated by Tica*
 6. Collection of Custom Striper Plugs – **\$250**, *Donated by various plug builders*
- Penn Battle 7' BTL11815S70 Spinning Rod/Battle 11 3000 Reel – **\$135**, *Donated by Pure Fishing*

President's Report

By John Toth

It is important that we have members on various councils to represent the views of recreational anglers, such as Tom Fote on the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAMFC). There is another member on the MAMFC who represents both

the recreational and commercial anglers in our state and that person is Captain Adam Nowalsky. A number of us attended a string of Webinars to review management plans for striped bass, fluke, bluefish and we invariably heard Captain Adam weighing in during these meetings offering his comments to provide clarification to complex fishing issues. Adam is known to do his homework on these issues before these meetings take place and he is well-spoken.

Captain Adam is up for re-appointment for the MAMFC and the JCAA is supporting him in his reappointment. I wrote a letter on behalf of the JCAA to have Adam reappointed and it is in this newsletter.

Also, Eleanor Bochenek, a friend of the JCAA, is running for a seat (At Large) on the MAMFC. There are two other candidates (both commercial) that are running for this same position. I will write a letter of support for Eleanor to be considered to be a member of the MAMFC in the very near future. Eleanor is not only a friend of the JCAA, but she is a current member of the NJ Marine Fisheries Council and has an extensive portfolio in fisheries research projects for Rutgers University. In short, she knows a lot about fishing issues and can provide a lot of information and direction to the MAMFC in its deliberation on a number of fishing issues.

Finally, a number of us were involved in a series of Webinars with MAMFC & ASMFC managers for different fish taking hours to get through and at the end of them I felt tired and my head was spinning! I wrote a short summary of the striped bass Webinar that you may find interesting. A comment was made to have a 10 - year moratorium on fishing for striped bass! This summary on the striped bass seminar is in another section of this newsletter.

Letter to Governor Murphy in Support of Adam Nowalsky

Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of the State of NJ
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

April 15, 2021

Dear Governor Murphy:

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association strongly recommends that you re-appoint Captain Adam

Nowalsky to the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council (MAMFC).

To best serve New Jersey, this position requires a person to have an extensive background with the fishing industry and Adam Nowalsky certainly possesses this qualification. For example, he has held/chaired leadership positions concerning a wide variety of species such as summer flounder, mackerel, squid scup, sea bass and other positions. He also is the liaison of the developer Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind with the recreational community.

Adam also works well on behalf of our commercial industry. He has been the voice of reason on many issues regarding issues for both the commercial and recreational fishing industries. He is well spoken and very knowledgeable on the issues that concern New Jersey's fishing community. He has earned the respect of his peers as well as the fishermen he represents.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association recommends your re-appointment of Captain Adam Nowalsky to the MAMFC due to his extensive background and experience with the fishing industry. He will be a valuable asset to your continuing efforts to make New Jersey one of the best states to live in and enjoy its tremendous fishing opportunities.

Very truly yours,
John Toth, President

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Tom Fote

Further below is a link to the agenda for the upcoming ASMFC meeting. Menhaden and striped bass are on the agenda. Hopefully, you will be able to listen to the meeting as it happens or later online.

At the upcoming Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Management Council meeting, a joint meeting with ASMFC will take place to decide on the bluefish plan. The Council and the Commission will vote on an action that will impact both the commercial and recreational communities. Since there is no common sense in fisheries management, actions will be taken to further restrict the fishery even though those actions make no sense. We stopped that from happening in 2003 but because of the reauthorization

of the Magnusson/Stevens Act in 2006 requiring action whenever overfishing is taking place and a stock is overfished, actions will be taken even if they only look good on paper. We can make projections out 10 years of a rebuilding plan but that doesn't address the current problem.

Fishing pressure from the commercial and recreational sectors is not the cause of the problem. The problem is caused by the many environmental factors that are impacting on many species. We have proven that with our plans to rebuild weakfish and winter flounder. If ASMFC was the sole decision maker, this would be handled differently and common sense would prevail. We shall see.

Having an Ah-Ha Moment

I have been going through some difficulty listening to the comments made at the recent public hearings. As an example, at the striped bass hearings, I heard questions that seemed to have no basis in the current discussion. Suddenly I realized that the people asking the question were under 40 years old, way too young to know all the history. When we were their age, there were newspaper reporters who wrote the fishing column for every major newspaper in the country. We all had access to those columns. We all belonged to clubs and had the advantage of knowing more senior anglers who kept the history current. They mentored the younger anglers by making sure we were aware of what had happened.

The internet provides a lot of information but most of the long-term history is not readily available. The JCAA website has archived all of our newspapers back to 1996 but that is not something the younger anglers take the time to read and research. If they did the research they would know why the EEZ was closed.

We used to distribute several thousand copies of the JCAA newspaper every month for the tackle stores. The newspaper was and still is posted on our webpage. I think the problem is the articles are longer than the current tweets. I have started breaking out all the JCAA articles and putting them in folders based on the species or environmental issue. My greatest disappointment is I could not go back further than 1995. I honestly don't know if all this work will be worth the time if no one reads them. The question is, how do we make what we know about the history available and accessible to the younger anglers? I would welcome suggestions from our members. Please email me at tfote@jcaa.org.

Striped Bass

I finally realized why I was having a hard time communicating with some of the anglers about the fact that striped bass stocks are not in the dire straits that some assume. Many of these young anglers entered the fishery when the stocks were at a record high after the rebuilding.

For most of the 80's and into the 90's we had a very restrictive fishery. Many states had a moratorium on both the commercial and recreational harvest of striped bass. The regulations were written to protect the 1983 class of females until they had spawned. We kept raising the size limit for the fisheries that were open until it reached 34 inches. We wanted that abundant year class to have the opportunity to spawn at least once. By the late 90's and into the early 2000's there was a huge increase in the striped bass stocks. There were very small commercial quotas compared to today and most recreational anglers were not putting much pressure on the stocks. As young anglers entered the fishery, catching a big bass was easy.

There were also more regulations to close down or dramatically curtailing the harvest of other species. The summer flounder regulations were more restrictive and sent many anglers into the striped bass fishery since they no longer wanted to have to release 20 or 30 fish to catch a keeper.

Now we have a greater participation in the striped bass fishery. We also have a huge catch and release fishery that is causing more mortality. When we increased the commercial quotas, we increased the poaching. Just remember the cases in Maryland when millions of pounds of striped bass went to market illegally and that was never deducted from future quotas. The world has changed. The environmental conditions are different and the pressure on forage species is greater. The catch and release fishery has grown to the point where it is creating about half the striped bass mortality. The regulations and restrictions that have been proposed do not address any of those problems. We need to have some common sense here and deal with the current reality.

ASMFC Spring Meeting Week Agenda

To get a detailed description of each board meeting and to get the background materials (4/28/2021) for the meeting go to [this link](#). There will also be information about the webinar at that link.

The ASMFC Spring Meeting will take place on the days of Monday, May 3 through Thursday, May 6.

Handling Public Access Issues

By George Browne, Chairman Public Access

If you fish long enough, you will eventually run into a situation where you are told that you cannot fish at a particular location, a badge is required, or the area is only accessible to residents. While that may be true in some instances, New Jersey has a well-established public trust doctrine. This public trust doctrine includes the following three basic types of access:

- Perpendicular Access - access to reach the water and shoreline
- Linear/Lateral Access – access along the water and shoreline
- Visual access - access to view the “coastal resources”

It is the duty of the State of New Jersey to protect this access. For more information on public access in New Jersey, the Department of Environmental Protection has a public access handbook that is available online at [this link](#). This handbook is a good place to learn what the public's rights are for access to tidal waterways and shores in New Jersey.

What should you do if you are denied access to a fishing location? Let's start with the basics. Are you a member of a club that belongs to JCAA?

Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) is an association made up of member clubs. Typically, JCAA gets involved when a member club brings an issue to JCAA. The member club is responsible for dealing with the issue and JCAA provides expertise and guidance to help with the problem. The JCAA board and committee members are all volunteers. While the board members and committee chairs have years of knowledge and expertise in dealing with these issues, their availability is limited. That is why the local clubs must be involved in the issue.

Whether you belong to a fishing club or not, local issues are best solved locally. Member clubs are best equipped to enlist local contacts, local anglers, and local businesses to work on these issues. That saves a lot of time and footwork for everyone.

We hear a lot of the same issues from town to town: littering, public urination, noise, public drinking and more. There are solutions to these problems without shutting off access.

First, having people who live or work in town (especially bait and tackle shops) reach out to the elected officials to discuss the issue may solve the problem. That is always where you want to start. Call or email the business administrator or mayor to ask about the issue. You can copy JCAA on emails by using the email address publicaccess@jcaa.org. You can also follow up with us about what you heard back. What happens in one town can influence what happens in another town.

Second, if the problem is littering, ask the town three questions:

1. Are there trash cans on site?
2. Does the town empty the trash cans on a regular basis?
3. Are more trash cans needed in the area?

Anglers are not the only people generating trash. Others use the area including swimmers, surfers, walkers, people eating by the water, dog walkers and more. They all produce trash. So, improving trash collection can solve that problem.

Third, if public urination is one of the complaints from residents, are there public restrooms in the area? Other beach users need restrooms too, including small children. Permits for beach replenishment or other State issued permits may require bathrooms and parking.

Fourth, the town already has ordinances for littering, public drinking, public urination and defecation, noise, and most of the other problems the residents are complaining about. What is the town doing to enforce the existing ordinances? Go after the troublemakers causing the problem instead of those of us who are simply trying to fish and maybe put food on the table. Ask for the records of how many calls for service did the police get for the area? Ask how many summonses did the police write? A lot of time the numbers do not match the claims by residents and, if there is an issue, comparing the number of summonses to the number of calls can show lack of enforcement. Or, that here really isn't the problem residents claim there are.

Fifth, when an area is closed to fishing, it has an impact locally. If you are a local, you need to make sure that the elected officials know they are shutting you out. If you belong to a local fishing club, make

sure the politicians know about your club (and what you do for the community). Numbers matter and not all of us are from out of town. There are also local businesses that are affected by prohibiting fishing. Not just the local bait and tackle store. Hotels, house rentals, restaurants, bars and more benefit from anglers visiting the area both in-season and off-season. Ban fishing access and that revenue goes away.

Sixth, if all else fails, be prepared to file a complaint with NJDEP. You can call 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337). Make sure you get a case number for follow-up on your complaint. You can email the case number to JCAA at publicaccess@JCAA.ORG. That brings the complaint to our attention and, if needed, we can enlist other beach user groups to help.

We have a right to access tidal waters. Only by making sure that right is safeguarded can we protect our access to use the beaches and tidal waters.

My Comment as Submitted to BOEM re: Ocean Wind Farm off South NJ

*Capt. Paul Eidman, Forage Fish & Habitat
Committee Chairman*

My name is Capt. Paul Eidman, I run a charter boat here in North Jersey. I also represent Anglers for offshore wind power and feel that responsibly developed offshore wind farms will greatly benefit the fishing off the New Jersey coast.

To all the recreational fishermen out there: We all need to stand together and make sure that the offshore wind developers take our input during the early planning stages and site turbines correctly. We should be using our collective voice to ensure we have open access to fish the turbines, take advantage of opportunities to provide public input and fisheries science before during and after construction.

It seems there is another motivation beneath all of this, to help fan the flames of opposition that we are currently seeing from the profitable and influential commercial bottom trawling fleet and from folks that want to keep the natural gas supply pumping.

Burning fewer fossil fuels leads to cleaner, healthier waters which benefit us all. More structure in

the water means more fish habitat and aggregation of key gamefish species like Black Sea Bass, Summer flounder, blackfish, bluefish and mahi mahi.

All this leads to increased fishing opportunity, increased trips out on the water with more paying customers on party boats, and more folks feeling confident enough with the fishing to buy more tackle, boats, and even trucks to tow them. For the folks that now run sixty or more miles offshore to chase tuna and other migratory species, looking for lobster pots, grass mats, current rips or anything that helps aggregate bait, the potential opportunity under the towers is extremely exciting.

Regarding the submarine cable electromagnetic field concern and its potential impact on New Jersey's vital summer flounder fishery, we must carefully acknowledge concerns which are based on direct observation, history, facts, and studies. There has been some creative reporting by people opposed to offshore wind to elicit fear and create doubt about the future of wind farms and is intentional and hollow. Few studies have been done on the effects of submarine power EMF on bottom-dwelling fish such as flounder *because no significant observable impacts have ever been reported* with the existing offshore wind farms or submarine power cable systems, anywhere around the world.

If reporters choose to dig a little deeper, and not extract incomplete sentences, they would conclude exactly what the 2006 Danish study found as well. The study concluded that there were no definitive responses or significant negative impacts observed. Flounder continued to cross the cable but may have been observed at times to go slower across the cable during the study, but it never interrupted the fish's travel.

It is important to note that the scientists could not conclusively attribute changes in behavior to the EMF observation methods. This can be for a host of reasons. Perhaps fish were reacting to the cable trench (structure) or even some thermal effects of the cable. Speaking with someone who is in the submarine cable industry, they have personally witnessed thousands of flatfish in the North Sea crossing submarine power cables, swimming along them, and even using the remains of the cable trench as structure to hunt and hide for prey.

Overall, Offshore wind power leads to an improved and sustainable coastal economy. Looking at the long-term gains instead of short-term profits, offshore wind power could help stem the tide of rising

water temperatures and help to hold our gamefish species along our shores and slow many species' northward progression. All this while adding thousands of American jobs, sustaining our coastal economy, and building the recreational fishing business!

Amazon Smile

By Paul Turi, Office Manager

Amazon Smile is a program where Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization selected by its customers. JCAA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and is registered with Amazon Smile to receive these donations from Amazon. If you would like to support JCAA in this manner, whenever you buy something on Amazon, simply go to smile.amazon.com whenever you make a purchase from Amazon and when asked indicate the Jersey Coast Anglers Association as the charitable organization you would like the donation to go to. You will still get the same price you would normally get but Amazon makes the 0.5% of the purchase price donation to JCAA. It's that simple and it is a great way to support JCAA.

Striped Bass Amendment 7 Public Information Hearing Summary

By John Toth

On March 5th, the Atlantic Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) hosted a Public Information Hearing on Amendment 7 to receive comments on the ASMFC's efforts to address the problem of striped bass being overfished and that overfishing is occurring. The staff of ASMFC gave a brief presentation on the status of striped bass stocks to show that the stocks have declined and followed by any questions the public may have had on the presentation. Then the floor opened for public comment and the following comments were made. I do not capture all of the comments since this hearing went on for almost 3 hours.

How can you allow striped bass to be caught in federal waters when the stocks are in trouble?
Answer - The ASMFC is responsible for the

management of striped bass in state waters (up to 3 miles. Beyond 3 miles is under the jurisdiction of the federal government (NOAA).

Are you confident your 9% Discard Mortality rate of striped bass? Answer – The ASMFC is confident about this 9% discard rate that has been studied for quite some time.

Is this 9% discard rate calculated in the overall information that determines the status of striped bass stocks and quotas? – Answer – Yes

How about the NJ DEP developing a good information program to instruct anglers on the proper methods to handle striped bass to reduce striped bass mortality, including circle hooks by a video presentation? Answer – Yes, the NJ DEP will look into providing an information program that better explains how anglers can reduce striped bass mortality with better practices of fish handling and the use of circle hooks. If the bass are properly handled by anglers when they are caught and released, striped bass mortality will be decreased.

Why not close fishing for striped bass in those areas where striped bass are spawning, especially when they first come into our waters? Answer – This can be a tool to reduce striped bass mortality and will be considered for implementation. (This same recommendation came up at a public meeting that was held in Mantoloking, NJ in September of 2019 to hear public comments on Amendment 6. Anglers expressed concern that when the striped bass come in and start to spawn, fishing boats converge on these prime locations and catch a lot of bass that may have not had a chance to spawn. Why not give the bass in these areas a closed season so that they all had the opportunity to spawn without being decimated? A number of anglers at this meeting agreed with this recommendation.)

Enough is enough and we need a 10 year moratorium now on catching striped bass, do you agree? Answer- there was no commitment on the part of ASMFC to pursue this 10 year moratorium. (I expressed the comment that an issue like this needs to be looked at with several approaches for resolution and not just by a total moratorium. For example, a 10-year moratorium would put the for-hire fishing fleet and tackle shops out of business and the loss of many related jobs.) Jim Hutchinson, Editor of the Fishermen magazine, asked “during this moratorium, will anglers be allowed to fish for striped bass on a catch & release basis?” A representative from the NJ DEP did not know the answer to this question since he never

encountered this type of moratorium. Fishing for striped bass even at a catch and release basis will result in striped bass mortality if they are not properly released, especially if a large number of them are caught for sport purposes. Given the 9% mortality rate, it is assumed that at least 9% of those fish that are caught by this method will die).

Can the NJ Striped bass Bonus Tag program be eliminated to reduce fishing mortality? Answer - It can be considered. This Bonus Tag Program is administered by the NJ DEP and it gives one Bonus Tag to be used for anglers who apply for them. The requirement for the recipient of this tag is to provide a report to the NJ DEP on the fish that is caught concerning size, location of landing, etc. This information is used by the NJ DEP to evaluate the status of striped bass stocks so it can be applied to determine the quota of striped bass for the following season. Simply put, the Striped Bass Bonus Tag Program gives the NJ DEP some idea of the health of stocks of bass that swim in New Jersey’s waters.

Next Steps and they are subject to change:

- **May 2021:** ASMFC to provide a document summarizing the public comments;
- **November 2021:** ASMFC to provide a document indicating the direction it intends to pursue to better manage striped bass and receiving public comment on it;
- **February 2023:** ASMFC to produce its new program to better manage striped bass.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

NEW SUMMER FISHING PROGRAMS

Women and Veterans can learn about surf fishing so they can take their families fishing. Our JCAA Youth Education Committee is excited about two new fishing programs that will be introduced by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. They are offering two surf fishing workshops, one for women 18 years and older and one for military veterans. Register to join surf fishing instructors in a virtual meeting to learn the basics of surf fishing. Then practice what you learned when you visit IBSP on Saturday, May 8 at Island Beach State Park to try your hand at surf

fishing. You must attend the online meeting to participate in the hands-on fishing segment.

- Women's Surf Fishing Workshop: [Info](#), [Register](#)
- Veteran's Surf Fishing Workshop: [Info](#), [Register](#)

The Veteran's Surf Fishing workshop is a perfect program to get ready for the upcoming Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. It also connects other veterans that are willing to experience surf fishing in a group setting. Our Play HOOK-e from PTSD program will help support this fishing opportunity for disabled veterans.

MA 22, Operation Hook It, is another great complement to our "Play HOOK-e from PTSD" program. 300 Veterans will have the opportunity to participate in Operation Hook It for FREE. Boaters & Captains will support our heroes, and Veteran Advocates are welcome to volunteer. Registration closes on May 21st. [Register here](#).

30th ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

The 30th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT) will be held at Island Beach State Park on Sunday, May 23, 2021. Get ready to enter the largest surf fishing tournament along the Jersey Shore. Don't miss a day of family fishing fun! Pick up a brochure about the tournament at Island Beach State Park or at your favorite tackle dealer. Remember admission to the park is FREE for the tournament.

Tournament officials and sponsoring organizations are excited about the 30-year anniversary and are looking forward to another successful event. This year, Yamaha Motors has joined us to set up an outdoor booth to support the tournament and provide items for the high school and NJ HOFNOD fishing teams.

This is the time to [start preparing](#) your fish catching strategies so that you can catch a trophy fish that will win the 2021 Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament and win PRIZES. If you catch the largest fish, your name will be inscribed on the Governor's Cup with previous winners and displayed at the IBSP for all to see. High school fishing clubs, along with other school-based fishing teams will have a chance to win the high school team competition trophy.

We would like to remind our physically challenged anglers that there is an area at OBA 1 with beach wheelchairs available. Anglers that are not able to walk in the sand can now get to the water and try surf fishing. The JCAA Youth Education Committee is helping novice and physically challenged anglers at the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. World Jeep – Chrysler – Dodge - Ram, Shrewsbury, NJ will assist physically challenged anglers with a NEW 2021 4x4 VIP vehicle to transport anglers that will be fishing the reserved area in front of OBA 1. Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12) and volunteer anglers from various fishing clubs will also assist physically challenged anglers. If you know a disabled veteran or angler that would like to fish the tournament, please phone Greg K at 732-785-9278 or email gkucharews@jcaa.org.

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

YOUTH FISHING CHALLENGE STATEWIDE EVENT

Another great family event is scheduled for Saturday, June 5th. The Hooked-on Fishing-Not on Drugs Program's Youth Fishing Challenge is a statewide event to promote fishing among youths and their families. NJ Fish and Wildlife sponsors the program and it is being held on the first of the state's two Free Fishing Days, Saturday, June 5, when no license is required to fish regardless of age. For more information and to register your group location visit [this link](#).

5th ANNUAL KID'S WISH'N TO GO FISH'N

Registration for the 5th Annual Kid's Wish'n to go Fish'n, Ponderosa Estates Farm will open soon. Don Marantz, Event Chairman, Vito Cardinale, Cardinale Enterprises LCC, and Randy Johnson, Laurita Winery always make this a fun event for children with disabilities and special needs. Last year we combined the Play HOOK-e Take a Veteran Fishing Day with the Kid's Wish'n to go Fish'n program. Veterans enjoyed fishing and helping youngsters learn to fish so event organizers decided to duplicate the event format. Keep an eye on the JCAA website for more details.