The Acute Angler

September, 2022
Volume 55, Number 9

The monthly newsletter of the Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club

September Hot Shot

More shrimp, please.

Mike Dumas used his proficient cast net skills at the St John's River shrimp learnament on August 27 (more photos on page 12)

It seems we may be blessed with a long shrimp season this year. See Charlie Courtney's article on pages 8-9.

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President's Corner

By Ross McElroy

GOFC President

It's mid September and the fishing should be great for the rest of the year. Hopefully we've seen the worst of the heat, rain and wind that have made summer so difficult. Keep your fingers crossed, it's still hurricane season. GOFC has a lot planed for the end of the year, so let's get to it.

We have two more speakers scheduled; September 27, Saltwater Assassins out of Cedar Key will be with us to talk about inshore fishing in the Big Bend Area. I have been out with Jimbo Keith many times and enjoyed every trip. He is very attentive and takes "good care of his customers ". I have learned a lot about inshore fishing Cedar Key from him. Actually almost everything I know about Cedar Key. (Also, he has told me confidentially that his dad Jim Keith is still the better fisherman, but don't tell him I told you.) On October 25, we are scheduled to have Dave Ferrell of the Florida Fishing Report as our speaker. We will also elect the Board of directors for 2023 at that meeting. The board has 12 elected members plus alternates. If you are interested in being more involved in the club and want to be on the board let me know or email secretary@gofc.us. It is am great way to learn about the club and make new friends. Also, any member can attend a GOFC Board of Directors meeting (first Tuesday of the month) as a guest.

We have a learnament lead by John Patrick on shallow water grouper fishing on the rocks at Crystal River scheduled for November 12. This is limited to only 8 boats. Watch your emails for sign-up instructions. Crystal River is unique in being able to catch grouper in 10-12 feet of water. You will learn eight new GPS numbers that hold grouper or for people like me, rocks to avoid ruining my lower unit at low tide.

(Presidents column cont'd on next page)

On November 18, we have the annual Ellett Auction at the home of Ed and Marcia Ellett. This is a great way to pick up items you may need, make money for the club and have all the good food courtesy of Virgil and Tim. This is the last social of the year and always a big event.

We have two more tournaments scheduled: October 22, the Cedar Key Fall, All Ellett Species Tournament and December 3, Redfish and Trout tournament. Again, watch your emails for details.

Ross McElroy

President, GOFC

From the Editor

By Jeff Gartland

GOFC Editor

I don't know about you, but it seems that we're accepting that Covid will always be with us.

By this I mean that we're seeing levels of participation in club events returning to pre-pandemic levels. The August 27 St John's River shrimp learnament was well attended, even after many members had exhausted their castnetting muscles on the earlier Cedar Key shrimp run. Also, the August 12 social/ barbeque dinner at Ultimate Boat and RV Storage went way over our expectations of 30-60 participants when over 100 folks joined in.

Other indicators are the uptick in new club members. To all new members, please make it a point to attend the monthly General meetings which restart this month after a July-August summer break. . This is great opportunity to meet your fellow members and learn from our roster of gulf coast fishing experts. Our speaker for September 27 is Jimbo Keith of Saltwater Assassins guide service out of Cedar Key. We guarantee you'll learn something and pass a good time.

Also, coming up in **October is the election for GOFC Board of Directors** (page 4). We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to get more involved in your club. No experience necessary, just a desire to help out. More information is on page 6.

Ways to help your club

There are so many ways to help out, just of which are:

- **Join the Board of Directors.** It's a great way to get to know your fellow members better while helping out the club. If interested contact us at secretary@gofc.us. New members will be elected at the October 25 General meeting.
- **Write an article** for the Acute Angler newsletter. A day of saltwater fishing is a lot more challenging than writing about something you know. Like getting back to port after a long day on the water, seeing your article published feels pretty good. **newsletter@gofc.us**
- **Help manage the website**. If you have skills in websites building/management we have a continuous need to keep the GOFC website fresh GOFC website
- **Help out at tournaments**, members only banquets and general meetings.
- **Submit your favorite fishing photos** (see next paragraph).

Please feel free to contact **newsletter@gofc.us** if you have any questions.

And as always:
All members are encouraged to submit photos to the GOFC website. Here's the link: Photo Submission Form. Submitted photos will be displayed on our Hot Shots page: GOFC Hot Shots. If you want to show off a catch, a new boat, capture a fun trip, or just get your fishing buddy or family on the website here's your chance.
Please don't hesitate because you think it's "not good enough". If you like it, that's all that matters.

Hot Shot photos are automatically entered in the year end photo contest. Prizes are 1st Place $150, 2nd Place $100, 3rd Place $50.
The winners of the 2021 Photo Contest are featured in the February issue. Look it over. Maybe you'll win 2022. Worst case, you'll be sharing a memory.

I look forward to hearing from you at **newsletter@gofc.us** and sharing the tremendous depth of knowledge and experience within the GOFC membership.

Jeff Gartland

GOFC Editor

Upcoming Events

September 27, Tuesday—Captain Jimbo Keith/ Saltwater Assassins Guide Service/Cedar Key area (page 7)

October 22, 2022 - **Fall Big 10 Species** tournament/ Cedar Key.

October 25 Meeting—Dave Ferrel/Florida Fishing Report. Watch your emails.

November 12, 2022 Shallow Water Grouper Learnament, Crystal. River. Another favorite is back. Details to follow.

November 18, 2022—Ellett Auction at Ed and Marcia Ellett's home.

December 3, 2022 - Redfish/Trout Roundup Tournament/Steinhatchee.

Monthly Meetings—Upcoming meetings will be announced by email. Typically we meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Veterinary Academic Building .Fellowship begins at 7:00 pm and the meeting proper begins at 7:30.

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Chic's "Nothing but the Truth" Fishing Report

by Chic Hinton

Football season is here but there's somewhat of a question of how exciting Gator football will be this year. There will be no question about how exciting the rest of the fishing year will be. Days are getting shorter, a little cooler and the bite a little hotter.

You can take your big boat out as far as you want to and catch grouper, snapper, king fish and amberjack or you can take your little boat as close to shore as you want to and catch large redfish, snook and trout.

if you haven't entered all the 10 species for the clubs Elliot award now is the time to fill in the blanks.

The club meeting on September 27 will feature one of the areas best fishing guides, Jimbo Keith of Saltwater Assassins. Jimbo has a knack for putting clients on fish year round and in all kinds of weather. Last year I heard Jimbo had a last-minute cancellation for the next day so I booked it. I later found out the cancellation was because of a 20-25 knot winds. The next morning, we left the dock headed towards Suwannee River area but we made the turn by the airport and took a wave over the bow.

Jimbo quickly turned around and heading toward the dock and I thought the trip was over but we stopped near Dog Island and boated 15 trout in less than an hour. After that it was under a bridge and toward the number four channel area where we got three redfish and two sheepshead to complete a trip. All this in less than desirable weather!

Jimbo will share a lot of his secrets of Cedar Key fishing, his techniques for catching fish and where to fish. You don't want to miss this meeting.

On a recent trip with Ross McElroy, GOFC President, he caught a 22 inch redfish. After cleaning the fish and opening it's stomach, we saw it contained about 20 bait fish, four fiddler crabs and three shrimp. None of which were digested yet!

I hope to see you on the water and at the next meeting.

Remember to keep your rod tip up and your line tight!

If you have suggestions for club activities or meetings please email newsletter@gofc.us.

See you on the water!
Chic

Crystal River Tips

By Mark Robinson

Crystal River offers a wide variety of water sports pleasures, including swimming with manatee, diving in fresh-water springs, scalloping in the beautiful fish nurseries which are the grass flats and the full spectrum of inshore and offshore. Getting on the water can be as easy as jumping on one of the many tours and charter, renting or launching kayaks, or your own inshore or offshore rig.

This time of year snook, trout, redfish can be found at the spoil banks out from power plant. As fall arrives grouper, king and Spanish mackerel can be found in the barge canal. Cobia are also found around the markers along the canal.

WARNING: rocks and oyster bars are plentiful in the area. Exercise caution and stay in the channels, travel slowly and with care in and around the fowl areas

Boat Ramps

Access is found at numerous locations with fresh to salt water boat ramps along the river and canals:

Fort Island Trail Boat Ramp – inshore 11978 W Blue Bayou Ct. The facility includes 4 ramps in brackish water, restrooms, showers, and parking.

Dockside Boat Ramp, 320 NW US-19, single small ramp, fresh water, limited parking.

Fort Island Trail – Outside (Beach) Ramp (shallow draft) bathroom & showers, shallow, salt water

Other area ramps of interest include: Ozello- good for kayaks, Yankeetown, Ingles ramp - CR 40, and the barge canal ramp. Plantation- small boat ramp, Ramp & bait by Denny's at Day Inn (by Wyndham), Yankeetown, Cyprus marina and the Barge canal ramp.

Marina's include: Pete's Pier - 1sw, SW 1st Pl, Twin River's on the Ft Island Trail is down river and is commonly accessed by boat for fuel.

Fuel / Ice / Tackle / Dive Shops and many other resources are available:

-Non-ethanol Fuel is readily available at many locations
-Bulk Ice can be found at a machine on Route 44 approximately one mile east of Wawa on US 19, and the machine in parking lot on the East side of US 19, across the street from Harbor Freight

-Others are Sodium, Ed's, Pete's Pier, Salty Hook, West Marine, Shrimp Landing, and more

-Birds Dive Center, 300 N US Highway 19, 352.563.2763, America Pro Dive Center, Plantation Dive Center

Food

There are many good dining options as well as Publix and Winn Dixie.

Grannies Country Cookin' is favorite for breakfast as it opens at 5am. It is located on SR 98 at Ft Island Trail. Brooklyn Dockside Deli, 300 N US Highway 19, 352.795.6669 – also offers a nice breakfast and sandwiches. Other favorite venues include Crackers Bar & Grill, Charlies Seafood, The Crab Plant, the Boil Yard , Dan's Clam Stand (east on route 44 ~3 mile, on north side of road) Seafood Seller & Café, by Save A Lot & West Marine, 352.228.4936, Pecks in Ozella.

Kids will enjoy ice cream from the Dockside Ice Cream Shoppe, 300 N US Highway 19, 352) 563-0559

Emergency Service

Sea Tow 727-849-6612 / Boat US 800-395-2628

Want to get more involved in your fishing club? Join the GOFC Board of Directors!

Each Fall we hold elections for club officers and Board of Directors members for the following year. We look forward to new members on the GOFC Board and now is your chance to get in on the action! No experience necessary.

Becoming a board member is a great way to give back to the club and make some new friends. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month and start at 7 PM. Most folks arrive early to socialize. We talk fishing a lot as well as conducting the business of the club.

The board makes tournament decisions, recommends meeting speakers, organizes and runs the banquets and events, maintains the GOFC website and many more activities. It's a great way to put some of your skills to use and make new fishing friends.

If you are interested in joining the GOFC Board of Directors please send an email to "secretary@gofc.us" and we will contact you and get your name on the ballot. The Board of Director election will be held at the October 25, 2022, general member meeting, so please reply before then.

While the Board is limited to 12 members we need as many alternates as we can get, so you are assured a place on the board in some capacity.

The Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club was started in 1968 by a small group of UF professors who shared an avid love for fishing. Now, more than fifty years later, GOFC continues to grow and attract anglers from all walks of life with more than 100 member families. The Club's stated goal is to promote and support recreational saltwater fishing in the Big Bend area, to provide educational and recreational experiences for its members of all ages, and to promote responsible conservation of saltwater resources.

Thank you for your participation!

Ros McElroy
GOFC President
president@gofc.us

Reminder: The next meeting of the Gainesville Offshore Fishing Club will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022

The featured speaker at the September meeting will be Jimbo Keith of Saltwater Assassin Fishing Charters

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Jimbo Keith earned his captain's license in 2005 and joined the family guide business that his father, Jim Keith, started 37 years ago in 1985. Since then, Saltwater Assassin Fishing Charters in Cedar Key has grown into one of the premier guide services along the Big Bend of Florida offering both saltwater and freshwater trips. Jimbo will talk about fishing in the Big Bend and take questions from the audience.

There will be lots of pizza, drinks, door prizes, raffles, and information about club events at the meeting so look forward to a fun and informative evening!

GOFC's general meetings are open to the public and prospective members are always encouraged to attend.

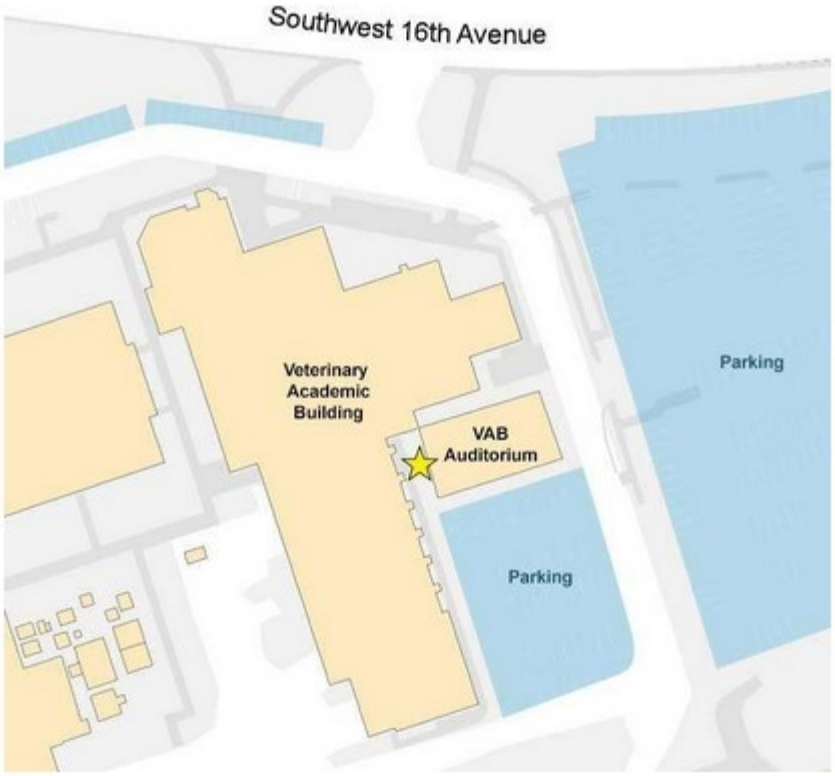
Meeting Date and Time:

Tuesday, September 27th, 2022
The doors will open for fellowship at 7 PM.

Location:

As usual, the meeting will be held in the Auditorium of the Veterinary Academic Building at University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. There's always plenty of free parking right outside the auditorium and GOFC signs will be put out to help guide the way.

The Auditorium's street address is 1937 SW 16th Avenue, Gainesville, FL.



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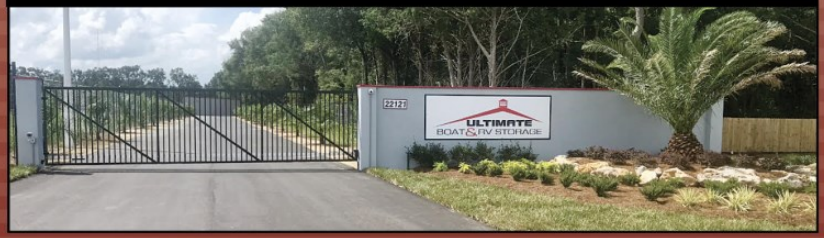

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You Ask, We Answer!

We've started this column to respond to your questions and suggestions. A number of members have written in asking for information on the increased presence of large **Atlantic white shrimp** in our Big Bend waters. Charlie Courtney writes about this in a three part series:

1- Basic biology and life history –this issue

2-Catching shrimp—October

3-Preserving and cooking your catch—November

Atlantic White Shrimp in the Big Bend— basic biology and life history

By Charlie Courtney

GOFC members have enjoyed a banner year for catching shrimp, not only in numbers but also in size, with some real Big Bend whoppers caught over the summer. Since the species of shrimp we regularly target is the Atlantic White Shrimp, I thought I would discuss that species in some detail. What follows is the first in a 3 part series. This part will discuss the biology of the white shrimp, the second part will cover locating and catching them, and the third part will cover preserving and cooking them.

According to NOAA Fisheries, there are two separate stocks of White Shrimp in our area: (1) the Gulf of Mexico stock, which we catch from Cedar Key to Steinhatchee, and (2) the South Atlantic stock, which we catch in the St. Johns River. The two stocks do not meet, because White Shrimp presumably are not tolerant of the tropical conditions of South Florida. The good news is that (in NOAASpeak) neither stock is overfished or undergoing over fishing. In other words, there are plenty of White Shrimp to go around.

Identification

White Shrimp are classified as decapod crustaceans, which means they have 5 pairs of walking legs on the cephalothorax (the head end), the first three sets of which have claws. They also have an additional 5 pairs of swimming legs attached to the abdomen (the part we eat). They can move by walking with with their walking legs, swimming with their swimming legs, or snapping their tail. They will walk on the bottom for only short distances, but they may swim some 2-5 miles a day while migrating back out to sea. A tail snap propels them rapidly backwards to escape danger.

White Shrimp can be distinguished from other local shrimp species by their very long antennas, which are some 2.5-3 times the length of their bodies. They are the largest of the shrimps in our area, and, as we saw earlier in the summer, their bodies (exclusive of antennae) can grow to some 7 or 8 inches long. They also are spiny critters, with two sharp horns at the head end and a single spine at the tail end — reaching carelessly into a bucket full of White Shrimp can be a painful experience!

Life history

White shrimp prefer warm, shallow waters with muddy bottoms, and are found near the shore in the open ocean, out to depths of 90 feet. Shrimp grow rapidly when the water temperature is 68 degrees or more. However, they are very sensitive to cold, with growth slowing as temperatures fall below 60 degrees, and are killed by temperatures below 40 degrees. It is likely that the very mild winter of 2021-2022 enhanced the winter survival of White Shrimp in the Big Bend region resulting in some spectacular harvests of over wintered shrimp in the early summer.

White shrimp are fairly short lived, rarely surviving to 2 years of age, and are treated as an "annual crop" for management purposes. They are fast growing under good conditions, growing from small "bait" shrimp to the 7-8 inch super jumbos in some 2-3 months under ideal conditions. Although these larger shrimp are impressive to look at, I find that them to be somewhat flavorless and do not taste as good as the smaller specimens unless heavily seasoned. Indeed, the Cajuns of Louisiana much prefer smaller shrimp in their cuisine, disparagingly calling these larger specimens "tourist shrimp."

White Shrimp spawn offshore beginning when they are as little as 5½ inches long. Spawning begins when sea bottom temperatures rise and ceases when they cool, thus spawning typically occurs March through September in Florida. The larval shrimp are subsequently carried by tides and currents inshore, doing this by moving up into the water column on rising tides and settling down into the mud during ebbing tides. They finally settle down far up shallow tidal creeks, remaining there for some 2-3 months. During this time they will grow to 4 inches long and move into marsh grasses on high tides to feed and seek protection. On low tides they move back out into the creeks, with the small specimens remaining close to the edges and the larger shrimp seeking deeper water.

Young shrimp hatched late in the spawning season may overwinter and then grow in the spring before returning to the sea to spawn. The very large shrimp caught by GOFC members in June and July likely were part of this cohort. Those hatched earlier in the spawning season will grow to maturity in the fall, thus we should expect to catch some nice sized shrimp again in the Big Bend during late September and October.

In the St, Johns River, larval shrimp are carried up the river into tidal creeks and estuaries as far south as Lake George. Then as they grow they reverse this migration and head down river to the open sea to spawn. In good years the shrimp often grow large enough (5 inches or so) that they will actually spawn in the river. Cooling water temperatures in the fall (below 65 degrees) or a massive infusion of fresh water, such as from a hurricane or tropical storm, will signal the shrimp to head down river and out to sea.

White Shrimp are shy of bright light, preferring to feed in shallower water at night and migrate to deeper or shaded areas during the brightest part of the day. Those of us seeking shrimp in the St. Johns River take advantage of this pattern by casting our nets in the shallows at night and in deeper areas during the day. Less is known of the daily migrations in the Big Bend, but I have caught limits of shrimp under bridges and in deeper holes on high tides shortly after noon when there were few to be found in those same spots a couple of hours earlier.

That’s it for the biology of the white shrimp. Next month I will talk about when, where and how to catch shrimp.

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St John's River Shrimp Learnament
August 27, 2022

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Understanding the Ellett Contest

With credit to Brian Kiel

Understanding the John Ellett Contest

The John Ellett contest is a club contest that runs one year long and pits club members against each other in a friendly fishing contest encompassing three categories: Men's, Women's and Elite. A simplified formula awards points on a relative basis based on the heaviest fish of each species, with the exception of amberjack and kingfish which are based on length. Each species category has a maximum of 25 points and points are totaled to give an overall Ellett standing. For example, if the heaviest trout entered was a 6 lb. trout, this trout would receive the maximum 25 points, while a trout weighing half of that weight (3 lb.) would receive half of the 25 points (12.5 pts.). A 1.5 lb. trout would receive 6.25 pts. Current Ellett standings are printed in the club's Acute Angler newsletter, magazine, and on the GOFC website (Ellett standings).

It's easy to participate in the contest. All that's required is that you submit a weigh slip of any or all of the ten species the club fishes for: spotted seatrout, redfish, flounder, sheepshead, cobia, kingfish, Spanish mackerel, greater amberjack, bluefish, and grouper. Any scale can be used to estimate the fish weight, however, when a fish exceeds the maximum weight for a particular species (see bottom of weigh slip under Heavy Catches), that fish must be weighed on a State certified scale like those found in commercial establishments that use a scale to determine the value of an item sold to the public. A fish house like Northwest Seafood in Gainesville will usually weigh fish, if asked nicely. The weight should be noted on a receipt or store weigh slip, signed by the individual weighing the fish, and attached to the GOFC weigh slip to be turned into the club. The club Weighmaster keeps a certified club scale at home for members to use (contact the GOFC Weighmaster/Record Keeper, weighslip@gofc.us).

To win the contest you don't have to catch the largest fish, just catch as many of the 10 species as you can (hopefully a couple will be heavy fish). Participation in club events also helps as points are awarded for participation in club Tournaments (2 pts.) and Funaments (1 pt.). Writing an article for the Acute Angler is worth 3 points.

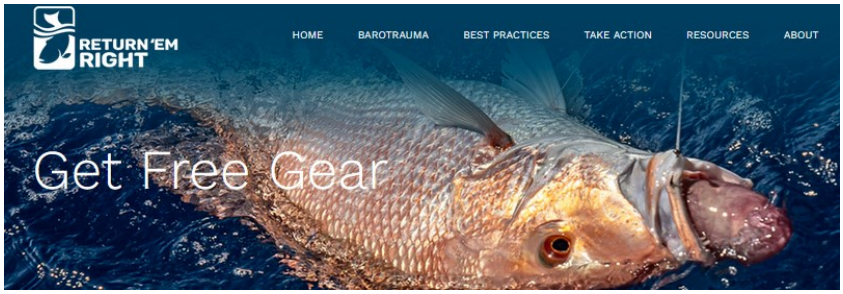
Awards are given to three places with the top male & female angler receiving a coveted inscribed pewter plate from the Ellett family, who happen to have sponsored this contest since its inception. The Ellett contest dates run from January 1st to December 31st with awards given out during the March Awards Banquet.

In addition to the Ellett awards, the club also gives awards and recognition for the heaviest three fish of each species. The club also maintains a list of GOFC Record Catches that include 109 species, so keep any species that is either not noted or exceeds the record. You can also submit a weigh slip for one of the "Other Two" species (dolphin and tripletail) to be computed for a separate award following the same guidelines for Special Category

GAINESVILLE OFFSHORE FISHING CLUB

Items of Interest—Free Descending Device

"Return' Em Right" offers free descending devices



Most of us have reeled up a fish from depth with the stomach forced outside by an expanding bladder. We have also experienced the heartache of watching it float away on surface unable to dive after being released because it is undersize or out of season.

It's now a legal requirement (the DESCEND act) for anyone bottom fishing in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico to have a venting tool or descending device.

To educate anglers in responsible release practices the Return "Em Right program was started. Anglers can register for a 15 minute online review of best practices. Upon completion Return 'Em Right will send free of charge a kit with two descending devices, lead and all the tools you'll need. This is a $100 value and the right thing for anglers to do.

Ellett Contest Recent Catches
New Entries from August 1—September 15, 2022

Angler	Species	Weight or length	Date caught	Location	Bait or Lure
Marcia Ellett	Redfish	5.8 lbs	9/5/2022	Cedar Key	Gulp
Chic Hinton	Bluefish	2.8 lbs	9/3/2022	CK	Pinfish
Chic Hinton	Redfish	2.44 lbs	9/3/2022	CK	Shrimp
Virgil Cooper	Flounder	3.67 lbs	8/26/2022	Cedar key	Shrimp
John Patrick	Bluefish	1.5 lbs	8/24/2022	Crystal River	Lure
Miriam S. Tavarez	Bluefish	3.04 lbs	8/24/2022	Crystal River	Lure
Ken Knopf	Bluefish	1.89 lbs	8/6/2022	Cedar Key	Jig
Ed Ellett	Bluefish	3.28 lbs	8/14/2022	Snake Key	Gulp
Dale Reed	Seatrout	3.4 lbs	8/6/2022	Steinhatchee	Lg pinfish
Dale Reed	Bluefish	2.4 lbs	8/6/2022	Steinhatchee	Mirrolure
Carl Vining	Cobia	19.52 lbs	7/28/2022	Cedar Key	Bait

Ellett Contest Standings as of 09/15/2022

Men's

GOFC member	Amberjack	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshead	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus
Pedersen, Tim	34.50	25.00	2.53	18.71	12.45	12.87	1.68	19.27	5.80	15.09	37.00	20.56	6.69	23.89	4.32	20.07	5.16	24.16	6.07	25.00	4
Ellett, Ed		0.00	3.28	24.26	24.19	25.00	1.76	20.18	9.61	25.00		0.00	6.40	22.86	5.38	25.00	4.54	21.25	2.94	12.10	
Vining, Carl		0.00	3.38	25.00	19.52	20.17	2.18	25.00		0.00	36.00	20.00	5.04	18.00	2.38	11.06	3.50	16.39	2.06	8.48	2
Hinton, Chic	34.50	25.00	2.80	20.71		0.00		0.00		0.00	37.63	20.91	2.44	8.71	3.75	17.43	4.00	18.73	2.25	9.26	6
Jaworski, Tom		0.00	1.19	8.80		0.00	1.59	18.23	7.31	19.02		0.00	3.14	11.21	3.31	15.38	4.69	21.96	3.24	13.34	8
Horn, Phil		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	36.75	20.42	7.00	25.00	5.27	24.49	5.34	25.00	3.86	15.89	2
Reed, Dale		0.00	2.40	17.75		0.00		0.00	7.55	19.64		0.00	4.35	15.54	3.46	16.08	2.76	12.92	3.40	13.99	6
DeGraff, Stephen		0.00	2.24	16.57		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.04	21.20	1.00	4.65	4.32	20.22	4.69	19.30	4
Jeff Gartland	34.00	24.64	1.20	8.88		0.00		0.00		0.00	45.00	25.00		0.00		0.00	2.30	10.77		0.00	2
Byatt, John		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.00	22.94		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	4.40	18.11	
Peacock, Jay		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.01	21.11		0.00		0.00	4.62	19.02	
Mark Rustemier		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.62	13.20		0.00	2
Daniel Czyz		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.84	13.20		0.00		0.00	2
Kiel, Brian		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.22	15.07		0.00	
Mike Wohl		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.09	9.71		0.00		0.00	4
Greco, Dominic		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.24	13.34	
Matt Green		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.92	8.92		0.00		0.00	2
Mundt, William		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.94	7.98	
Tristan Woodrone		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.68	7.81		0.00		0.00	
Rustemier, Mark		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.50	6.17	

Women's

GOFC member	Amberjack	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshead	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus	TOTALS
Sanders, Staci		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.13	25.00		0.00		0.00	6.13	25.00	3.00	25.00	2.60	25.00	1.80	14.38	2	116.38
Mundt, Mary		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.06	19.81	1.31	10.46	0	30.27
Cross, Dawn		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.74	22.83		0.00		0.00	6	28.83
Horn, Rhonda		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	3.13	25.00	0	25.00
Tavarez, Miriam		0.00	3.04	25.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0	25.00
Stephanie Green		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.70	22.50		0.00		0.00	0	22.50
Charlotte Pedersen		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	2.43	20.25		0.00		0.00	2	22.25
Turner, Elaine		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.50	12.70	0	12.70

Elite

GOFC member	Amberjack	points	Bluefish	points	Cobia	points	Flounder	points	Grouper	points	King Mack	points	Redfish	points	Sheepshead	points	Span Mack	points	Trout	points	Bonus	TOTALS
Cooper, Virgil		0.00	2.26	25.00		0.00	3.67	25.00	11.81	25.00	35.25	25.00	7.01	22.30	5.00	25.00	3.27	19.46	6.62	25.00	4	195.76
Knopf, Ken		0.00	1.89	20.77		0.00	1.58	10.76	11.75	24.87		0.00	7.05	22.42	3.53	14.81	4.20	25.00	3.67	13.86	6	138.50
Knopf, Debby		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	7.66	25.00	3.85	16.15	3.73	22.20	2.13	8.04	6	77.40
Patrick, John		0.00	1.50	16.48		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	7.63	24.27		0.00		0.00		0.00		40.75
Ellett, Marcia		0.00		0.00		0.00	1.06	7.22		0.00		0.00	5.60	18.45		0.00	1.56	9.29	1.48	5.59		40.54
Turner, Allen		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	5.44	22.82		0.00		0.00		22.82

FWC News—Red Snapper and Greater Amberjack Seasons Announced

News

2022 Gulf Recreational Red Snapper

- Florida's 2022 recreational red snapper season will open June 17 and run consecutively through July 31.
- The season will reopen in the fall for the following weekends:
Oct. 8-9 (Sat. & Sun)
Oct. 15-16 (Sat. & Sun)
Oct. 22-23 (Sat. & Sun)
Nov. 11-13 (Fri., Sat. & Sun - Veterans Day weekend)
Nov. 25-27 (Fri., Sat. & Sun - Thanksgiving weekend)
- This season applys to recreational anglers fishing from private vessels in Florida Gulf state and federal waters. For-hire operations that do not have a federal reef fish permit may also participate in the season but are limited to fishing for red snapper in Florida Gulf state waters only.
- Florida was required to reduced the 2022 quota by 13% to payback 2021 overages. The current 2022 quota is 1,167,163 lbs.

2022 Gulf Gag Grouper

	Recreational		Commercial
Season	Open June 1 – December 31. If landings reach the recreational ACL, harvest will be prohibited for the remainder of the fishing year.	Season	Gag grouper is managed under an individual fishing quota (IFQ) program. Anyone commercially fishing for gag grouper must possess allocation and follow established protocols.
Minimum Size Limit	24 inches total length	Minimum Size Limit	24 inches total length
Bag Limit	2 per person within the 4 grouper aggregate bag limit which includes gag, red grouper, black grouper, scamp, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, yellowedge grouper, snowy grouper, speckled hind, and warsaw grouper. No grouper may be retained by the captain or crew of a vessel operating as a charter vessel or headboat.	Trip Limit	none
Permit	State issued recreational license/angler registry, federal angler registry or Federal charter/headboat permit for reef fish	Permit	Commercial vessel permit for reef fish is required. Additionally, an eastern Gulf reef fish bottom longline endorsement required to use bottom longline for Gulf reef fish in the federal waters east of 85°30′ longitude.
	Non-stainless steel circle hooks are required		Non-stainless steel circle hooks are required when fishing with natural

Greater Amberjack Season Opening May 1-May 31, Aug 1—Oct 31

Greater Amberjack | Lesser Amberjack and Banded Rudderfish

Gulf

State and federal waters:

- Minimum Size Limit: 34" Fork Length
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: Open May 1-31 and Aug. 1-Oct. 31.

Atlantic

State waters:

- Minimum Size Limit: 28" Fork Length
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person
- Season: Open year-round

Special regulations apply for this species when fishing in Biscayne National Park.

In the Atlantic reef fish fishery, gear rules[2] require dehooking tools, and *as of Jan. 1, 2021*, non-stainless steel hooks in all state waters, and non-offset circle hooks N. of 28 ° N. latitude.

Federal waters:

- Minimum size limit: 28" FL
- Daily Bag Limit: 1 per person

There has been a change to the GOFC official rules relating to King Mackerel (Kingfish)

To all GOFC Members. Please be aware of the following changes:

These changes were made and approved in January's GOFC Board meeting on 1/11/2022.

Change #1 = GOFC Webpage - https://gofc.us/rules/

Last bullet item in the section titled - *"Fish Entry Conditions" Now states:*

"Amberjack **and King Mackerel** can be entered all year long regardless of closed seasons with the requirement that they be released unharmed if caught during a closed season. Amberjack **and King Mackerel** will be entered and scored based on overall length measured from the tip of the jaw or tip of the snout with closed mouth to the center of the fork in the tail. **Entries must include a photo with the complete length of the fish**. Amberjack **and King Mackerel** can still be entered by weight for club record purposes as long as the fish was caught during an open season."

Change #2 = GOFC Webpage - https://gofc.us/about-tournaments-and-contests/

Sections 3 and 5

First bullet item in section 3 titled - ***"Ellett Angler of the Year (Official Contest Weigh Slip)" Now states:***

• A year-long contest in which points are awarded (based on weight) for bluefish, cobia, flounder, grouper, redfish, sheepshead, spanish mackerel, trout and (by length) for amberjack and king mackerel

First bullet item in section 5 titled - ***"Top Offshore Angler of the Year (Official Weigh Slip)" Now states:***

• A year-long contest in which points are awarded (by weight) for cobia, grouper, spanish mackerel and (by length) for amberjack and king mackerel