



Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association

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2009 Spring Tournament

What: Registration - MSSA 26th Annual spring tournament, "Championship on the Chesapeake"

Where: 7 Boater's World locations throughout the state

When: April 21 - 31

Who: All Anglers

More Info: 410-255-5535, www.mssa.net

(PASADENA, MD) – The Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association (MSSA) is once again gearing up for the Bay's richest rockfish tournament. This marks the 26th year of the MSSA's annual spring rockfish tournament, "Championship on the Chesapeake." For the past 26 years, thousands of anglers have competed in this one-of-a-kind fishing classic.

This tournament, held May 1st-3rd, is right in the middle of the "Trophy Rockfish Season" in the state of Maryland. The Atlantic migratory stock of rockfish will be making their way up the Bay and there is no better time to catch one of these magnificent beauties.

The "Championship on the Chesapeake" gave away more than \$200,000 in prizes last year and this year is no different. "We have an opportunity to write a check for \$100,000 to the winner, if the captain puts up the money and enters all of the calcuttas, or TWT's", Dave Smith, Associate Director said.

The tournament will have 10 weigh stations conveniently located throughout the Bay stretching from Sandy Point State Park to Point Lookout in southern Maryland. Also, in an effort to make the tournament more convenient for its participants, the MSSA has seven Captains' Meetings where anglers are encouraged to sign up for the tournament, enter the calcuattas, and learn the rules. Despite the recent announcement that, long time friend of the MSSA, Boater's World will be closing its doors in the next few months, the meetings are still scheduled as planned at Boater's World locations throughout the state.

Tournament participants who signed up before April 1st will receive a \$75 early bird special and receive gifts from sponsors such as Storm Lure Swim Baits, Tuff-Line, Tsunami Swim Baits, Vision Hooks & Tackle, Hi-Seas fishing line and a chance at several other gifts totaling \$1,000. "We joined up with Fisherman Magazine and other great sponsors to be able to provide the early bird gifts this year to our participants," Smith stated.

The MSSA would like to once again assure its members and its tournament participants that the sale of Boater's World will in no way affect the tournament prize money. "We have had this tournament for 26 years now, even before Boater's World got involved and it was a success", Rich Novotny, Executive Director stated.

The MSSA is urging anyone with questions or anyone who would like to sign-up to please contact the main office at 410-255-5535 or log onto www.mssa.net.