



# Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Championship on the Chesapeake

(PASADENA, MD) – 2010 marks the 27th year the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association (MSSA) will host their annual spring rockfish tournament, Championship on the Chesapeake. The Championship is the largest rockfish tournament in the country, regularly drawing over 650 boats and nearly 3500 anglers.

This three day tournament begins April 30th and ends May 2nd. Anglers from all over the East Coast descend on Maryland to participate in this event and, more importantly, cast their lines in hopes of catching a Trophy rockfish.

“This tournament showcases what the Chesapeake Bay has to offer recreational anglers”, Dave Smith, Executive Director of the MSSA said.

Ten weigh stations scattered throughout the bay will accommodate the thousands of anglers as they bring in their catches. Smith noted that this year the MSSA will be issuing text message alerts to the captains to inform them of the standings. “If we can let our captains and crews know what kind of fish they need to win, there will be more fish released”, Smith said.

MSSA tournaments attract thousands of anglers every year who hope to come home with one of the many different prizes available including the potential \$100,000. Along with the overall prizes, the Tournament includes daily prizes, weigh-station prizes, catch and release prizes, and of course kids prizes. Smith said they have increased the kids' prizes along with expanding the number of kids who will win to the top 15 places.

To join in the fun, participants may attend one of five Captains Meetings held throughout Maryland from Solomons Island to Middle River in the days just prior to the tournament. Here you will be able to ask questions, talk to fellow anglers and, as always, have a chance to win some great door prizes.

MSSA has been the leader in representing recreational anglers in Maryland for almost 30 years now and continues on that mission. With over 7,000 members they are the largest sport fishing group in the state and are the voice of Maryland saltwater anglers.

“Tournaments and recreational anglers provide this state with a huge economic value that supports thousands of jobs and also provides a great quality of life here in Maryland”, Smith said.

If you would like to find out more about this tournament and the MSSA contact the main office at 410-255-5535 or online at [www.mssa.net/championship](http://www.mssa.net/championship).

For more information contact:

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