



Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association
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The 2012 MSSA Captain of the Year (COTY) contest wrapped up with the 20th annual Chesapeake Bay Fall Classic on November 18th. Starting in early May, the contest consists of four tournaments making up the MSSA Tournament Series. In each tournament Captains earn points by catching fish, participating, and fishing on their own boats.

The MSSA Tournament Series is one of the most diverse and grueling tournament series in the world. The four tournaments range from Chesapeake Bay striped bass fishing to inshore flounder fishing to offshore tuna fishing. Weather and fishing conditions are completely different for each tournament along with completely different gear and methods. The MSSA Captain of the Year contest truly measures the skill and talent of our Captains and anglers.

The 2012 Captain of the Year is John Travers of the Frederick chapter. Travers competed in all four tournaments using his own boat and catching fish in three of the four tournaments for a combined total of 998.85 points. Travers took a slight lead after the Tuna-ment as he took first place with a 238 pound big eye tuna.

2012 marked one of the closest contests in recent history with only 52 points separating first and second place. Luke Thatcher, Captain of the Miss Chesapeake out of Chesapeake Beach, took second place with 946.25 points. Thatcher also fished from his own boat in all four tournaments. He earned second place with consistent catches throughout.

Third place went to John Weber of the Southern Maryland chapter. Weber, a consistent Captain of the Year contender finished with 848.65 points. Weber competed in all four tournaments catching fish in three.

1st Place – John Travers
998.85

Four (4) “All-In Entries” in the 2013 MSSA Tournament Series - \$7,500 approx.

2nd Place – Luke Thatcher
946.25

Three (3) “All-In Entries” in 2013 MSSA Tournament Series - \$7,400 approx.

3rd Place – John Weber
848.65

Two (2) “All-In Entries” in 2013 MSSA Tournament Series - \$3,200 approx.

For a complete list of the Top 100 Captains visit www.mssa.net/captain-of-the-year-2

We would like to once again thank all our Captains and anglers for their dedication and support of the MSSA. This contest represents the best and we look forward to 2013.