
The River News

The Official Newsletter Of The Delaware River Fishermen's Association

Volume 15, No. 5

May, 2003

2003 Season Off To A Great Start With Better Tournament Results *(Details inside.)*

Both of the DRFA Tournaments held to date have resulted in more and larger fish than the past few years, thanks perhaps to better weather and water conditions.

The April 26 shad tournament saw 9 members weigh in fish, with the largest being Rick Mawson's 6.29-lb shad. The May 17 Dave Bryant Memorial Smallmouth Tournament saw 21 out of 25 anglers score legal fish – a success ratio of greater than 80%, the best in terms of smallmouth success in years!

Three Big Tournaments On Tap

Over the next month, the DRFA will sponsor three big tournaments.

On Sunday June 1st, the club's first Striper Tournament will be held as a "paper" honor tournament with members being asked to record striper length and girth and to photograph the fish before returning them quickly to the river. *(See the article on page 2 of this newsletter for complete details.)*

On Saturday, June 7th, the club will hold its annual "Big Cat Shootout" tournament open to the

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public. Anyone interested in fishing the tournament can visit the DRFA Web Site or review the details in the article on page 3 of this newsletter.

On Saturday, June 21st, we will hold our first catfish tournament of the year for DRFA members only. *(See the tournament flier on page 7 of this newsletter.)* Remember, this tournament is scheduled for the West Deptford, NJ ramp, so bring a "fresh" \$10-bill for the parking lot bill acceptor if you plan to launch from that ramp.

Once again, club members are reminded that it is their responsibility to check the Web site or the DRFA Tournament hotline (215-945-3635) in the days before every tournament to learn of any changes or cancellations due to weather, water conditions, or any other reason.

President's Message

With a fast-approaching deadline and a lot of other personal/business changes occupying my mind these days, I'll make this note brief.

Despite the reluctance of Mother Nature to keep pace with a normal Spring warm-up, we are well into our fishing tournament season, which brings two things to my mind – fun and work.

It has been good to see members sharing ideas and experiences about fishing at our recent meetings and at the tournaments. I get the sense that guys are enjoying themselves. That's good. But it's only half of the equation.

It takes a little bit of work to stage a successful tournament and I hope

that everybody will volunteer ahead of time and deliver on their commitments so that we can continue to sponsor fun opportunities to compete and enjoy our sport.

Tom Zerumski has been going way above and beyond the call of duty to pull together our Big Cat Shootout tournament for this June. But he could still use a little bit of help on tournament day. I think that the scope of the door prizes he has gathered will impress the contestants and help us keep this tournament a successful fund-raiser for the club for years to come. I look forward to seeing many of you at our future tournaments – for fun and work – in the near future.

See you on the river.

Pete Antoniewicz

Important Dates

Thursday, May 29:

7:00 pm. Monthly meeting in back upstairs meeting room of The Sportsmen's Center, Route 130 North, Bordentown, NJ.

Sunday June 1:

Paper Striper Tournament. Fish anywhere on the river that day, and call in your results. *(See article inside this newsletter for more complete details.)*

Saturday, June 7:

Big Cat Shootout *(See article inside this newsletter.)*

Saturday, June 21:

DRFA Catfish Tournament. *(See flier on page 7 of this newsletter.)*

Minutes of the April Meeting

The April 24th meeting of the DRFA was called to order by club president Pete Antoniewicz at 7:06 pm with 26 members in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Matt Kicinski reported a balance of \$6,870.51 in the club's treasury.

Environmental: The Trenton power plant was reopened. The Portland power plant is not opening, not even to shore fishermen. The docks are in and open in West Deptford. It was noted that the water temps in the river are in the mid 50's. The water temp at the power plant was 64 degrees.

Club members reported some nice shad being caught at the PSE&G plant. Also, some nice stripers are being caught at Florence Bend of the Delaware River.

Old Business: Tom Zerumski and Ron Soto are doing a great job doing the newsletter but we need volunteers to help them out.

Four club members showed up for the annual clean-up at the Trenton Power plant. Thanks to all who helped with the clean-up. Next year, we hope to have more guys show up to help out.

Tom Zerumski stated that he is getting a lot of products for door prizes for the Big Cat Shootout.

The "paper" striper tournament will be on June 1st between the hours of 7 am and 2 pm. It will be strictly on the honor system. The phone number for you to call in your catch on that day is **215-674-1117**. Club members who plan to participate in the tournament are asked to call that number a few days before the tournament,

between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm, so we will know approximately how many people are planning on participating.

New Business: The volunteers who will help at the April 26th Shad tournament are Ray Przybylski, and John Jannett. Vice-president/tournament coordinator Steve Raulfs will be weighmaster. Club member Frank Beck volunteered to help at the May 17th smallmouth tournament. More volunteers are still needed for additional tournaments. If you can help, contact tournament coordinator Steve Raulfs.

Volunteers for the Big Cat Shootout are as follows. Friday evening: Rich Boettinger, Dick Schroeder, Matt Kicinski, Chet Hoffman, Horace Anderson, Bud Faux, Dave Wermuth, Michael Hall, Harry Bareuther, Pete Antoniewicz. Saturday morning: Ray Przybylski, Pete Antoniewicz, Tom Zerumski, Ken Reitz, Dave Wermuth, Harry Bareuther, Michael Hall. For Saturday afternoon: Chet Hoffman, Horace Anderson, Matt Kicinski, Eileen Kicinski, Bud Faux, Steve Raulfs, and Pete Antoniewicz. We can still use extra volunteers for Saturday afternoon.

The membership roster should be published by next month's meeting.

Pete invited everyone to try and come out for the tournaments. Encourage your friends to come also. It's a lot of fun, you can pick up some pointers, or lend a hand, we can always use the extra help. If you are a non-boater, let Pete know and he will put it in the newsletter and maybe you can hook-up with someone who has a spot available in their boat.

Don't forget, club hats and shirts are always for sale.

Congratulations to Rich Boettinger for winning the 50-50 drawing of \$14.00

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm, but some members hung around to discuss fishing stories and to pick up pointers.

Make History, Be Part Of The First DRFA Striper Tournament

Sunday June 1, 2003 is your chance to make DRFA history by participating in the first club striped bass tournament.

This year, the tournament is being held as an "honor" paper tournament. Members may fish anywhere on the Delaware River or its tributaries between 7 am and 2 pm on that day. There will be no specific check-in location and no weigh-in either.

Club members who wish to participate in this event are asked to register for the event by calling the **Striper Tournament Answering Service** between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm any weekday before the tournament. The number to call is **215-674-1117**.

Be sure to take a cloth (*tailor's*) tape measure and a camera on the day of the tournament. Record the length and girth of every striper caught that day between the hours of 7:00 am and 2:00 pm, and capture a picture of your fish. Then, call the **Striper Tournament Answering Service** before 9:00 pm on the evening of the event to give your name and the length and girth of your largest fish. Winners will be posted on the DRFA Web site and listed in the June newsletter.

DRFA To Sponsor Fourth Annual "Big Cat Shootout"

On Saturday June 7, the DRFA will hold its fourth springtime catfish tournament open to the public. The event is being held at Lightning Jack's Marina in Riverside NJ from 7:00 am until 3:00 pm. A mandatory captain's meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Friday evening, June 6. Captain's bags including a wide variety of door prizes from local and national retailers and manufacturers will be given out at that meeting.

Entry fee is \$90 per boat, with up to four anglers per boat. Lunker pool is \$10. The DRFA "Big Cat Shootout:" is traditionally held on a FREE Fishing Day in New Jersey, so no fishing license is required for participation. This makes it possible to invite non-licensed anglers to fill out your team. Also, out-of-state anglers can legally bring their catch to the weigh-in location on the Rancocas Creek.

The top prize is \$5,000 based on a field of 150 boats. The prize structure has been enlarged this year to include the top ten winning teams. Application forms are available at local marinas and tackle shops, on the DRFA Web site, and by calling Tom Zerumski at 215-357-0570.

Fishing Reports

These reports were gathered on May 20th and 21st.

Tidal River:

The following is an abridged version of the fishing report posted by Bill Brinkman on Thursday May 15, on the Web site of ***Brinkman's Bait and Tackle*** in Northeast Philly (215-632-0674). To view the full report, visit their site at <http://members.aol.com/wormpeople/>

"Well if you needed herring for the freezer, the beginning of the week was the time to be at Trenton. Monday and Tuesday were both great days on herring but they stopped biting on Wednesday and Thursday. I know because I was up all three days. I'm not sure what happened to these fish, whether the cold front or the water dropping a few degrees but the last two days it was all you could do just to catch a few to go up and striper fish. But the striper bite was very good. On Wednesday we boated 11 fish with 6 being 26 to 28 inches. Nothing really big but really nice fish. The rest were 20 to 25 inches. Thursday we boated 12 stripers and one catfish. Again 6 stripers 26 to 28 inches and the rest down to 17 inches. And that small fish hit a live herring. The catfish was 8 pounds and hit a chunk herring. We fished the herring live and in chunks doing about equal on both. The bigger fish were all taken on

the live baits except for that one 17 inch fish. To this day I will never know how he got the herring in his mouth but I tried for 5 minutes to

(continued on page 5)

Angler of the Year Top Ten Standings

Here are the leaders in the race for the 2003 Dave Bryant Angler of the Year award. Standings are current as of the May 17th smallmouth bass tournament.

#	Name	Points
1	Rick Mawson	195
2	Scott Ferral	186
3	Jim Wood	179
4	Bill Etlz	175
5	Bob Bonczyk	100
6	Ray Przybylski	99
7	Curt Kirby	99
8	John Jannett	98
9	Chris Hoffman	98
10	Bill Marshall	97

DRFA Tournament Schedule

The following is the list of DRFA tournaments for the remainder of the year. Except for the Big Cat Shootout, which requires a separate admission fee, all of these tournaments are open only to dues-paying DRFA members. Members will accrue points for the Angler of the Year competition based on their finish in the eight club events (not counting the Big Cat Shootout or the Striper tournament). For all remaining events, other than the Big Cat Shootout, new members may register on the morning of the event, before the check-in time. Weigh-in is at the time specified. Late entries will not be weighed in.

Date	Event	Location	Time
6/1	Striped Bass	Phone in results <i>(Paper tournament, no weigh-in location.)</i>	7 am to 2 pm
6/7	Big Cat Shootout	Lightning Jack's Marina <i>(Open to public, entry fee required)</i>	7 am to 3 pm
6/21	Catfish	West Deptford Ramp	7 am to 1 pm
7/19	Largemouth	Frankford Arsenal Ramp	6 am to 12 noon
8/10	Catfish	Frankford Arsenal Ramp	6 am to 12 noon
9/14	Largemouth	Frankford Arsenal Ramp	7 am to 1 pm
9/28	Smallmouth	Byram Access Ramp	7 am to 1 pm
10/12	Catfish	Frankford Arsenal Ramp	7 am to 1 pm

Rick Mawson Takes Postponed Shad Tournament To Forge AOTY Lead

After a two-week delay due to poor water conditions, the DRFA 2003 tournament season got off to a wet start with the shad tournament on April 26.

On another typical day of DRFA tournament weather, nine club anglers managed to persevere to weigh-in fish. Top finisher Rick Mawson jumped out to the lead in the 2003 Angler of the Year competition with his first-prize-winning fish.

Members Enjoy Successful Day At Smallmouth Tournament

Despite a threatening forecast, the weather held off and the river was at its clearest and lowest in the past few years, to provide the best fishing conditions in recent springtime smallmouth tournaments. In all, 21 out of the 25 competing anglers weighed-in legal fish.

Not only were the smallmouth results as surprisingly good as the weather, but several club members also reported respectable catches of other species, including Curt Kirby's 35" muskie, Harry Bareuther's 22" walleye, Bob Napoli's 21" largemouth, Steve Raulfs' 19" walleye, and Jim Pocetti's 5-lb. catfish.

With four anglers scoring in both of the first two tournaments, the Angler of the Year standings are starting to take shape. Rick Mawson extended his lead in the annual competition based on two excellent catches, while Scott Ferral, Jim Wood, and Bill Ettl stayed within striking distance.



Rick Mawson took the \$125 first prize with a 6.29-lb shad that measured 24.5"



Bob Bonczyk displays his \$125 winning smallie, a 2.92-lb., 19" beauty.



Ray Przybylski captured second place with a 23.5" shad that tipped the scales at 5.58 lbs.



The smallmouth tournament \$75 second prize went to Curt Kirby for his 2.34-lb., 17.75" fish.



John Jannett earned the third-place prize of \$50 with his 4.72-lb. shad measuring 22.25".



Close behind in third place was Chris Hoffman with a 2.25-lb 16.5" smallmouth.

get it out and had to release the fish with both hook and herring jammed in his mouth.

"I talked to several guys that were fishing from Yardley downstream and they were catching better fish up above. Some of the catch were fish up to 25 pounds. Now the numbers were not as high but the quality of the fish were better. Most all those fish were taken on live herring. But a few of the guides were fishing plugs with some success. The big surface plugs and Long A Bombers were working the best. I did see a few other fish taken on 6 inch with twister tails but all those were smaller fish.

"Now at the bridges at Trenton there were a few shad taken this week. Not anything to write home about but they were the first few shad that I have seen caught in three weeks. I had one on Tuesday and saw 4 taken on Wednesday and another 6 taken on Thursday. All were caught on sabiki rigs.

"Now the striper action on the lower river has slowed a bit with the cooler weather this past week. I know several guys that were out over the past weekend and had just all-right days. One guy fished up around the Neshaminy Creek on Saturday hitting several good fish early to only sit and watch his rods the rest of the day. He went out again on Sunday but never came in telling me any stories. All his fish were taken on bloodworms. Another customer was out in a boat fishing above the Tacony Bridge landing 3 good fish all over 30 inches. He was doing his best on bloodworms and cut herring. Station Avenue was still a good spot to head but the size of the fish taken here this week were mostly on the smaller side. I only heard on one bigger fish and that was a 30 inch fish taken in the beginning of the week. The last fisherman that was talking this week was fishing around the Burlington Bristol Bridge boating 15 fish

on Sunday and another 11 on Tuesday. Most of his fish were under 20 inches but he did have one fish 34 inches and another 29 inches. And he said that the catfish were all good size the last few trips out. Again bloodworms and herring have been the choice of baits. Lots of other reports of guys just out for a day of catfishing all having pretty good luck both in boats and off the banks. Here nightcrawlers, chicken livers, herring, shrimp and bloodworms are what most guys are using.

"The largemouth bass fishing in the lower river has picked up a bit but the fish are starting to move up on the beds and will slow down in the next few weeks. But I talked to several kids that have been catching some nice bass up in the Poquessing Creek. They have been hitting nightcrawlers and minnows the best. Other guys were over in Dredge Harbor and Tullytown Cove and all had pretty good days on bass 1 to 3 pounds. Most of these fish are being picked up on crankbaits, spinner baits and plastic worms and lizards. One other customer was fishing the piers just above the Princeton Avenue ramp catching several bass and catfish on crankbaits. He said that the bass were all around a pound but some of the cats were up to 5 and 6 pounds. Anybody that throws lures and hits one of those big catfish gets the thrill of their lives where they first hit the plug. You think you have the bass of a life time.

"The upper Delaware river has not changed much for smallies and walleye. They are still getting a few walleye here and there but the smallies are very very slow. And the Susquehanna river was very good the past few days but with the rains coming I think that may be a wash for a little while. The only thing the rain is going to help is the striper fishing on the Delaware. They seem to be the

only fish that like high and muddy water. Regards, Bill"

Trenton/Yardley/Lambertville Area: Dan Leach at ***HL Bait & Tackle*** in Morrisville, Pennsylvania (215-295-1400) reports that the action for striped bass has been "pretty good" this year. Herring have been a popular bait when they are available. But the fishing for herring has been spotty at times. When that has been the case, Dan reports that sales of bloodworms have been brisk this Spring. "We had a run of five or six days when it got warmer, when the herring action was heavy," Dan says, "but things have dropped off over the past week as the water has cooled down." Dan reports recent striper weigh-ins of 24-lbs. 16-lbs. 13-lbs. and 11-lbs. "We've also had reports of 41" and 42" fish down by the Turnpike bridge," he adds.

In other action, Dan reports that smallmouth bass fishing has been better for quality than quantity in the area above the Calhoun Street bridge. He has also had some reports of 8-lb. to 10-lb. catfish being taken by striper anglers in the Morrisville area. And he had a weigh-in of a 5-lb. walleye taken on a Bomber lure by another striper fisherman.

(NOTE: The fishing wharf near the KatManDu nightclub has been closed due to structural flaws.)

Ron Ernst at ***Ron's Trigger and Reel*** in Ewing, New Jersey (609-695-2818) says that fishing for everything except stripers is about two weeks behind schedule, but the stripers seem to be ahead of schedule. However the recent cold water has moved them off the flats for the time being. Smallie action has been slowed by the cooling water, but the change in temperature has not seemed to bother the catfish. The Trenton Power Plant had been serving up a mix of walleye, smallies, stripers and herring before it was closed by the increased security alert.

Easton/Phillipsburg Area:

Bill Pierce at *Bill's Bait and Tackle* (908-859-5729) Phillipsburg, NJ <<http://community-2.webtv.net/BILLSBAIT/FISHINGREPORT/>> says that shad activity has been spotty for much of the season, with reports of good catches followed by days with little or no activity. One trend he has noted though is a wave of bigger fish. "I checked my logs, as far back as 9 years to find a seven-pound shad," Bill reports, "but this year I've weighed in four over seven pounds." Bill also reports that schoolie sized stripers have moved into the Phillipsburg area. Smallmouth activity in the river has been quiet, but Bill attributes that to the fact that most fishermen are being attracted to the large catches of trout being taken from Merrill Creek Reservoir. Carp action in the river has attracted fishermen who have been frustrated by the slow shad activity at times. The carp have continued to cooperate despite cool and fluctuating water temps that have hurt the shad fishing. Bill reports a number of fish up to the 16- to 18-lb. range.

Belvidere Area:

Guide *Gene Neiderlander* of the *Fish Assured* Guide Service (908-475-5493) has submitted several shad reports where the fishing has reflected the weather, but he has continued to have success into the middle of May.

Lackawaxen Area:

Dimitri at *The Angler's Roost* (570-685-2010) in Lackawaxen, PA reports that trout fishing has been picking up in the Lackawaxen River and plenty of fish are still available to be caught. An abundance of natural forage – alewives and phenomenal hatches – have filled up the trout and the catch by anglers using artificials has been slow. This indicates some good weeks of trout fishing ahead. Shad activity in general has been slow, although he reports a recent flurry of activity in the Narrowsburg area. With water temperatures still in the low to mid 50s after some cold nights, Dimitri feels that the shad fishing season could extend well into June. On other fronts, there is not much to report on smallie or walleye activity, with few anglers out chasing these fish.

June Tide Predictions, NOAA National Ocean Service

Readings taken at Municipal Pier 11, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

All listings are Eastern Daylight Time. **Weekends are indicated by bold**

Day	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.	Time	Ht.
6/1	3:24am H	6.9	10:37am L	0.5	3:53pm H	5.6	10:34pm L	0.8
6/2	3:58am H	6.8	11:20am L	0.5	4:31pm H	5.5	11:14pm L	0.8
6/3	4:30am H	6.7	12:03pm L	0.5	5:08pm H	5.3	11:57pm L	0.9
6/4	5:04am H	6.6	12:47pm L	0.6	5:48pm H	5.3		
6/5	12:42am L	0.9	5:43am H	6.6	1:32pm L	0.7	6:34pm H	5.4
6/6	1:33am L	0.9	6:34am H	6.5	2:19pm L	0.7	7:29pm H	5.6
6/7	2:29am L	1.0	7:35am H	6.4	3:09pm L	0.7	8:30pm H	5.9
6/8	3:29am L	1.0	8:42am H	6.4	4:02pm L	0.7	9:31pm H	6.3
6/9	4:31am L	1.0	9:46am H	6.4	4:57pm L	0.6	10:28pm H	6.7
6/10	5:34am L	0.9	10:47am H	6.4	5:53pm L	0.6	11:24pm H	7.2
6/11	6:35am L	0.7	11:45am H	6.5	6:48pm L	0.5		
6/12	12:16am H	7.5	7:33am L	0.5	12:40pm H	6.5	7:42pm L	0.4
6/13	1:07am H	7.8	8:29am L	0.3	1:33pm H	6.5	8:36pm L	0.4
6/14	1:58am H	7.9	9:23am L	0.2	2:25pm H	6.4	9:28pm L	0.4
6/15	2:47am H	7.8	10:15am L	0.2	3:17pm H	6.3	10:19pm L	0.5
6/16	3:36am H	7.7	11:05am L	0.2	4:09pm H	6.2	11:09pm L	0.6
6/17	4:27am H	7.4	11:55am L	0.3	5:03pm H	6.0		
6/18	12:00am L	0.8	5:18am H	7.1	12:44pm L	0.4	5:58pm H	5.9
6/19	12:50am L	0.9	6:12am H	6.8	1:32pm L	0.6	6:55pm H	5.9
6/20	1:42am L	1.1	7:09am H	6.5	2:20pm L	0.7	7:52pm H	5.9
6/21	2:35am L	1.2	8:06am H	6.3	3:08pm L	0.7	8:50pm H	6.0
6/22	3:29am L	1.2	9:04am H	6.1	3:57pm L	0.8	9:45pm H	6.2
6/23	4:24am L	1.1	10:01am H	6.1	4:46pm L	0.8	10:37pm H	6.4
6/24	5:19am L	1.0	10:55am H	6.0	5:35pm L	0.7	11:27pm H	6.6
6/25	6:13am L	0.8	11:46am H	6.0	6:23pm L	0.7		
6/26	12:14am H	6.8	7:05am L	0.6	12:36pm H	5.9	7:10pm L	0.7
6/27	12:58am H	6.9	7:54am L	0.5	1:23pm H	5.8	7:57pm L	0.6
6/28	1:41am H	6.9	8:42am L	0.4	2:07pm H	5.7	8:42pm L	0.6
6/29	2:20am H	6.9	9:28am L	0.3	2:49pm H	5.6	9:26pm L	0.7
6/30	2:58am H	6.9	10:13am L	0.4	3:28pm H	5.5	10:10pm L	0.7

Station	Time Differential		Height Differential	
	High	Low	High	Low
Marcus Hook, Pa.	-1 29	-1 16	*0.90	*0.90
Bridgeport, Raccoon Creek, N.J.	-1 13	-0 55	*0.87	*0.87
Darby Creek, Pennsylvania				
Tincum National Wildlife Refuge	-0 26	+0 18	*0.71	*0.71
Paulsboro, Mantua Creek, N.J.	-0 25	-0 28	*0.90	*0.90
Woodbury Creek, N.J.	-0 19	-0 23	*0.93	*0.93
Schuylkill River, Phila., Market Street Bridge	-0 26	-0 09	*0.97	*0.97
Westville, Rt 47 bridge, Big Timber Creek, NJ-0 04	-0 06	-0 06	*0.94	*0.94
PHILADELPHIA, Municipal Pier 11	+0 00	+0 00	+0.00	+0.00
Bridesburg, Philadelphia, Pa.	+0 11	+0 13	*1.04	*1.04
Palmyra, Pennsauken Cr., Rt 73 bridge, N.J.	+0 49	+0 57	*0.84	*0.84
Pompeston Creek, N.J.	+0 19	+0 37	*1.02	*1.02
Bridgeboro, Rancocas Creek, N.J.	+1 09	+1 09	*1.03	*1.03
Cornwells Heights, Pa.	+0 40	+0 49	*1.14	*1.14
Burlington, N.J.	+0 41	+0 58	*1.17	*1.17
Egely, Pa.	+1 02	+1 19	*1.24	*1.24
Fieldsboro, N.J.	+1 01	+1 30	*1.26	*1.16
Trenton, N.J.	+1 12	+1 48	*1.30	*1.05

Height Differences: For most stations, use of a predicted height difference would give unsatisfactory predictions. In such cases they have been omitted and one or two ratios, indicated by an asterisk (*), are given. To obtain the height of tide at the subordinate station in these cases, multiply the height of tide at the reference station by the ratio listed. The result is normally rounded to the nearest .1 foot.

D.R.F.A Club Catfish Tournament

Saturday, June 21, 2003 – 7:00 am until 1:00 pm

West Deptford New Jersey Ramp

DIRECTIONS: Take Interstate 295 to Exit 23 (*National Park*) Exit onto Route 642/Hessian Avenue westbound. Go 0.5 miles to first traffic light. Turn right onto Red Bank Avenue. Go 0.9 miles, almost to end of Red Bank Avenue at the river. Turn left onto 2nd Street. (*There is a small sign on right side of road indicating left hand turn for "Boat Ramp."*) Go one block to Donop Street and turn right. The ramp is straight ahead. Ramp gates open at 6:00 am. ***IMPORTANT: REMEMBER TO BRING \$10 IN REASONABLY CLEAN, CRISP BILLS FOR UNATTENDED AUTOMATIC TOOL BOOTH TO PARKING LOT. THERE IS NO PARKING ON LOCAL STREETS!!!!***

RULES:

- All participants must check in between 6:00 AM & 7:00 AM before fishing.
- Only paid members of the D.R.F.A., and qualifying family members *, may participate and weigh-in fish. (*The most recent membership list will be present at weigh-in.*) There is no separate entry fee.
- Only one (1) catfish per person will be weighed. The heaviest fish will determine the winner.
- In the event of a tie in weight, the longest fish will determine the winner.
- The fish must have been caught on that day, during the hours of the tournament.
- The fishing area will be limited to the part of the Delaware River and tributaries that can be reached by boat from the West Deptford Ramp. Shore fishing is permitted.
- Weigh-in is at 1:00 pm sharp. Those arriving after 1:00 pm, will not be permitted to weigh-in fish for prizes or points.
- Only legal fishing methods, of the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania may be used. Live bait is permitted.
- The catfish must be alive to be weighed. All fish will be released after weighing.
- The tournament judge will have final say in all disputes.

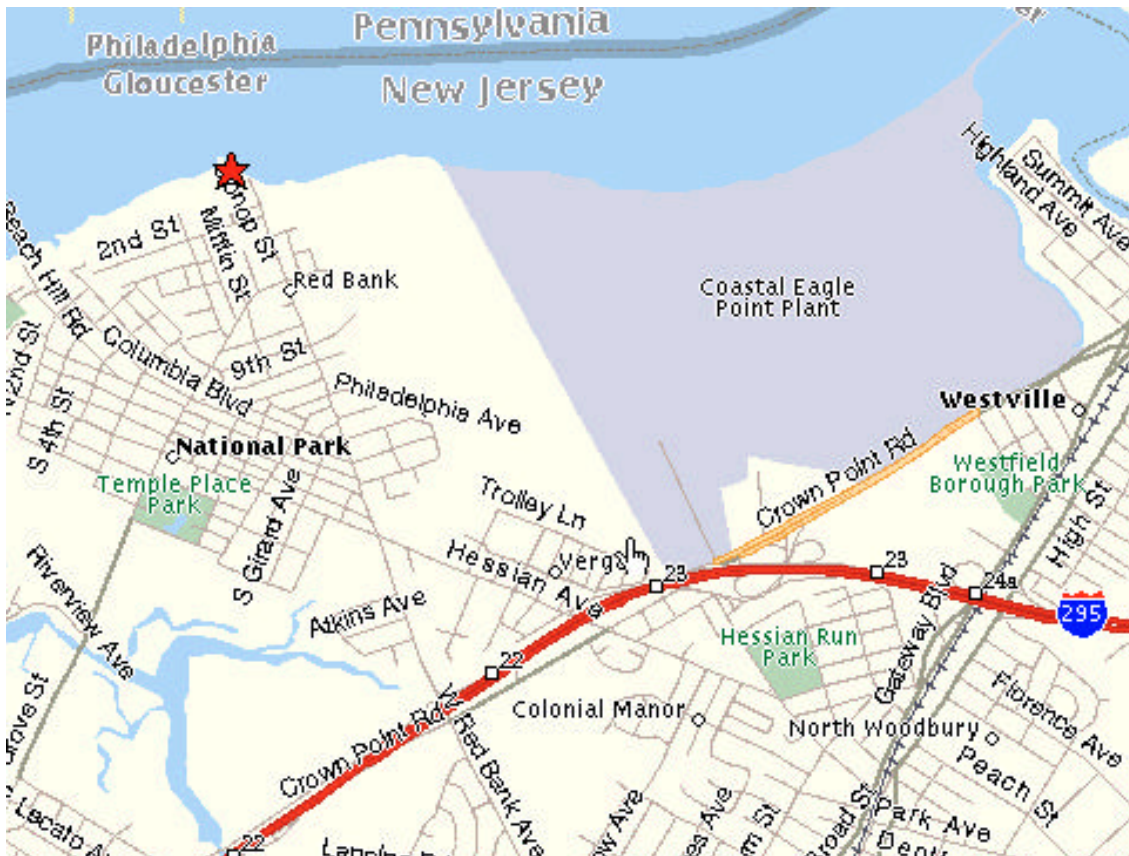
PRIZES:
1st Place-\$125
2nd Place-\$75
3rd Place- \$50

Tournament Hotline: 215-945-3635

Tournament Coordinator: Steve Raulfs 215-632-8181

All anglers weighing in fish, no matter where they place, will accumulate points towards the "Dave Bryant Memorial Angler of the Year" contest.

*Qualifying family members can only participate if a Family Membership has been purchased. Qualifying family members include any member of the immediate family residing at that home and any immediate children, up to the age of 16, no matter where they live. Grandchildren up to the age of 16 also qualify, no matter where they live.



THE DELAWARE RIVER FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 25
Langhorne, PA 19047-0025
DRFA Web Site: <http://www.drfishermen.com>



MAY 2003 ISSUE:

- SHAD TOURNAMENT RESULTS
- SMALLMOUTH TOURNAMENT RESULTS
- RIVER STRIPER TOURNAMENT INFO
- BIG CAT SHOOTOUT TOURNAMENT INFO
- FISHING REPORTS

*Also visit our Web site
www.drfishermen.com for
news, fishing reports, and more!*

THE RIVER NEWS is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware River Fishermen's Association. The DRFA meets the last Thursday of each month, at 7:00 pm, in the back upstairs meeting room at The Sportsmen's Center, Route 130, Bordentown, New Jersey. All interested sportsmen and women are invited to attend and join the organization. New members may join at any time, while yearly renewal memberships are to be paid between January 1st and the last Thursday in February, each year. To submit information for the newsletter, contact Pete Antoniewicz via e-mail <DRFA_TheRiverNews@hotmail.com>, by phone, (609) 466-7719, or mail it to 101 Weldon Way, Pennington, NJ 08534.

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