

The River News

The Official Newsletter of the Delaware River Fishermen's Association

Vol. 32, No. 3

May/June 2020

Pandemic Still Has Club Activities On Hold; Check DRFA Website/Forum For Updates

Editor's Note

While club activities for May were nixed because of the cancellation of the club's permit at the Neshaminy State Park ramp and the closure of the Silver Lake Nature Center, it is hoped that the June meeting and tournament will be as scheduled.

Members are encouraged to check with the club website on a regular basis and to pass along updates to club friends who do not have online access. Members without online access can also call the Tournament Hotline for updates.

Fishing Reports

While official club activities have been cancelled since mid-March, some club members who have been able to fish have posted their results on the club web forum or reported them to *The River News*.

Frank Beck has been fishing up a storm, reporting on a number of trips in early May. On May 3 he fished the Falls Township Lake with Joe Newton and they boated eight largemouth, one crappie and one sunfish in 56-degree water before the winds kicked up to 30

mph. On May 14 he fished with Ron Soto around Mud Island where they boated 16 short stripers to 17" and one slot fish at 23" along with two catfish and three white perch, all on blood worms and bunker. He fished the same area with John Pedrick and boated 16 stripers up to 18" and one white perch on bloodworms, bunker, and cut shad. John Pedrick also reported being out on the tidal river since early April, with Frank, Pete Marcolina, and on his own. He reports catching a lot of fish under the slot limit and only two keepers in the slot, but nothing bigger.

"Grumman Bob" Kuntz has been posting his usual Spring striper reports all through April and May. Most of his trips were out of Raritan Bay, where he had several nice days with more than a dozen nice stripers, including multiple fish in the 35" to 38" range. He also fished the Delaware out of Yardley and Trenton in early and mid-May, with stripers at 22" and 26" on one trip and with several nice smallies on another trip when trying for stripers. On May 16, he landed a 37" striper plus four more schoolies between 18" and 22" near Trenton all on a 7" Zoom Super Fluke.

Rick Mawson started the month of May off with a slab crappie from Lake Luxembourg that weighed in at 3-lbs.

Important Dates

Hemlock Rod & Gun Club Fishing Seminar and DRFA Raffle Drawing: *Potentially being rescheduled. TBD.*

Wednesday, May 27, 7 pm, Monthly Meeting:

As of this newsletter's publication deadline, the Silver Lake Nature center is scheduled to be CLOSED. Check with DRFA website for updates on all club activities.

Wednesday, June 24, 7 pm, Monthly Meeting:

At this point, the June meeting is still on the schedule. Keep an eye on the club website for confirmation as we get closer to that date.

Sunday June 28 DRFA Bass Tournament:

The next club tournament is currently scheduled for 6 am at The Gloucester City, NJ Ramp. Check the DRFA website or the Tournament Hotline (267-934-2148) in the days before the tournament for any potential changes.

Wednesday, July 1, Youth Fishing Derby Registration Deadline:

The Youth Derby is still on the schedule, pending local restrictions at the time of the July 18 event. Interested parties should register by July 1, using the entry form in this newsletter or on the club website.

Table of Contents

New Business Member	2
Tournament Schedule	2
Youth Derby	3



Also in early May, Dave Wermuth landed a 20" Palomino Trout that weighed 3.0 labs.

Bryan Malkiewicz reported an interesting afternoon on May 17, with three walleye and two smallies all landed on jerkbaits. Unfortunately his best smallie of the day got loose before Bryan could get it to the boat.

Bob Jack reported fishing Dredge Harbor with a buddy on the weekend of May 16 and catching 8 largemouth bass between 1 lb. and 2 lb.

On May 17, Frank Beck reported that all Philly City ramps were closed, but that Neshaminy State Park, the Falls Township ramp, Trenton ramp, Yardley ramp, Fireman's Eddy and Lambertville City ramps, the Byram ramp, and the Kingwood/Frenchtown ramp were all open. He also reported that Falls Township Lake and Lake Luxembourg were open. The club website also notes that Florence and Burlington ramps are also open.

Treasurer's Report

Although the club meetings for March and April were cancelled, we did receive Treasurer Reports for those two months.

The balance as of March 26, 2020 was \$9,169.10. On April 27, the balance was \$9,511.50.



(Left) Rick Mawson with his Lake Luxembourg crappie. (Center) One of Grumman Bob Kuntz's 16 stripers on a late-April trip to Raritan Bay when they boated six fish over 30" – including the 38-lb. lunker. (Right) Mike Nucero landed his nice northern pike at the Penn Warner Club on a chatterbait.

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2020 DRFA Tournament Schedule

All DRFA Club tournaments are free and open to dues-paying DRFA members only. (There are no club fees; however, ramp, launch and/or parking fees may apply. There will be a voluntary \$10.00 pool with a 100% payout – 60%, 30% and 10% – to pool participants for the three heaviest pool fish at tournament's end.) Members accrue points for the Angler of the Year competition based on their top six finishes among the regular club events. New members may register on the morning of an event, before the start time. Weigh-in is six hours later. Late entries will not count. The Youth Derby requires registering in advance.

Always check the DRFA Web site or the Tournament Hotline (267-934-2148) the day before the event to learn about any possible rescheduling or relocation due to water or weather conditions.

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sun, 6/28	Bass	6 am	Gloucester City Marina, NJ
Sat 7/18	Youth Derby	8 am	PA Yacht Club, Bensalem, PA
Sun, 7/19	Catfish	6 am,	Gloucester City Marina, NJ
Sun, 8/09	Bass	6 am	Neshaminy State Marina, Croydon, PA
Sun, 8/30	Catfish	6 am	Neshaminy State Marina, Croydon, PA
Sun 9/20	Bass	7 am	Bull's Island State Park, NJ
Sat, 10/24	Bass	7 am	Byram Access Ramp, Byram, NJ

DRFA 2020 Youth Derby

Saturday, July 18th, 2020 8:00 am until 1:00 pm

Sign-In: Pennsylvania Yacht Club, 2189 State Rd, Bensalem, PA 19020

Weigh-In and Awards: Pennsylvania Yacht Club, 2189 State Rd, Bensalem, PA 19020

To Register: Complete the form below and mail to: Charles Bay, 734 N. Lenola Rd., Moorestown, NJ 08057
609-744-8260 There is no entry fee for any child

***ALL YOUTH CONTESTANTS MUST WEAR A PERSONAL FLOATION DEVICE
AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT WHILE FISHING,
STANDING, OR WALKING ON ANY MARINA DOCK.
EVERYONE MUST STRICTLY ADHERE TO THIS RULE.***

Youth anglers 3 yrs. to 15 yrs. of age who are guests of any dues-paying DRFA member are eligible.

All participants must check in starting at 7:00 AM at the Pennsylvania Yacht Club Ramp before fishing.

Youth anglers are allowed to weigh in one fish of any species.

The heaviest fish will determine the winner. In the event of a tie in weight, the longest fish will be the tie-breaker.

The fish must be caught on that day, during the hours of the event.

Fishing can be done from a boat or shoreline in any part of the Delaware River and its tributaries that can be reached by boat from the Pennsylvania Yacht Club.

All youth contestants must wear Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Devices at all times that they are in a boat during this tournament.

Sponsoring adults may aid the youth contestants in terms of baiting hooks, netting, and unhooking fish, but they may not hook, play, reel, or land fish for the youth contestants.

Only legal fishing methods of the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania may be used.

Live bait 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.

All fish must be of legal size and alive at weigh-in, and will be released after weigh-in.

The tournament judge will have final say in all disputes.

All youth participants will receive awards, and refreshments at the weigh-in location at the end of the tournament.

**Deadline for registration is Wednesday July 1, 2020 for participants to receive T-shirts and trophies.
Late entries will still be eligible to fish in the Derby.**

(Complete and cut out entry form below.)

I give my permission for my child to participate in the 2020 DRFA Youth Tournament and I accept full responsibility for my child's participation in this event.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name (print): _____

Sponsoring Club Member's Signature: _____

Sponsoring Club Member's Name (print): _____

Club Member's Phone Number :(_____) _____

Youth Angler's Name (print): _____

Youth Angler Shirt Size: (circle one) **Child:** S M L XL **Adult:** S M L XL

Birth Date: _____ **Age:** _____

The Delaware River Fishermen's Association

P.O. Box 4739

Philadelphia, PA 19134



MAY-JUNE 2020 ISSUE

- **MAY MEETING CANCELLED**
- **TACKLE BAG RAFFLE DELAYED**
- **RAMP AND FISHING REPORTS**
- **YOUTH DERBY REGISTRATION**

Also visit our website

www.drfishermen.com

THE RIVER NEWS is the bimonthly newsletter of the Delaware River Fishermen's Association. The DRFA typically meets the last Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm, at the Silver Lake Nature Center, 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA. All interested sportsmen and women are invited to attend and join the organization.

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