

Marco Sportfishing Club  
PO Box 2104  
Marco Island FL 34146-2104

www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

### **MSC Newsletter April 2008**

Meets the First Thursday Monthly at Jewish Congregation of Marco

### **MSC Board of Directors 2008**

#### **Elected Officers**

President	Peter Arcidiacono	394-1136	peterarchie@comcast.net
Vice President	Al Musico	642-9729	alanmusico@embarqmail.com
Vice President	Dave Totos	821-0369	seaweedtackle@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Tony Saputo	393-6232	saputot@msn.com
Secretary	Frank Sroka	389-1087	fsroka@marcocable.com
Past President	Ed Vesely	642-8294	evesely@aol.com

#### **Directors, Committees and Chairs**

Fishing	Chair	Al Musico	alanmusico@embarqmail.com
	Gulf	Bert Hoell	canpakman@aol.com
	Gulf	Fred Kouhi	fred_kouhi@comcast.net
	Backwater	Jim Mueller	mikemfla@comcast.net
	Backwater	Barry French	french.b@marcocable.com
	Backwater	Tom Johnson	johnsonthomasb@msn.com
Membership	Chair	Perry London	ptlondon@embarqmail.com
Meetings	Chair	Pete Arcidiacono	peterarchie@comcast.net
		Newt Weiss	nnweiss2@aol.com
		Bob Schuh	bobschuh@comcast.net
		Tony Saputo	saputot@msn.com
Canals Waterways		Ed Vesely	evesely@aol.com
Greeter Information		Bob Schuh	bobschuh@comcast.net
Public Relations		Bob Schuh	bobschuh@comcast.net
Quartermaster		Bert Hoell	canpakman@aol.com
Webmaster		Ed Crane	MarcoMan357@aol.com
Social		Dave Walsh	davewalsh@att.net
Editor		Art Segal	asegal1519@cs.com
At Large		Dave Totos	seaweedtackle@yahoo.com

# MSC Newsletter April 2008

*Dedicated to fishing in and around Collier County*

Peter Arcidiacono, President 394 -1136 peterarchie@comcast.net



## **NEW REEF GEAR REGS!** Story inside

### **The President's Message**

#### **FISHING WILL ONLY GET BETTER!!**

Reports are coming in that fish are showing up more regularly. I think that's great! Our Sheepshead Shootout was another success. Eight boats participated and the prize went to two anglers, Dave Rasmussen and Joe Mealy, who tied with a 20" Sheepshead,.

I have been informed that April will bring the KINGFISH KLASH, please stay tuned for the particulars on this upcoming event.

Our Fish of the Month (FOM) for April will be Kingfish for off shore and Tripletail for backwater. Please remember to check our leader board for 2008 and use the form to submit your fish. This year has started off being a very productive year.

By the way. I am sure you have all heard the news that the March Madness Trout Tournament was won by Team Knot-Head, consisting of Jim "High hook"

Malerba and me. Boy, if that doesn't prove that everyone has an equal chance, then nothing will. We have had more special events so far this year than ever in years past. Please send us an email and let us know what you are thinking. We need to know if we are on the right track. Our goal is for all to get involved and have fun with the sport of fishing. Your input is important.

Here's a list of our upcoming happenings:

- Naples Kid's Fishing. It's not too late call Tom Johnson and volunteer.
- Regarding our next meeting, Capt. Jay Peeler, a well know local backwater guide, will speak at the meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting will be the last chance to bring in your dues for 2008. After that the books are closed.
- There will be a picnic on TUESDAY Apr 15.
- Backwater fishing will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The "KINGFISH KLASH" is on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The rules are to be announced

Please be sure to read the article about the mandatory "Reef Gear" that will be needed effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. The article was written by Bryan Fluech, our Sea Grant Agent. This may also be a good time to check out any new fishing regulations published January 1, 2008 on the FWC website. We need to be aware the State is consistently making changes.

Remember, the fish are getting bigger: always keep one hand on your rod. See ya' at the bait shop. Regards, Peter



**CIRCLE HOOKS**

**MSC UP-COMING EVENTS**

The MSC website is [www.marcosportfishingclub.com](http://www.marcosportfishingclub.com)

<b>This Month - APRIL</b>		
Monthly Meeting: Jay Peeler, Backwater Guide	THU APR 3	STARTS @ 7pm
Monthly board meeting @ Fifth Third Bank	MON APR 14	STARTS @ 9.30am
Sarazen Park Picnic <3 <sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL STEAK COOK-OUT>	TUE APR 15	Dave Walsh
Backwater Fishing	MON APR 11	Tom Johnson
Gulf Fishing: <KINGFISH KLASH>	THU APR 17	Frank Sroka
<b>Next Month - MAY</b>		
Monthly Meeting: Cast net demonstration	THU MAY 1	STARTS @ 7pm
Monthly board meeting @ Fifth Third Bank	MON MAY 12	STARTS @ 9.30am
Sarazen Park Picnic <CINCO de MAYO>	WED MAY 21	Dave Walsh
Backwater Fishing	MON MAY 15	Tom Johnson
Gulf Fishing <NITE BITE>	THU MAY 15	Al Musico

<b>Fish of the Month</b>		
Apr	Tripletail	King Mackerel
May	Snook	Yellowtail Snapper
Jun	Tarpon	Permit
Jul	Mangrove Snapper	
	Shark, Black & Lemon Nurse	
Aug	Redfish	Triggerfish
Sep	Snook	Mangrove Snapper
Oct	Redfish	Red Grouper
Nov	Jack Crevaile	Cobia
Dec	Spanish Mackerel	Lane Snapper

FISH OF THE MONTH AND

<b>Special Monthly Fishing Trips</b>			
Apr	Gulf	Kingfish Klash	Frank S
May	Gulf	Nite Bite	Frank R
Jun	Back	No Bait	Seaweed
Jul	Gulf	Man Bites Shark	Al M
Aug	none		
Sep	Gulf	½ Way to Mexico	TBD
Oct	BW/Gulf	Red Oct Hunt	
		Seaweed & ALM	
Nov	Gulf	Spousal Abuse	TBD
Dec	none		

**LEADER BOARD RULES\***

- 1] Eligible Fish of the Month are selected by MSC based on species availability in the backwaters and gulf during that month. All fish are eligible for Leader Board entry throughout the year. Entered fish are eligible for both contests.
- 2] You may choose to fish in either the gulf or backwater, anytime, any method, any species. Fish must be caught within 60 nautical miles of Marco. No charters. Use of guides is prohibited.

**\*REQUIRED: Entries with incomplete or missing information are not eligible** Name, Email Address (or phone number), Species, Size in Inches (fork or pinched per FWC size limit rules), Bait or Lure Used, Location (ex. Cape Romano, 5 Mile Reef etc.), Fishing Method (ex. Casting, Drifting, Anchored, Chumming etc.) Tide (ex. Incoming, Outgoing etc.)

**REPORT YOUR CATCH TO [www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com](http://www.MarcoSportfishingClub.com)** If you do not have access to the website, you can send your entry to [alanmusico@embarqmail.com](mailto:alanmusico@embarqmail.com) or call 239-642-9729. In case of a tie, the first entry reported will win. Use of the website is the preferred reporting method since it will time stamp all entries and automatically send you an email confirmation. Entries reported by other means will be recorded when they are received and acknowledged, not when they are sent. Entries must be reported by 12 noon on the 1st day of the month following the catch. Winners of both the Fish of the Month contest and new Leader Board entries will be announced at the next monthly members meeting

# New Reef Gear Regulations Slated for June 1<sup>st</sup>

Written by Bryan Fluech, Collier County Sea Grant Extension Agent

Starting June 1<sup>st</sup>, anglers will be required to possess and use certain reef fishing gear while fishing in state and federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

NOAA Fisheries approved Reef Amendment 27/14 in February with the goal of implementing long-term measures to end over-fishing in the Gulf's red snapper fishery and reduce release mortality in reef fish. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) have also approved these measures to maintain consistency with the federal management plan and protect the red snapper fishery.

**In addition to other rules which will reduce the red snapper total allowable catch for both commercial and recreation sectors, the commercial size limit, and the recreational bag limit and fishing season, the amendment will require all vessels targeting Gulf reef fish to have on board non-stainless circle hooks, dehooking devices, and venting tools.**

Non-stainless circle hooks will be required for harvest of all reef fish when using natural baits. Due to their design, circle hooks tend to hook a fish in the corner of the mouth and reduce gut hooking, facilitating higher post-release survival rates. Anglers accustomed to fishing with J-style hooks will need to slightly modify their technique when using circle hooks. When a fish eats the bait, it is necessary to allow time for the fish to completely swallow the hook before steadily reeling in the line. Do not attempt to set the hook by sharply jerking the rod as this will pull the hook out of the fish's mouth.

At least one dehooking device will be required on each vessel to remove hooks embedded in reef fish. Dehooking devices allow for quicker and safer hook removal and reduces the risk of a hook re-engaging during the removal process. They also minimize injuries to both the fish and angler by reducing the need to handle the fish. According to a spokeswoman with FWC, the dehooking device must be constructed to allow the hook to be secured and the barb shielded without re-engaging during the removal process. It must be blunt and all edges rounded, and it must be of a size appropriate to secure the range of hook sizes and styles used in the Gulf reef fish fishery.

Finally, Gulf anglers will be required to use venting tools to minimize impacts on reef fish with ruptured swim bladders. A reef fish's swim bladder can over expand and rupture when brought from depth using hook and line. Releasing a fish in this condition prevents it from returning to depth and exposes it to predators and the elements. A venting tool, which is a hollow, sharpened instrument such as a hypodermic syringe with the plunger removed allows the trapped gases to be released. Ice

picks and knives should not be used because simply puncturing the fish is undesirable and can result in a further injury. The venting tool should be inserted 1 to 2 inches behind the pectoral fin at a 45 degree angle. It should only be inserted deep enough to help deflate the fish.

With more stringent state and federal reef fishing regulations on the way, the need for responsible individual actions is more important than ever. Although catch and release angling has proven to be a valuable conservation tool, the effectiveness of fisheries management is diminished if fish do not survive after being released. If anglers are not already familiar with the use of circle hooks, dehooking devices, and venting tools, take the time to learn how to use them and why they are important to the health of our fisheries. Check with local tackle shops for advice on the appropriate equipment to use. To learn more about these conservation tools and other sustainable angling practices contact the Collier County Sea Grant Extension Agent at (239) 417-6310x225 or visit <http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/SeaGrant/Anglers.shtml>.

To learn more about Reef Amendment 27/14, visit the NOAA Fisheries Service website at [http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/RedSnapper/Amendment\\_27\\_14.htm](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/RedSnapper/Amendment_27_14.htm).



VENTING



DEHOOKER

**COED PICNIC  
SARAZEN PARK  
WEDNESDAY MAY 21**

*Cinco de Mayo*

Menu TBA

**\$12.50 each\***

**\*\$15 after May 14**

Includes 2 kinds of beer, wine and pop

**Tequila Body Shot Demonstration**

Please bring your own chairs and folding tables because close-in seating is limited.

Thanks.

Gather around noon,

For info, call Dave Walsh 389-9755  
CUT HERE \_\_\_\_\_ RESERVATION FOR Cinco de Mayo \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS NAME & PHONE #

\_\_\_\_\_

# attending [ ]

@ \$12.50 \*each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* or \$15 after May 14 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **MSC**  
Mail to Dave Walsh, 1530 Caxambas Ct,  
Marco 34145

**\* \$15 AFTER MAY 14**

**Special note** - It is ok to put 2 checks in one envelope. BUT, each event must be on a separate check.

**3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
STEAK COOK-OUT**

**Sarazen Park**

**Tuesday April 15**

Setup around 11:30 Gather around noon

**\$15 each\***

**\*\$17.50 after April 8**

**Steak, Baked Potatoes, Salad  
and more**

**2 flavors of beer 3 flavors of wine**

**BEER, WINE, POP and WATER**

**INCLUDED!**

**NOTE: THIS IS ON**

 **TUESDAY**

Please bring your own chairs and folding tables because close-in seating is limited.

Thanks.

CUT HERE \_\_\_\_\_ RESERVATION FOR STEAK COOK-OUT \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS NAME & PHONE #

\_\_\_\_\_

# attending [ ]

@ \$15 \*each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* or \$17.50 after Apr 8 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **MSC**  
Mail to Dave Walsh, 1530 Caxambas Ct,  
Marco 34145

**\* \$17.50 AFTER APR 8**

**Special note** - It is ok to put 2 checks in one envelope. BUT, each event must be on a separate check.