



# Tournaments Committee

John Volpe, Chairman



## 2020 Special Tournaments Announced

### Striped bass eliminated from Yearlong Tournament

#### Annual Tournaments Committee Meeting Report

The Tournaments Committee held its Annual Meeting in November. The agenda included a review of the 2019 tournament season, input received from RISAA members during the year, and suggested changes by committee members.

Also, as required, election of Committee officers was held and voted to lead the Committee for 2020 is John Volpe, Chairman, Robert Andrade, Vice Chairman and Steve Medeiros, Secretary.

The Committee decided an important goal for 2020 would be to increase member participation in both the Adult and Junior Divisions.



Junior Member, Sophia Garzoli, with a striped bass that she caught from shore on October 12. RISAA Members are encouraged to get their children involved in the RISAA tournaments

The Yearlong Tournament runs from January 1, 2020 and ends on December 15, 2020.

There will be one *major change* in the Yearlong Tournament:

**Striped bass will be removed as an eligible species for 2020**, but will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Committee discussed at length the fact that striped bass are overfished and the ASMFC Striped Bass Management Board has issued Addendum VI which would create a

recreational fishing slot limit of one fish at 28 to 35 inches. Under those circumstances it would be impossible to keep striped bass as a species in the Yearlong Tournament, since no fish could be larger than 35 inches.

Since this is a major change in RISAA policy, the decision of the Tournaments Committee was forwarded to the RISAA Board of Directors. The Board unanimously agreed and affirmed the Committee's action.

#### 2020 Special Tournaments

##### • June 12-28 • Fluke Tournament

Individual anglers, open to all members. Registration not required. There are separate Adult and Junior Divisions.

##### • July 3-12 • Team Fluke Challenge

Special 2-angler teams. Each team's largest four fish is the team entry. *Top Ten* teams win RISAA Bucks of \$150 to \$10. Pre-registration IS required. Deadline: July 1, 2020. Commences at 5:00 AM on July 3 and ends promptly at 7:00 PM on July 12. Call in must be made by 7:00 PM on 12th.

##### • September 4-13 • Black Sea Bass Tournament

Individual anglers, open to all member. Registration not required

##### • September 25 - October 4 • Bluefish Tournament

Individual anglers, open to all member. Registration not required

##### • October 9 - 25 • Fall Tautog Tournament

Individual anglers, open to all member. Registration not required

#### Note the following...

- \* The minimum sizes for all Special Tournaments is the legal Rhode Island recreational minimums.
- \* All Special Tournaments commence at 5:00 PM on the first day and conclude at 7:00 PM on the last day.
- \* The entry must be called in to the RISAA office within 24 hours of the time weighed (except Team Fluke which has special rules).
- \* As always, all tournament dates are subject to change based on changes in Rhode Island regulations.

#### Join our Committee

We invite all RISAA members to join the Tournaments Committee. We usually only hold one in-person meeting each Fall and discuss any issues during the year by email. Demands on your time are very little.

If you're interested or have any questions, contact me any time by email to [volpe@risaa.org](mailto:volpe@risaa.org)