



Fishing In The Rain

by Joe McCoy

I was fishing from shore at the Charlestown Breachway in the pouring rain in October, but who cares when you're catching fish until you are done.

I had my motorcycle rain jacket on, but I did not have the pants which are good in low surf and splashing waves. My jeans were soaked and my boots had a lot of water in them.

I decided to change into my dry shorts and a dry shirt at the Charlestown Town Beach parking lot, next to the ramp on the building for shelter.

There was someone in a truck in the middle of the lot, so I left my keys on my driver's seat, shut the door, and went to the passenger side of my truck and opened the door.

I changed into the shorts, shirt, sandals and shut the passenger door.

The doors automatically LOCKED!

What an I going to do?

No keys, no phone, no wallet...just shorts, shirt and sandals!

As you can guess, I was now no longer in dry clothes, but soaking wet and cold.

Somebody was in the other truck in the parking lot and I went over to him. The clutch on his truck was broken, and he was waiting on his girlfriend to come pick him up.

Good guy, he let me use his phone to call AAA, call my wife and he also let me in the truck to get out of the rain.

My wife asked if I had a mask on.

I said, "What the hell, MASK?! I don't even have underwear on!"

She started laughing nonstop, I was cold and miserable, but I had a laugh as well.

Fortunately, the rain had slowed down, and the sun was trying to come through when my new buddy left with his girlfriend, and I waited for AAA to show up.

The AAA driver drove right past the Town Beach parking lot headed to the Breachway, but he did see me, and I waved him back.

It was over 5 minutes and he still had not shown up, so I started to walk down to the entrance, and I spotted the AAA truck to the right... in the sand.

He did not know where the entrance was, got stuck in the sand, he could not get out, and he had to call AAA for another tow truck to pull him out of the sand.

This is funny as well....

The tow driver walked with me to my truck to get the door unlocked, BUT...he didn't have the right tool with him. He had to walk all the way back to his truck that was stuck in the sand. I couldn't believe it.

I was like, "What else can go wrong?" But he didn't care. He said he was getting paid by the hour.



TOURNAMENTS (from page 15)

- Scales that provide the weight in pounds and ounces are **NOT ACCEPTABLE**. The use of a conversion chart is not acceptable.
- Any individual fish may be entered in either a Special Tournament (catch date permitting) OR the Yearlong Tournament, **but not both**.
- The angler **must call in the entry to the RISAA office at 401-826-2121** within twenty-four (24) hours of the time weighed.

Additional Rules

- A member who is also a professional **charter captain** may enter his/her own catch provided the fish was **not landed during a trip for hire**.
- Any fish entered in any tournament may **not be sold**.
- Fish may be landed in other states, but must be weighed at a RISAA-Certified Scale.
- A fish caught in Connecticut, Massachusetts or Montauk coastal waters, caught by a RISAA members in good standing, may be entered in a RISAA tournament as long as the fish is legal in Rhode Island at the time, according to Rhode Island Saltwater Recreational Fishing Regulations and is weighed at one of the RISAA-approved Weigh-In Stations.

Example: a tautog, legally caught in Massachusetts, may not

be entered in RISAA if the tautog season is RI is closed at the time.

Tie-Breaker Rules

- In the case of two or more anglers who enter a fish with the exact same weight, the **first angler to achieve the points** is the winner.
 - The "first" angler shall be determined by the **date and time the fish is weighed** as written on the original weigh-in slip and signed by the weigh-in location employee.
- Example: to anglers weigh-in a top striper of 50.25 lbs. The first one who entered it (day/time weighed) would get 1st Place; the other angler would be 2nd Place.

JOIN THE TOURNAMENTS COMMITTEE!

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

If you're interested or have any questions, please send an email to volpe@risaa.org for more information.