

## NFGFC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2007

Steve brought the February NFGFC meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. using his RONCO-matic megaphone.

He welcomed all and indicated that everyone needed to pay close attention to the speaker for the night, Pat McGriff, because he has a wealth of information that he is willing to share.

### Introduction of officers

Mike Scibelli, Treasurer

John Vickers, Tournament Director

Tom Keels, BOD, Technical Manager

Ty Smith, co-Secretary/Raffle Master

David Griffith, co-Secretary

Mike Scibelli reported that we currently had 63 members. The bank account balance is over \$1000 and we had incurred expenses related to the club trailer and the last speaker's meal.

Mike gave an overview of the club's tourney relationship with the CCA. Previously, the club tourney for that one month has joined with CCA as a catch and release only tourney and members fishing in the tourney would also have to be CCA members. The officers discussed bringing this up to the club for a vote due to feedback received regarding the mandatory participation in CCA in order to fish the tourney.

Chris Sapp asked about the redfish problem. Scibelli offered support for CCA and the redfish particulars 30% escapement. Suber thought that the "small net area", the need for "larger area", and "fishermen interviews" needed to be enhanced. There are tentative proposals of a change in slot limits to 21" - 27" and close Oct., or a 20" - 26" limit. John indicated some members have problem with paying another \$25 to fish that tourney and proposed discontinuing the club tourney/CCA connection.

The question of club mandatory participation was presented for vote. It was decided to discontinue the CCA relationship with regard to tourney.

Tom reported that the NFGFC site is up to date.

The Big Bend Fishing.Net (BBF) 4th annual social is on 2/24 at Sopchoppy Myron Hodge Park. He had 18-19 sponsors. Everyone is welcome and it's a family affair. You're invited to bring a new lure for a free raffle ticket. You can purchase additional tickets for \$1/piece. The time is 11am-4pm. BBF.net hats are available. John announced to the new folks that the social is a hoot.

John recapped that the January tourney had 11 boats and the February tourney had 13 teams! For the Keaton tournament on 3/10, he will put in at the public ramp but will pick up entry forms/\$ in front of marina. The 4/7 tournament date was changed to 4/14 and it will not be a draw tournament. The 10/6 will replace as a draw tourney.

Ty advertised that tonight's draw included several big prizes – Gaff magazine annual subscription, fishing/hunting trip with Chris Sapp (seatrout99 – southernoutdoorexpeditions), two Falcon rods (Scott at JBT), and two Daiwa spinning reels (Dale Evans aka Devans– Advantage Marine, Medart). Tye announced if you bring visitor that becomes a member you will receive 5 raffle tickets.

David briefly recapped the January meeting notes and requested that members and visitors sign the sign-in sheets – they will be available at each meeting. If anyone would like to prefer to be excluded from Internet pictures, please notify him at [dbg1304@nettally.com](mailto:dbg1304@nettally.com) or PM RodBow.

JT introduced Pat McGriff by telling Pat's professional and secret way of finding out what depth the trout were for a day's fishing. Each morning while leaving with a charter Pat would motion to a local shrimp boat captain by holding up 3, then 4, then 5 fingers..... The shrimper in turn would hold up 3, 4, or 5 to indicate where he caught his shrimp – thereby letting Pat know where to find fish.

Pat indicated that tides will be High at 5 am, a Low at 10:45 am, and a High at 4:23 pm so floating won't be an issue this year.

The main idea about March fishing is that there is less O<sub>2</sub> which means that the fish aren't wanting to move very fast so - SLOW DOWN! Slow down everything! You, at a minimum, should have a 15 second lag between Cajun Thunder pops.

The use of plastics like SWA's electric chicken and space guppy under the CJ is the recommended setup.

Other recommendations are:

Rig CJ midrange 38" - 41"

Scented baits – SLURP

Suspended baits

Fluorescents

Pink/white

**DON'T MOVE THE BAIT!**

When you catch one, mark the depth and fish that depth no matter what the tide is doing. There will not be much change/exchange of tide.

Chuggers/prop baits may work – but work them SLOW!

Where will the fish be? Turn right but beware beyond Yates creek. The target depth of 5'-6' around the Doghead or Piney Point should be good.

Lemon candy for sand trout or space guppy for specks

What leader material? Copolymer grey AN40 Bagley for leader

Other: Lunker lure for Reds

Bit-a-Baits

Penn SSG spinning reels

Pat continued responding to individuals questions for the rest of the evening.

Ty held the raffle with the assistance of a picker. Many top water individual lures, packs of grubs, etc. were in the general raffle with the big prizes coming at the end.