

November 2016

BAY AREA

Ryan and Steve Mekdeci Win Team Angler of the Year



BASSMASTERS



The 2016 Team Angler of the Year title goes to the team of Ryan Mekdeci and his brother Steve Mekdeci. It took the final contest to decide a winner. Istoktoga was fishing kind of tough and three teams had a shot at taking the crown. 10 points separated Tom Craighead and Bob Grosso, Jeff and Jared Crandon, and Ryan and Steve Mekdeci. Normally on Istoktoga a 12 pound bag of fish won't make the top 20 so when Ryan and Steve came to the scales they knew that they had very little chance of taking the crown. You could see the disappointment on their faces as they have worked very hard but they thought they had come up short. Little did they know that their year-long quest was about to be fulfilled. They knew that somebody had a big bag and it wasn't them. They stepped to the scales and put forth a limit weighing 11.03pounds. They knew that the next team of Tom and Bob were on them. Tom came up with 50 pounds of water in his bag and only two fish that would go less than 2 1/2 pounds. One bullet dodged. Next came the big gun. Jeff and Jared said they didn't have much but that didn't mean anything to the rest of us. We knew they were capable of bringing 30 pounds the scales so when they dumped their fish and the weigh-in tank Ryan and Steve sighed in relief. They would only managed to bring 10.09 pounds of the scales. This cemented the crown for Ryan and Steve. They have always been very consistent in their fish catches through the many years they have fish with Bay Area. They were normally in the top 10 but this was their first championship season. They ended the year with 49fish just one short of the perfect season. And ironically the lake that cause them not to have that perfect season was Istoktoga earlier in the year. Jeff and Jerry Crandon did manage a perfect seasonwith a total of 50 bass but they weren't alone. Lewis Robertson and Calvin Boyette also managed to bring a limit in every tournament. Ryan and Steve finished in the top 10 eight out of the 10 tournaments they fished. They won the tournament in June in Winter. They had a great year and we want to congratulate them on a great finish. These two gentlemen are class acts and we are proud the have them represent Bay Area Bassmasters as Team Angler of the Year for 2016.

Elton and Dennis Brewer Win The Richard's Quality Automotive Istokpoga Incident

Elton and Dennis Brewer only came down to Istoktoga because they needed one more tournament to make the Classic. They just went fishing and managed to bring in 12.79 pounds with a five fish limit. Fishing had been tough so they thought they finished in the middle of the pack. Little did they know that that weight would win them the crown of Istoktoga champion. Normally this lake will produce some great stringers but the fluctuating water levels and inconsistent weather patterns would scatter the fish this weekend. Pre-fishing has been good for many but everything had changed. Elton and Dennis caught a limit of fish and why I emphasize that is that the second place team also caught 12.79 pounds. Their bag it only consisted of four fish and since our first tiebreaker is number of fish Elton and Dennis claimed the crown. Second place belonged to Chris Neatherly and Steve Galetti. They had caught the same exact weight of fish down to the 100th of a pound but it managed to do it on just for fish. Unfortunately they didn't come up with their limit fish so they had to settle for second place. Their bag did consists of our lunker for the tournament. She would go 4.39 pounds and was the biggest fish caught on this that Saturday. Third-place belong to Chuck Pons and Mark Rees. They would bring 11.67pounds to the scales. Fourth placed along to our Team Angler of the Year, Steve and Ryan Mekdeci. There are 11.03 pound limit would guarantee them the TAOY honors. Fifth place along to Bruce and Jared Young with 10.96 pounds. Overall fishing was tough as 16 limits came across scales. Eight teams registered a zero including Casey and Gene. Only 112 fish were caught by 35 teams with an average of less than 2 pounds apiece. Not a great day on Istoktoga but we all know what this leak is capable of. We will hit it again next year and see what 2017 will bring. This brings to conclusion our 2016 season as all we have left is our classic out of Roland Martin's Marina on beautiful Lake Okeechobee. I know we are all looking forward to it.



We Will Be Collecting For The Ina Mahoney Hospice Challenge This Month

The Ina Mahoney Hospice Challenge has been going on since 2009. Bay Area Bassmasters has donated just under \$18,000 to hospice organizations in our area. We are really looking forward to a record year this year and hope and that each of us can do our part to help. This year we will be donating our proceeds in the name of Bill Polanowski. Most of the time the members that participate in this event are the ones that fish the Classic. A number of our members either are new or they haven't been able to make seven tournaments. We would like to invite you to our classic meetings in November. The first one will be a regular meeting where we elect officers and finished the year's business. Our second November meeting is after the classic . This is where all our classic checks will be handed out as well as our hospice donations will be collected. We invite every member to participate in these two meetings. We will have a big screen TV from Buddy's home furnishings that will be raffled off and we will crown our 2016 classic champion. Come on down and enjoy the festivities. We're looking forward to even a better 2017.

It's Time To Elect Officers For 2017

2016 Officers		Up For Re-election
President	Tom Mahoney	x
Vice President	Tom Craighead	x
Tournament Director	Gary Ford	x
Treasurer	Carol Mahoney	x
Secretary	Pam Hardy	x
Youth Director	Joe Craighead	x
Sponsorships	Casey Gonzalaz	x
Webmaster	Shawn Cartwright	no
Photographer	Mark Kummelman	x
Director	Chris Neatherly	x
Director	Mark Rees	x
Director	Jim Stillwell	no

Possible Change in Venue and Officers Will be Voted on This Month You must be there to Vote

Here are some updates from Clewiston.

The steak dinner is on for Saturday night. Bring your appetite and \$20 to the lodge at 6:30 for some great vittles. The lock should be open so all weigh-ins will be inside. Saturdays will be on the stage and Sunday we will be in the basin. The restaurant will not be open for breakfast so plan accordingly. The Tiki bar will be open for lunch, dinner and alcohol. Karaoke on Thursday and live music Friday and Saturday night. See you there!

The Bay Area Pool Top Ten

- 1 Steve Mekdeci & Ryan Mekdeci
- 2 Jeff Crandon & Jared Crandon
- 3 Tom Craighead & Bob Gosso
- 4 Lewis Roberson & Calvin Boyette
- 5 Alex Udvari & Kyle Anderson
- 6 Gary Ford & Joe Hobson
- 7 Chris Neatherly & Steve Gallette
- 8 Mike Hardy & Pam Hardy
- 9 John Cincotta & Perry Cincotta
- 10 Brian Stillwell & Fred Haus

If you didn't finish in the top ten the entry for this tournament is \$50. That will cover big fish for both days and give a bonus for first, second and third place finishers. Good luck anglers!

November's meeting will be Tuesday, the 4th & 15th at R J Wings N Things in Temple Terrace, located at 51st and Fowler at 7:00pm.



2016 Schedule

Month	Meeting/Tour.	Sponsor	Location	Ramp
January	5 9	Bay Area Pool Service	Winter Haven	Lake Shipp Ramp
February	9 13	Allstate Insurance	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
March	8 12	Lucky Dog Resort	Lake Harris	Hickory Point
April	March 29 2	Walpole Inc.	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
May	10 14	Cartwright Realty	Lake Okeechobee	Okee-Tantie
June	7 11	Florida Lift Systems	Lake Tarpon	Anderson
July	5 9	Car Shop	Clermont Chain	Clermont City Ramp
August	9 13	Richards Power & Motion	June in Winter	Public Ramps
September	6 10	T. A. Mahoney Co. Inc.	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
October	4 8	Richards Quality Auto	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
November	8/15 12-13	(Club Classic)	Okeechobee	Roland Martins

Here is our 2017 Schedule

January	10 14	Winter Haven	Lake Shipp Ramp
February	7 11	Lake Harris	Hickory Point
March	7 11	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
April	4 8	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
May	9 13	Lake Okeechobee	North End
June	6 10	Lake Harris	Hickory Point
July	5 (Wed) 8	Lake Toho	Southport
August	8 12	June in Winter	Public Ramps
September	5 9	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
October	10 14	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
November	7/14 11-12	(Club Classic)	TBD

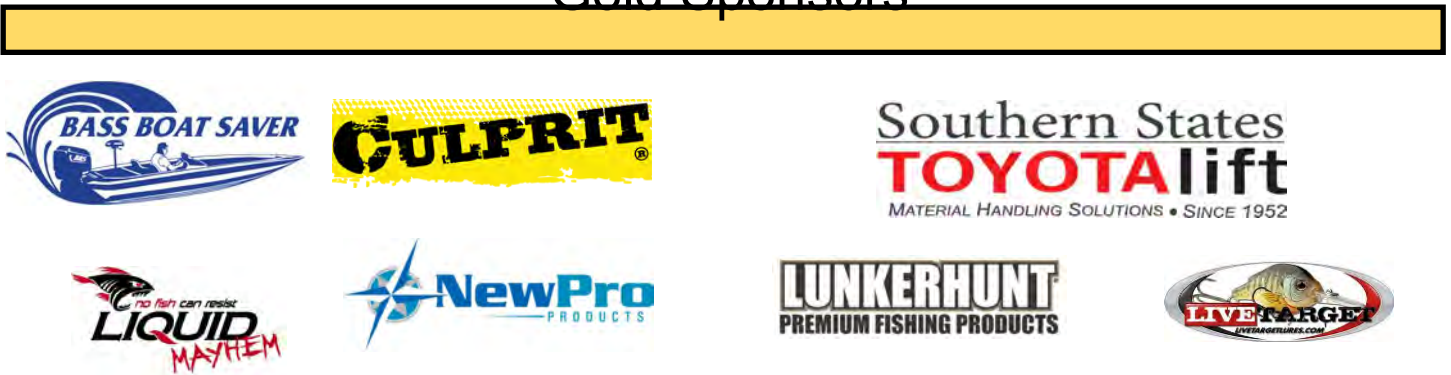
FBN Championship Dates

Nov 5 & 6 Pro / Am State Championship Seminole Sneads

Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

