

The Brooks Fishing Club Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2017



1. President's Report: Jim Holmes

Jim called the meeting at the Enrichment Center to order at 9:00AM and requested that all cell phones be silenced. There were 32 members in attendance. Jim reviewed this season's dues payment rules, briefly discussed the new member process, and welcomed all the new members in attendance with a BFC logo cap. Jim also discussed the need for volunteers for certain key areas.

2. Secretary's Report: Roger Whited

Roger called for the approval of the April 11, 2017 meeting minutes, which were then approved by the members to be posted on the BFC website. In addition, Roger provided members with the names of the 14 new members for this season, which brings the wait list down to 21.

3. Treasurer's Report: Jim Holmes for Mike Gleysteen

Jim reported that the BFC bank account currently has a balance of \$14,286.

4. Guest Speaker: Capt. Bill Russell, Gulf Coast Guide Service; Pine Island, FL

Capt. Bill Russell was raised in the Pine Island / Matlacha / Bokeelia area and has fished there for over 40 years. He now provides expert professional inshore fishing guide services, primarily targeting Snook, Tarpon, Redfish and Sea Trout in that local area he knows so well; and attributes the great fishing in that area to the better water quality there. He says that he likes to keep everything simple, using light spinning tackle, 20 lb braided line (no stretch), 30-40 lb fluorocarbon leader, and prefers live baits (pilchards, pin fish, & threadfin herring when available, or shrimp when the others are not available), using circle hooks sized for what you are targeting.

Capt. Bill also provided a lot of great fishing tips and advice, and shared some of his best fishing stories about the unique and diverse Pine Island area. More information and photos regarding his guide services and fishing charter rates can be found on his website at www.fishpineisland.com.

5. Offshore Charters: Jack Paster

Jack indicated that the offshore fishing for the coming season may present some challenging issues, such as price increases and deposits being at issue after the first of the year. In addition, he is being advised that full day trips are being encouraged due to the location of the grouper being so far out. While more discussions will be necessary to resolve these issues, the Findictive and Cuda have both agreed to hold their fees until the first of the year, and the club has therefore arranged the following offshore fishing charters:

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1. Findictive II – (Paster & Jamieson) – Capt. Mike Avinon has the fastest boat and the best locations for grouper. The October trip had to be cancelled, the November 20 trip is currently on hold, and the December 18 has not been opened yet. Trips are expected to run \$1160 + tip for full day (\$270 per 5 fishermen.) More information will be forthcoming via Gmail blasts.
2. Cuda – (Wickens & Denesha) – Capt. Mike Klein runs the larger and more comfortable Cuda, that can take up to six fishermen offshore. The November 13 trip is \$1175 + tip for full day (\$225 per 6 fishermen.) More information will be forthcoming via Gmail blasts.
3. Capt. Marvel – (Shannon & Asst. needed) – the Capt. Marvel is also a larger and more comfortable craft for offshore fishing for up to six fisherman. The November 29 trip and the December 7 trip will run \$1290 for full day (\$250 per 6 fishermen.) More information will be forthcoming via gmail blasts.

6. Back Bay Charters: Phil Ferrara

1. Capt. Russell – (Ferrara & VanKampen) – Capt. Bill Russell provides very good near shore fishing trips in the Pine Island / Matlacha area. Two trips are currently open (November 3 and November 30) with 2 boats for 3 fishermen each. Trips are \$400 + tip for the half day (\$160 per 3 fishermen.) Reply to the Gmail blast announcing these trips to RSVP.
2. Capt. Fontana – (Ferrara & VanKampen) – Capt. Tony Fontana provides very good near shore trips out of Naples. Two trips are currently open (November 2 and December 1) with one boat each for 3 fishermen. Trips are \$400 + tip for the half day (\$150 per 3 fishermen.) Reply to the Gmail blast announcing these trips to RSVP.

7. Pontoon Fishing: Larry Rothenberg for Tom Heaton

Larry indicated that Tom will run the Pontoon Fishing very much as in the past and would be sending a Gmail blast soon regarding upcoming trips, which should be AM trips in November and December; PM trips in January and February; and AM trips in March and April.

8. New Member Orientation: Jim Holmes for Bob Lienesch

Jim mentioned that Bob was planning on holding a new member orientation session on January 30, 2018. Further information will be forthcoming, and an announcement will be made by Gmail at a later date.

9. Social Events: T.J. Wright for Bob Seidell

TJ announced that they plan to have a full season of instructional lunches, similar to last year, with lunches planned for January 16 at SWCC, February 8 at Real Seafood, and March 15 at the Rookery. Reservations are limited. Gmail blasts will announce each lunch in advance of its required reservations.

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10. Annual Dinner – George Taylor

George announced that this season's Annual Dinner will be held at Spring Run in March 2018. There was a short discussion as to the desirability of musical entertainment, with the decision deferred until the BOD could have more time to consider the options.

11. Brooks Pond Fishing: Jim Holmes for Larry Winston

Jim mentioned that Larry was reformatting the Big Bass Tournament of last season and would present his plans for Brooks Pond Fishing at the next meeting.

12. Summer Activities: T.J. Wright

T.J. reported that there was a small group of members who had some summer fun fishing and dining this summer.

13. BFC Raffle Winner: Doug Hogan

Next Meeting: 9:00AM, Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at the Common Club's Enrichment Center.

Minutes submitted by Roger Whited, Secretary