# San Diego Anglers

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Notice: The San Diego Anglers January 6th, 2021 meeting will be held online/remotely via Zoom. The Zoom Webinar will open at 6:45 PM and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 PM. Earl Asbury will send a link to the Webinar in an email. To join the Webinar, open the email and click on the link to the Webinar.



January 6th SDA Club Meeting Online/Remote

January 13th SDA Board Members Meeting - Remote

# The San Diego Anglers

# **Are Proud to Present Guest Speaker** Tristan Merlaud and Will Smith



A Northern California original since 2015, Pitbull Tackle was created by fishermen, for fishermen. With a primary goal of designing speciesspecific fishing equipment for our local waters, they still hold that true to continue to design new and improved fishing tackle for anglers of all skill levels. They specialize in gear designed for Salmon, Rockfish, Ling Cod, Halibut, and Albacore Tuna but are constantly expanding to incorporate new products for as many of our West Coast fish species as possible. All of their products are created and tested in the California Bay Area and the surrounding fisheries, and they take pride in creating lures that will help catch any angler more fish

Their major focus for all Pitbull Tackle lures is to enhance the product with either Glow-in-the-Dark or Ultraviolet (UV) colors. Oftentimes they create unique combinations of both enhancements together in the same lure. This addition to their line of products greatly increases the effectiveness of their baits and lures as it gives the fish a target that they can see ex-



292 Members



www.facebook.com/SanDiegoAnglers

# Andrew Hauser asked some San Diego Anglers to share their 2020 memorable moments. Following are their contributions:

SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment Wide Open Yellowfin by Vincent Hauser

2020 was such a blur since we caught so many fish. It was like we were fishing 2 to 3 times a week to capitalize on the epic fishing we had in our backyard. On this particular day, while on a ripper YT bite we got word of a wide-open yellowfin kelp further offshore but didn't have time to chase them that day. With that fresh on my mind, I asked my dad if we could go try and catch them the following day. Of course he said, yes so the game plan was set for the following day. Yellowfin was the plan.

The following day, we woke up at 5am to dark skies and slight breeze. Lucky the water was glassy and made it very easy to identify kelps when the sun broke. After a quick one-hour boat ride we spotted our first kelp that was holding Yellowtail and one Dorado. After we put a few fish in the box, we pushed further west and found a couple more smaller kelps that we gave a quick look and moved on. In retrospect, that was a great call as we found the magic kelp shortly after that was holding Yellowfin, Skipjack, and Dorado.

As we slid in to the kelp, we chummed heavy and instantly had blow-ups around the boat. So I grabbed my rod, pinned on a live sardine, and pitched it out. Within seconds I was hooked up with my first Yellowfin of the day. Unfortunately, I lost that fish in a matter of seconds. Not to be discouraged, I pinned on an active sardine and tossed it out. Bam!!! Bit again, but this time I was determined to get this one. It took me around the boat two times and fifteen minutes, and finally my dad stuck it with the gaff. I let out a holler and danced with excitement.

Thanks for reading, and that was my 2020 highlight



# SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment

Linda Power

My favorite memory of 2020 was catching Yellowtail in Baja. This may seem unadventurous to most fishermen and women, however, for me it was learning the Yo-yo technique that made it exciting. Dropping my TASO 7 yo-yo iron down to the bottom and then reeling up as fast as I could, only for my line to stop midway up with a thunk, and hook-up with a Yellowtail. I did this over and over again and even though my arms were tired and muscles burning from all the reeling, getting the hook-up was a blast every time. Learning a fishing technique I've never tried before and being successful was one of my most memorable fishing moments.

Sometimes it's not all about the fish or the "big catch." For me, it was watching 4 guys on a Parker nearby all drop down at the same time and then, with a surge of adrenalin, reel in like they were in a race, hoping a Yellowtail would bite their jig on the way up. In that moment I really believed I could do that too. Fishing was slow that cold, brisk morning in Baja. The guys in the Parker hadn't pulled up anything yet. I grabbed my pole and decided to give it a shot. On my second drop, I don't know if we drifted over the magic spot or if the tides changed, but there I was, down and tight, on my way up. Instantly a smile came to my face and some surprise as well, amazed that watching the technique of those guys worked.

As a female angler, I am always trying to get better and learn new things every time I go out fishing with my family, like "wind in your face, you're in the right place" which is not the same if you're a guy and peeing off the side of the boat. Hoping for many more fishing moments in the future.

#### SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment

From Start to Finish: Building your rod, rigging your rod, hooking your fish then landing it!

"There is no better feeling than that!" - by Lori Heath

Every year I try to set a goal to learn new techniques and do something different when I'm on the water, so this year was no exception I noticed that most of the big bluefin were being hooked & caught on the Sportfishing boats, kites, rigs then handed off to an angler to reel in. I personally like to hook and catch my own fish, so I needed to figure out a way to get my bait out to where the kites were hooking these big beasts. So I decided that I wanted to build my own flying fish rig setup on my own rail rod, that I built using a helium balloon and try to cap-

ture one of these giants. Well, on a trip in Oct I made it happen! This is my most memorable fishing trip of 2020. It was on the "T-Bird" out of Point Loma Sportfishing, captain/owner Tyler Hill and owner Kenny Dean gave Rob & I permission to bring our rigs & small helium tank aboard and try to land a giant on our equipment, "from start to finish." As we have done this before and know how to fly the balloons. This day was an exception. I made my flying fish rig with 400lb Izorline First String Clear crimping on a 16/0 J Hook with a 5/0 treble hook, using a 36" balloon with a breakaway line then attaching that line to my main line on my rod using a rubber band, within 15 minutes after releasing my balloon rig I was bit. and the battle was on... the adrenaline rush I got was insane. These pelagic beasts are so powerful, and knowing I did this by myself was even more rewarding. A 45-min fight due to a drag issue made the last 100 vards very difficult, but I finally landed this beautiful fish, weighing in at 200lbs. No better feeling than building your own rod



then landing a cow on it! This was definitely my highlight of 2020!

### SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment By Luke Larson

My most memorable moment is when I caught my bonito. I pulled in my jerk bait to cast it out again, and right as it hit the water, the bonito slammed my bait! It was so unexpected I almost fell off the boat! It didn't last long, but it was a good fight and I was very excited to weigh it. It was 2 pounds, and I snapped a picture and watched it dash away into the dark blue Pacific sea.





SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment By Justin Larson

My most memorable catch of the year would be a wild rainbow trout. I was in the Sierras with my father, and we were fly fishing the Owens River. That river is mostly small brown trout and only about 20 percent rainbow trout. I threw my fly past a branch and saw my indicator go under the water for barely a second. I set the hook and I started to reel in the trout. It was a good fight for a 1.5lb wild trout. When I landed the fish, it looked so beautiful. It looked 10 times better that a stocked one. I took a picture and released it back into the river.





## SD Angler Memorable 2020 moment Swordfish and Bluefin By Jack Smith

2020 was a great fishing year for me. Endless Yellowfin, Yellowtail and Dorado but the most memorable catches of the year was a Swordfish and cow Bluefin.

So-cal deep-drop Swordfish I think anyone can agree it's something that everyone dreams about catching. I have been working on a fishing yacht helping as a deckhand. I got the text we were going deep dropping. I went into it not expecting much but stoked to be able to have the opportunity to go give it a shot. We got out to the zone we were going to be fishing and found the

drift we wanted to set. After I got the squids rigged up, we sent them down. We got the first rod to the depth we wanted to fish, threw the buoy over and spun the boat around slowly to get it on the right side. As the boat spins and we start to stop, we go to drop the second rod but the buoy in the water is completely slacked.

We had watched the buoy good, thinking it had to be slack due to spinning the boat, and surely there was no way it was already a bite, right? Well, lucky for us it was one of those days where we got the perfect drift and dropped it right in front of the swordfish's face. I started



to crank it up to get tight. It wasn't till about 500 feet where we became tight with the fish. It immediately shot up to the surface and did some amazing jumps and finned around. The windshield wipers it would do on the surface were unbelievable and something you can't get out of your head. After an hour and half of a up-and-down fight my boss sunk a gaff into it and we pulled it over the rail and onto the deck. It was a beautiful fish, and I am so fortunate and thankful to have caught it at 15.

For Bluefin, I caught multiple fish over 100 lb this year and more than I can count of the 20-70 pounders. I picked away at each trip, but never had "that trip". I got the invite on my buddy's boat last minute. Got told I was getting picked up in 20 minutes and we were going, so I



grabbed my gear and went. We drove all night to Cortez Bank at 10 knots to save gas. We got to the grounds nice and early, and as soon as it was grey light we started to mark fish. Fished the flat fall on a few schools with no luck but could tell they were going to bite. Once the sun came up, we got the kite up and got it ready. First school we stopped at was a nice spot, got bit on the first flyer. Judging that they had been typically biting in the afternoon it was awesome to bag two bright and early. We got that and another to go with it in the first school. Two in the bags before

7:30am. We had a time where we cleaned up the fish, made breakfast, then went back to it. We didn't find one for a while. Around 2:00pm we were able to locate another big batch of fish. Got on a wild drift, and on every bait that went out it was bit on the way out. Got 3 cows going within 10 minutes. kill, gill, gut, repeat. Ended the trip with five fish: 2 at 150, 2 at 210, and one at 278.

Watching the fish explode on a perfectly placed flyer is such an amazing thing to see?

## Tournament Anglers of the Year

Sam Lindsey, Tournament Master



Even with all of what is going on, we were still able to have 4 successful tournaments this year.

As always, the competition was up to it, and from all of the stories we have heard it was a good time out on the water.

- Adult Tournament Angler of the Year: Linda Power
- Junior Tournament Anglers of the Year: Vincent Hauser
- Tournament Skipper of the Year: Andrew Hauser.



# It's that time of the year to renew your SDA membership for 2021

Your Board of Directors has decided to reduce the Membership cost by 50% for those who were members in 2020, so an Individual Membership will be \$35.00 and a Family Membership \$40.00 for 2021.

New 2021 memberships remain the same: Individual \$70.00 and Family \$80.00.

All memberships expire on December 31, 2020 and should be renewed by the February 3, 2021 club meeting in order to maintain your membership in good standing.



# San Diego Anglers Official Weight Receipt

# **PleasePrint** LastName \_\_\_\_\_\_FirstName\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Man\_\_\_\_Woman\_\_\_\_\_Jr.\_\_\_ DateofCatch \_\_\_\_\_\_ Fish Species \_\_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_ Ibs \_\_\_\_tens. TimeofCatch PlaceofCatch Local Beyond125NauticalMiles MethodofCatch: Bait Trolling Artificial LineClass 1b Released: Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_ If Required enter the length of the Fish\_\_\_\_\_ BoatName\_\_\_\_\_Skipper\_\_\_\_ScaleType\_\_\_\_ WastheScaleCertified? Yes No ScaleLocation Weighmaster'sName\_\_\_\_\_Phone#\_\_\_\_ Pleasemarkthecategory/categorieswhatyouwantthisweightreceipttobeawardedto: Standardweightreceipt AllAroundAngler Other HomerJohnson I, theundersigned, hereby take an oath and attest that the fish described herein was hooked, fought, and brought to gaff by me, without assistance from anyone and that it was caught and weighed in accordance with, local IGFA and San Diego Anglers club rules. Anglers Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Signature WitnesName(PleasePrint) PhoneNo.

Pleasemail this completedweight receipt to:TheWeightmasterfortheSanDiegoAnglers,

Andrew Hauser, 4274 Asher St., San Diego, CA 92118

within 30 days of the catch. You can also email to dadsells@yahoo.com

NOTE:Sometournaments may require that the weight receipt be mailed within 10 days.

Pleasecheck tournamentrules and entryforms.

Revised 12/21/2020



# SDA 2021 Calendar

This is a tentaive calendar of events. Please make sure to visit SDA website for revised dates.

#### January 2021

6 Wed SDA Club Meeting (*REMOTE*)
13 Thurs SDA Board Meeting (*REMOTE*)
Cancelled SDA Open Bay Bass Tournament

#### February 2021

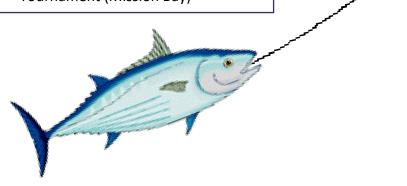
Wed SDA Club Meeting (*REMOTE*)
 Wed SDA Board Meeting (*REMOTE*)
 SDA Voting Members Meeting
 SDA Susan Johnson Memorial
 Tournament (Mission Bay)



3 Wed SDA Club Meeting (*REMOTE*)

Cancelled? Fred Hall (Long Beach)
10 Wed SDA Board Meeting

**Cancelled?** Fred Hall (Del Mar Fairgrounds)



# Recognizing a big newsletter contributor

## Tina Burlason

Every month for many, many years, Tina Burlason has quietly and dutifully performed the role of proofreader for this newsletters. It's a lot of work to clean up our grammar, punctuation and spelling. Without her we couldn't have a newsletter. **Thank you, Tina.** 



## 2021 San Diego Anglers Open Bay Bass Tournament

By Dwayne Patenaude

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The Port of San Diego contacted the club in September, telling us that they would get back with us in November on the permissibility of next year's Bay Bass Tournament because of the virus. Well, it is official now: All events surrounding the bay have been officially cancelled through March 1, 2021. We will plan for the OBB Tournament in 2022 and are hoping that it will be safe enough to do it then.

# California Recreational Fishery

The California recreational fishery is closed early in the year, open in the summer months with depth restrictions and open to all depths in some areas at the end of the year. Bag limits also apply for the rockfish, cabezon and greenling (RCG) complex, lingcod, flatfish, and California scorpionfish. The most up to date season structures, depth restrictions and bag limits for the California recreational fishery are available on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife website: <a href="www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Regulations/Groundfish-Summary">www.wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean/Regulations/Groundfish-Summary</a>

Season Structure												
Management Area	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May - October	Nov	Dec					
Northern (42° N. lat. to 40°10' N. lat.)		xcept for p nder, and			Open May 1- October 31 <30 fm	Open All Depths						
Mendocino (40°10' N. lat. to 38°57.50' N. lat.)		xcept for p nder, and			Open May 1- October 31 <30 fm	Open All Depths						
San Francisco (38°57.50' N. lat. to 37°11' N. lat.)	Closed except for petrale sole, starry flounder, and Other Flatfish				Open April 1-December 31 <50 fm							
Central (37°11'N. lat. to 34°27' N. lat.)	Closed except for petrale sole, starry flounder, and Other Flatfish				Open April 1-December 31 <50 fm							
Southern (South of 34°27' N. lat)	petrale s flound	except for ole, starry ler, and Flatfish	Except	Open March 1-December 31 <100 fm Except in the Cowcod Conservation Areas where fishing is allowed <40 fm								

#### Size Limits and Sub-Bag Limits

2020 size limits remain place. See 660.360(c)(3)(ii) for current limits.

The sub-bag limits for black rockfish, canary rockfish, and cabezon have been eliminated.

A new sub-limit of 5 fish for vermillion rockfish has been established.



10

## 2020 Award-Winning Catches as of December 22, 2020

Bass 5 lbs and over: Jack Smith 5.27 Sand Bass, Adam Larson 5.16 Calico Bass,

Chris Dedo 6.5 Calico Bass, Dennis Burlason 7.97 Sand Bass,

Linda Power 6.20 Calico Bass

Bass 10 lbs and over:

Marlin under 200 lbs: Marlin over 200 lbs:

Marlin on 20-lb test or less:

Broadbill Swordfish: Jack Smith 176.6

Yellowtail over 25 lbs: Lori Heath 28.10, John Gleaves 34.5, Dennis Burlason 38.6

Paul Burch 39.6

Yellowtail over 40 lbs: Ron Lee 41.0

Yellowtail on 8-lb test or less:

Tuna 30 lbs and over: Tony Souza 31.0(YFT), Jack Smith 36.0(YFT), Janice Krause 37.20(BFT),

Lori Heath 38.40(YFT), John Gleaves 54.0(YFT), Robert Tressler 54.1(YFT),

Bobby Rollins 55.0(BFT)

Tuna 100 lbs and over: Dennis Burlason 126.9(BFT), John Gleaves 171.0(BFT)

Tuna 200 lbs and over: Lori Heath 200.00(BFT), Robert Tressler 229.5(BFT),

Jack Smith 248.2(BFT), Debbie Patenaude 279.0(BFT),

Norm Campbell 333.0(BFT)

Albacore over 25 lbs: Bobby Rollins 25.0

Albacore over 40 lbs:

Albacore on 12-lb or less:

**Light-Line Fish** 

3 to 1

5 to 1

10 to 1

Released Billfish

2020 Angler-of-the-Year Standings as of 12/22/2020												
Men's Division			Women'	s Divisio	n	Junior Division						
Angler	Qualified	Points	Angler	Qualified	Points	Angler	Qualified	Points				
Dennis Burlason	Y	884.70	Lori Heath	Y	898.51	Vincent Hauser	Y	582.49				
Andrew Hauser	Y	754.31	Linda Power	Y	769.92	Jack Smith	Y	582.36				
Ken Pucillo	Y	531.71	Janice Krause	Y	539.05	Luke Wiese	Y	492.44				
						Dominic Hauser	Y	414.33				
						Justin Larson	Y	367.10				
Reminder - Adults need 7 species to qualify.						Reminder-Juniors need 5 species to qualify						



## 2020 WEIGHMASTER'S REPORT

Andrew Hauser, Weighmaster

The *San Diego Anglers* wish to recognize club members who have managed to convert luck and skill into notable angling achievements. Anglers will be acknowledged and awarded for these catches at monthly membership meetings. Weight receipts received prior to the 10th of each month will be published in the monthly newsletter and awards presented at the next monthly meeting.



local caught fish

#### PROCEDURE TO APPLY FOR AWARDS:

Submit all weight receipts within 30 days of catch.

- 1. Weigh your catch. Any scale known to be accurate may be used.
- 2. Complete a San Diego Anglers weight receipt. Enclose a photograph, if possible.
- 3. Submit all weight receipts to: Andrew Hauser, at dadsells@yahoo.com

LARGEST FISH AWARDS will be awarded at the annual banquet.



11

\*\* fish caught beyond 125

miles from Point Loma