

MSSA FREDERICK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Working to Provide a Unified Voice to Preserve and Protect the
Rights, Tradition and the Future of Recreational Fishing!
No Unity, No Voice, No Fish



The Official MSSA Frederick Chapter VHF Channel is 71

President's Message

Fall is upon us and it only seems like yesterday that we were anticipating opening day of rockfish season. The time has flown by with a lot of great fishing so far and plenty yet to be had. Although the temperatures will begin to cool, our chapter activities are starting to heat up. We have a great next couple months of chapter activities, meetings, fishing tournaments and the Main MSSA fall tournament. I look forward to seeing all of you at many of our upcoming events or activities.

This month's meeting will feature a great demonstration about our upcoming annual "Tackle the Mackerel" tournament out of Harker's Island, N.C. You can still order shirts at the meeting, but that will be the last chance to get them. We will have no "extra" shirts for sale. In addition, we will be having a HUGE estate sale with some top quality, brand new fishing gear from our member Rick Breeze. Fellas, I've seen his stuff, brand new rods, reels, boating gear and there will be some great deals to be had. If you are looking for affordable quality tackle, make sure you are there.

Also, our chapter crab feast will be Saturday the 14th from 1:00pm until the last person leaves. Tickets will be available for \$30 per person at the meeting, but after that, no tickets will be sold at the door. There will be plenty of great raffle prizes, kid's activities, along with plenty of adult beverages. Please remember to turn in your raffles tickets at the beginning of the meeting to get your free entry into the feast. This should be a great time, great food and an opportunity to get out and mingle with your fellow chapter members. We are still looking for volunteers to help setup and cleanup. A sign up sheet will be at the meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

TICKETS.

Fish hard!

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, September 11,
2013**

Food Service begins at 6:15 PM
Meeting at 7:00 PM

Speaker:

Chris Linetty and Tyler Watson
Just in time for the tournament, the duo will get us up to speed on the ins and outs of King mackerel off the coast of North Carolina

Vendor:

None this month

August Raffle Winners:

Spinning Rod and Reel – Pat Fleagal
Hat and bag of 9" Shads – Jim Bremer
Charter Crabbing Trip – Charlie Applebee
Charter Crabbing Trip – James Stewart
June Bug Tackle Parachute – Zach Ridgley
June Bug Tackle Spreader – Mike Erdman
Bay Country Snood Line - Bob Lowry
Float Bag – James Stephens
Fabril Net – Mike Fletcher
Hat and bag of 6" Shads – Roy Young
June Bug Tackle Spinner – Neil Ammerman
Hat and Pliers – Tom Fouche
Battery Maintainer - Joe Hoffman
June Bug Tackle Parachute – Wayne Rice

50/50 Raffle
\$87 – Jim Shaw

Attendance at August Meeting:

59

Directions To Meeting at the Frederick Moose Lodge: - [Map](#)

From Frederick, take **I-70** east to **exit 56**
(Rt. 144W). Turn slight right onto MD-144.
Go 0.8 miles to 828 E. Patrick St. on the left.

Chapter News

ATTENTION !!!!!

The Cruise Drawing will be held at this Month's Meeting

We are drawing the winner of the 2013 fundraiser Cruise at the conclusion of September's meeting.

Please turn your tickets back into Bob Pellicott or one of the Chapter Officers no later than September 9, 2013.

We want everyone who bought tickets to have an equal change of winning so your cooperation in this matter is of utmost importance.

Last Chance for King Mackerel T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts

These will only be available as a prepaid item. We will not have extras. Purchase at the September meetings for delivery in time for the tournament in October.

Chapter Crab Feast in September

The Frederick Chapter will be hosting an all-you-can-eat crab feast on Saturday, September 14 at the Pine cliff Parks in Frederick MD.

This event will be FREE to anyone who sells ten (10) raffle tickets for the chapter fundraiser. For each ten (10) tickets you sell, you will receive one free ticket to the crab feast.

The menu will feature fresh steamed blue crabs, corn on the cob, fries, and Cole slaw. Soft drinks, potatoes chips and hot dogs are compliments of the Chapter; feel free to bring your own beer.

For those that did not sell ten (10) raffle tickets, tickets are \$30 each, advance purchase only. There will be no tickets sold after the September 11 meeting. Friends and family are welcome as well.

Request to Membership for Nominations for Officers and Board of Directors

Officers and Directors of the Chapter must be elected to hold office by a simple majority

of those members, qualified to vote, at the at the regularly scheduled November meeting.

Only Members in good standing of the Frederick Chapter are qualified to vote in any Chapter election.

No member may be nominated to hold office without the approval of the person being nominated.

A request to the membership for recommendations for Officers and Directors shall be published in the newsletter. Any qualified member for Officer or Director may be recommended to the Nominating Committee

At the regularly scheduled Board meeting, a representative of the Nominating Committee shall present the Board of Directors the Committee's recommendations of a slate of officers and directors of those persons qualified and agreeable to hold office in accordance with these By-Laws. The Board shall either accept, reject, or accept with amendment the recommendations of the Nominating Committee.

At the regularly scheduled October meeting, a representative of the Nominating Committee shall present the Committee's recommendations, as approved by the Board of Directors, the incoming slate of persons qualified and agreeable to hold office for the Membership's consideration.

The Nominating Committee may accept nominations from the general membership at the October meeting. No person may be nominated to hold office by the general membership who is not present at the October meeting unless they have in advance informed the Nominating Committee that they are agreeable to hold office. After no further nominations are received from the membership at the October meeting, the nominations for the next term shall be closed.

Following the closing of nominations for Officers and Directors, the Secretary shall cause to have a listing of persons nominated for office published in the next newsletter and on the Chapter website.

The Membership shall vote upon all persons nominated for office at the regularly scheduled November meeting.

Each Member in good standing of the Frederick Chapter who are qualified to vote shall be given one ballot, which ballot shall contain the names of all persons duly nominated for Officers and Directors.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall have custody of all ballots, and shall cause to tally all ballots following the election. The other members of the Nominating Committee shall cause to audit the Chairman's tally if such is necessary.

The Officers and Directors shall be elected by a simple majority of those members voting at the regularly scheduled November meeting.

In the event no more than one (1) person is nominated for any one (1) office or directorship.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee is authorized to accept a voice vote for officers or directors.

Fishing Reports

Chincoteague Action

By Charlie Koski

Well the summer is over(not really until 9/23 officially) but Labor Day marks the end for most travelers. The fishing here started off slow stayed slow got good for about 3 weeks and remains real slow. The weather has been a big factor this year with the winds constantly blowing. I cannot fill up both hands with number of calm days. We did not see a big influx of flounder again this year and we have asked the Virginia Institute of Marine Science why. Their answer was that they have seen a decline in number of flounder tagged all over the VA waters. But not sure why so they may be doing a study but we will see. Up until last year I was bringing an average of 800 fish over the rail, mostly throwbacks but the action kept people on their toes. The wrecks even started off slow but are heating up now with limits of flounder being caught. I have a day off this week so I am heading out here to find out! Croaker were also almost non existent except the occasional 8"-10" ones and that only lasted a few weeks. Kingfish(sea mullet) were her for about a 2 months starting in May but fizzled out at the end of June. Rough water hampered most anglers from trying to get to them past the beach. Even the commercial gill netters are struggling.

On the offshore action, well status quo as the inshore action. Been very slow out there and the weather has hampered a lot of the small boat fleet from venturing out to try it. The inshore wrecks are holding a lot of triggerfish and spades when they bite and the weather cooperates its game on. Tog opens back up on September 20th. Longest closure in VA yet.

Surf action heated up with a showing of stripers but it was short lived as they moved north quickly. Spot and kingfish are still around but not in any numbers and puppy drum are starting to be caught. Sorry for the lax in getting reports out but been a very busy summer for us taking over a new business. Tight lines.....

Ocean City Action

By Sue Foster

Water Temp: 73.2

Fishing this week was good flounder, though it was hard to find keepers in the bay. Anglers picked them up in the deepest holes on the slackingtides. Some really good days offshore on flounder catches. But like all fishing, some days were better than others. Red drum are around along with some black drum. Oceanic Pier has had good trout fishing at nightand flounder fishing by day. Surf has had the usual spot and kingfish along with more and more reports of snapper blues. Some nice shark releases were reported. Offshore, flounder were biting, one cobia was reported. Further offshore the news was dolphin, some tuna and marlin releases.

Chesapeake Bay Action

September 4, 2013

The recent influx of Striped Bass into the lower Susquehanna River and the channels around the Susquehanna Flats area continue to provide some fun topwater action for fishermen. Water temperatures in the lower Susquehanna are in the upper 60's this week. Most fishermen are using topwater lures in the early morning and evening hours to enjoy the fun of surface strikes. Swim shads and crankbaits are also effective for the Striped Bass that are running from 16" to about 20" in length. In the river there is also some Walleye, Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass action as well.

Upper bay fishermen continue to find Striped Bass at the Love Point, Swan Point and Podickory Point areas. Most fishermen are live lining Spot but many are chumming with equally good results. Most fishermen are slowly motoring around the areas until they spot fish with their depth finders and then set up on them. Bluefish are a part of the mix now and they are making short work of live spot and monofilament leaders. Trolling small spoons behind inline weights has also been an effective way to catch a mix of Bluefish and Striped Bass along channel edges as well as jigging over suspended fish. Breaking fish composed of a mix of Bluefish and Striped Bass are becoming a more common sight in the upper bay this week. A large portion of the Striped Bass tend to be in the 16" size range but there are larger fish often mixed in on top or below the surface action.

Fishermen are finding good fishing for White Perch in many areas of the upper bay such as shoal areas out in the bay and channel edges in the tidal rivers. Most fishermen are using bottom rigs baited with bloodworms but jigging can also be effective. There is

good fishing for White Perch around piers, docks and similar structure in the tidal rivers for light tackle fishermen casting a variety of small lures such as spinners, spinnerbaits and jigs or shad darts. Shad darts tipped with a grass shrimp can be a deadly combination for White Perch.

The area around the Bay Bridge continues to be a good place to fish this week as fishermen find Striped Bass holding near the bases of the bridge piers. Fishermen can be seen holding their boats in position up current of the bridge piers and drifting live Spot back to the pier bases where the fish are holding. Others are jigging soft plastics or metal jigs while some fishermen are setting up chum slicks up current and drifting baits back towards the piers.

In the middle bay region the area known as the Hill is still a popular destination for fishermen to live line Spot but the fishery is showing signs of changing with Striped Bass fishing becoming less reliable and a hungry horde of Bluefish chewing up baits. Fishermen have been reporting for a couple of weeks now that Striped Bass are proving to be harder to find and hold underneath the boat and the Bluefish showing an insatiable appetite for live Spot baits. More and more schools of breaking fish are being seen in other areas of the middle bay; a sign that we are beginning to see a fall pattern of fishing. The bait is usually Bay Anchovies and the predators are a mix of Striped Bass, Bluefish and Spanish Mackerel. Soon enough it will be more common for fishermen to be jigging under and casting to breaking fish. For the present though, a lot of fishermen continue to live line Spot at the Hill and other channel edges where they can spot fish suspended over the bottom on their depth finders. One exciting thing that is occurring by those that venture to other locations besides the Hill is that fishermen are catching Red Drum while live lining Spot.

Fishing for a mix of White Perch, Spot and Croaker has been good in the middle bay region and fishermen are finding large White Perch holding near deep structure in the lower sections of the region's tidal rivers. Jigging with small spoons and jigs has been effective as is bait. Large Spot are being found in the tidal rivers along with some medium sized croaker. Shore bound fishermen have been finding good fishing opportunities for Spot and White Perch from various fishing piers and bulkhead areas such as the Kent Narrows.

Recreational crabbers continue to give it their all to try and put some steamed crabs on the table. It has been a lot of work to come up with a half bushel or more in most areas of the bay. There is no denying this has not been a stellar year for crabs but

recreational crabbers continue to catch just enough to satisfy a hankering for crabs.

Lower bay region are reporting that their Striped Bass fortunes are improving with more and more schools of Striped Bass chasing bait and better live lining action outside of the Gas Docks. A good portion of the Striped Bass being reported around Cove and Cedar Point are undersized but there are plenty of legal sized ones also. Bluefish are going to be part of the mix no matter what type of fishing you do in the lower bay. They are mixing it up with Striped Bass and Spanish Mackerel whenever they encounter schools of bait. Trolling has been a good way to target this mix of fish this week and many fishermen are also putting some larger spoons in their trolling spread for some catch release fishing for large red drum. The large Red Drum have been showing up at locations such as the Mud Leads, Buoy 72A and the area between Cove and Cedar Points.

Light tackle fishermen have really been enjoying themselves throughout the lower bay with a mix of Striped Bass, Red Drum and Bluefish recently. Most fishermen are casting soft plastic swim shads and jigs in the shallower areas near channels and points during the morning and evening hours. The areas north and south of Tangier Sound on the eastern side of the bay have also been producing some beautiful Speckled Trout for fishermen.

Virginia Beach Action

By Dr. Julie Ball
30 August 2013

The fall fishery is gaining momentum at a fast pace as water temperatures drop ahead of schedule due to lingering cooler weather. The hope is that this cooling trend levels out, or it could influence the approaching striper season. Labor Day may mark the end of summer for many, but the summer fishing festivities are not over quite yet!

Cobia are out of control as they escalate into their fall patterns. This week, the number of fish spotted by sight anglers skyrocketed. Cobia are cruising in pairs, pods, and gathering into big schools most anywhere in lower Bay waters, and along the ocean front. Nice fish are also lurking around buoys and along pilings at the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Anglers are hooking multiple fish per trip, with some cobia pushing into the 50 and 80-pound class range. Most of the larger fish are still presenting with finicky behavior, but a well-placed buck tail can also do the trick. Chummers and bottom anglers are also catching very good numbers decent fish in the usual hot spots with cut bunker this week.

Bull reds are still roaming the lower Bay shoals and near the 3rd and 4th islands of the Bridge Tunnel as they fatten up to migrate south in a few weeks. Jack crevelle are also still surprising a few anglers at the entrance to the Bay, but they will settle around the Chesapeake Light Tower soon.

Flounder action is still good right now with a late season "hurrah", as flatfish continue to assemble along channel edges, shoals, and the CBBT proper as they prepare to exit the Bay. Drifting along Cape Henry, the Baltimore Channel, and near buoy 36A is generating some nice fish. Anglers targeting flatties with live bait and jigs are finding some big fish along the CBBT, with the 1st and 3rd islands providing the best catches right now. Sea bass are becoming more active on inshore wrecks from the Light Tower Reef, out to the Triangle wrecks.

Sheepshead are still going strong as anglers entice big fish from the pilings and all four tubes of the CBBT using fiddler crabs and clam. Trigger fish are still staging in all the same locations, with several of these fish pushing to over 4-pounds.

Backwater anglers are finding good numbers of nice speckled trout and puppy drum in lower Bay shallows, especially in Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets, the Poquoson flats, and Hungars creek.

Decent sized spot are providing very good action in the lower Bay lately, especially off Little Creek, Willoughby and Buckroe, with fish also becoming more active within the inlets this week. This bite will continue to improve over the next few weeks. Croaker are hitting near all four islands of the CBBT, the skinny waters of the Eastern Shore, and off Cape Henry. The hardhead action out of Oyster improved last week, but the cooling trend may put an end to this flurry. Tarpon activity on the Shore is likely done for the year as a result of the rapid cool-down.

King mackerel have yet to take off, but September and October are good months for kings, so anglers are still hopeful. Spanish mackerel are still providing action within the Bay and along the ocean front.

The Chesapeake Light Tower can offer a chance at an amberjack, or maybe a jack crevelle. The Southern Towers and some coastal wrecks are also still holding schools of big AJ's. Deep droppers are still catching limits of nice blueline tilefish, some golden tilefish, blackbellied rosefish, and jumbo seabass mixed in, but most folks are now focusing on the escalating marlin bite lately.

Offshore, billfish are still at the top of the list as the number of white marlin releases inch up this week. Blue marlin, sailfish, spearfish, and even swordfish offer bluewater trollers a little more variety, and a shot at a grand slam. Bigeye tuna are still around, along

with some big yellowfin tuna. Some big wahoo and scattered bailer dolphin are also a good consolation prize.

www.drjball.com.

Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr.*

Updated: August 30, 2013

DELAWARE BAY As summer winds down, fishing in the bay continues to provide good action in numerous locations. Croaker continue to please anglers from shore and boat throughout the bay. Most are still small, but larger fish have been caught over rubble at various reef sites.

Flounder are in the same rubble and jigging with strips of fresh cut fish, squid strips or Gulp! swimming mullet has proved successful. Plan on donating a few jigs to the rubble trolls because if you don't feed them, you won't catch any flounder.

Blues have been caught on metal lures in the rips that form around the south end of the Outer Wall and the Ice Breakers. The size varies from snappers to larger two- to three-pound fish.

White perch fishing has been good in most of the tidal creeks and rivers with bloodworms the best bait. Expect to catch croakers and catfish along with the perch.

Spot fishing is improving with the Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier the best place to cash in on this sport. Most of the spot taken over the past week have been large. Bloodworms are the top spot bait.

The slot rockfish season is over on Sunday with good reports coming in from the tidal creeks, the Woodland Beach Fishing Pier and in the bay and river around the Yellow Can off of Augustine Beach and the Yellow Can out of Collins Beach. Bloodworms and peeler crab have been the top producers.

The Outer Wall and Ice Breakers are seeing limited catches of tog, sheepshead and triggerfish on sand fleas, crab and clam baits. Expect the tog fishing to be much better when the season reopens on September 29.

INDIAN RIVER INLET Live spot continue to lure big flounder, but not in any great numbers. The same bait also works on the occasional rockfish.

Massey's Ditch has remained a good location for shore-bound anglers with croaker, spot and a few black drum caught from the pier. Boaters also score here, but I am not a big fan of fishing in this busy waterway.

It is possible we may see some speckled trout caught by anglers working the shoreline behind Burton's Island and around Rehoboth Bay. The water here is quite shallow so early morning or late evening high tides will be the best time to fish. An

electric trolling motor will be a help in maintaining a stealth approach.

INSHORE OCEAN In what harkens back to the early days of marlin fishing out of Delaware, a good friend went to the Hot Dog on Monday where he released two white marlin and boxed a dolphin. A second boat fishing nearby was one for three on whites. Lots of bait and whales, but the bite was over by 10 a.m.

Flounder continue to provide good fishing from private, charter and head boats at the Old Grounds, sites 10 and 11 and the rough bottom between B and A buoys. The wind and current must be moderate for any chance of success in the 80 to 90-foot depths. Strips of fish, squid or Gulp! swimming mullet have been the most productive baits.

A few more sea bass and croaker are being caught on the reef sites and at the Old Grounds. Expect the croaker to become larger and more numerous as the fall progresses.

OFFSHORE OCEAN The bigeye bite continues with the best of it very early in the morning near the Washington Canyon. Yellowfin are scarce during the day, but have been caught in good numbers by boats chunking after dark.

September has traditionally been a good month for billfish and hopes are high for a repeat this year. The action to our south has turned on with boats from Virginia Beach recording mutable releases. Every north blow stacks up the bait and should draw in the billfish.

SURF FISHING A few two to three-pound blues were caught last weekend along the beach north of the inlet and at Fenwick Island. With the mullet run beginning I would expect to see more blues over the next few weeks.

The remainder of the action has been on croaker, spot and kings. Fall is the best time for Delaware surf fishermen and if we don't get slammed by a big storm fishing will be good.

Tips and Tackle

Do Your Props Have the Right Cup, Rake, Slip, Pitch and Hub?

By Jim Sabia

The more we research some subjects the more we discover that some of the assumptions we have operated on for years are not correct. There is probably no field in the boating world that is more a of a black art, or where there is more mis-information than in re-propping. But getting the right prop is not really a matter of Voodoo. It's more of a matter of finding out there is a prop problem (or a remedy) in the first

place, then a matter of finding an expert you can trust who can recommend what you need. We hit the important basics and examine some alternatives in this short report on prop basics.

How Props Work?

A propeller is not a screw, but it took decades before early prop makers realized that. Marine propellers work for a couple of reasons. A propeller is like an airfoil, or a wing generating lift. Remember the drawings you saw in grade school as to why airplane wings created lift and allowed a heavy plane to fly? That's part of it.

As the prop turns it pushes water down and back of its blades creating a positive pressure surface on the underside of the prop blade, and a negative pressure surface on the top/forward side of the blade.

The moving prop pushes water down and back creating a momentary "hole" in the water that is immediately filled by water rushing in to fill the "hole" which creates a low pressure area that provides "lift" and pulls the blade forward. As lift overcomes drag momentum is created in the water. This momentum produces thrust and moves the boat forward.

Get into the details of props and you will find quite a bit of complexity. That's why it is difficult to buy the right prop off the shelf.

The Basic Parts of A Prop

- 1. The Blade Tip --** The extreme edge of the blade.
- 2. The Leading Edge--** That part of the blade that cuts the water.
- 3. The Trailing Edge --** That part of the blade from where the water leaves.
- 4. The Cup of the Blade --** This is the curve in the trailing edge of the prop blade that extends from the hub to the tip. It adds pitch to the blade.
- 5. The Blade Face --** That part of the blade that faces aft and is the positive pressure surface.
- 6. The Blade Back --** The part of the blade facing forward that is the negative pressure surface of the prop.
- 7. The Propeller Hub --** This is the metal base to which the blades are attached. On stern drive and outboard boats there will be an inner and outer hub. The inner and outer hubs are connected by thin ribs of metal or rubber with splines connecting the hub to the drive shaft. Both the metal ribs and the rubber are designed to protect the gears in the lower unit in case of grounding under power.

Prop Materials

Most props for outboard and stern drive boats are made of aluminum or stainless steel. Props for larger inboard boats are usually bronze or another malleable alloy. Aluminum props are inexpensive but are also relatively soft and flexible. Aluminum props are good for general purpose use and in applications where peak performance is not at a premium, so long as the owner understands that they are easily damaged. While boaters wanting top speeds usually select stainless steel over aluminum, industry experts tell us that the material of the prop accounts for only about 10% of the prop's performance- the other 90% comes from the prop's geometry.

Stainless steel props are expensive because stainless steel is expensive to refine, and the molding process is also much more difficult and expensive than with aluminum. Stainless steel props are very hard and inflexible, and are far more durable when hitting small rocks, sand or objects in the water. The downside of having a S.S. prop with minimal give is that if you hit a rock with the blades, instead of the prop breaking, the shaft or gears in your lower unit or drive train may be ruined instead.

How Many Blades?

Most stern drive and outboard props are three or four blade, although some high performance boats may have five-blade or six-blade props. In inboard boats, props may have six, seven or even eight blades. In these cases the chord of the blades (the distance from the leading edge to trailing edge) will be more narrow than in the prop that has just four blades, in most cases.

Three-bladed props are generally used on stern drives and outboard boats where highest top speed is the objective, and four-bladed props are usually employed for faster hole shots and reduced vibration. Four-blade props generally have less steering torque. Five and six-bladed props are used in racing applications and in high-performance recreational boats.

Propeller Diameter

Diameter is the distance from the center of the hub to the tip of one of the blades times two. Generally the manufacturer of the lower unit or the outboard engine, or in the case of an inboard-powered boat, the builder, determines the diameter of the prop. There is usually little latitude when replacing a prop and it is wise to stay within a 1/2" diameter of the original size prop, as a rule of thumb.

Diameter is the first number listed in a prop description. So, a prop described as 15 x 18 x 4, is a prop with a 15" diameter, an 18" pitch, and has four blades.

Propeller Pitch

Pitch is NOT measured the same way as is diameter. It is NOT the distance from the leading edge of the blade where it meets the hub to any part of the trailing edge. Rather, pitch is defined as the theoretical forward movement of a propeller during one revolution assuming there is no "slippage" between the propeller blade and the water.

For example, an 18 pitch propeller will theoretically move 18 inches forward with every revolution as it cuts through the water. In fact, it will never achieve its theoretical distance of advance because of what is know as "slippage."

Propeller slip occurs with every propeller, but the amount of slip varies depending on propeller design. Well-configured props will have as little as 10% to 20% slippage. How much slippage is the optimum amount for your application? It's a question to ask a prop professional.

Choosing Prop Pitch for Your Application

Each engine manufacturer has preordained the WOT rpm of your engine and usually the pitch of the prop fitted to that engine will allow it to reach that rpm setting. If the engine cannot reach the intended WOT rpm, and if the engine is performing properly, it probably means that the prop has too great a pitch. A prop expert can suggest what pitch prop you should have based on the performance of your boat in relation to its factory-rated WOT rpm.

Changing the pitch of your prop will change the boat's performance. Think of it in terms of a manual-shift car: the lower the gear the easier it is to turn high rpms. Likewise with a prop, the lower the pitch the easier it is to turn high rpms. In a car or truck if you are trying to go up a hill with a heavy load, the transmission must be downshifted into a lower gear making it easier for the engine to turn the rpms it needs to move the weight. The same is true in boats.

If you want a fast hole shot for water skiing or another purpose such as a bass tournament start, then you may want to lower the pitch of your prop. Also, if you plan on running your boat heavy because of the number of passengers or equipment aboard, you should consider lowering the pitch of your prop.

Conversely if you discover that you have purchased an under-powered boat, buying a prop with a lower pitch could be the least costly solution to your problem.

How Much Cup?

The amount of cup a prop's blades have, and where that cup is deepest on the blade, could have an effect on performance in terms of ventilation, slippage, hole shot

speeds, fuel consumption WOT speed, boat trim and even propeller depth. Determining the geometry of your prop's cup is best left to the experts. Tell them the performance you want and they will dial-in the right cup geometry.

How Much Blade Rake?

Rake is an aspect of prop design that is not much discussed but it can be very important to your boat's performance, or can correct some of its bad habits. Rake is the degree that the blades slant forward or backwards in relation to the hub. For example, aft rake helps to trim the bow of the boat upwards, which often results in less wetted surface area and therefore higher top end speed. Forward rake helps hold the bow of the boat down. Once again, this is a matter for prop experts to figure out once you have given them the facts of your application.

DNR in the News

Young Angler Catches New State Record Largemouth Bass

Colton Lambert, 12, caught a Maryland record Largemouth Bass while fishing at a farm pond in his hometown of Huntingtown on July 31. The fish was 11 pounds, 6 ounces, 26 inches long and 18 inches around.

Colton was fishing with his father and younger brother at approximately 7:30 p.m. when he thought his line was caught on something. "All of a sudden something started to move very quickly and broke the surface and took off, peeling line off the reel," he said. "It was really hard to control and reel in; when I finally slid it up on the shallow bank, my dad started getting all excited."

His father said he knew this was the biggest Largemouth Bass he had ever witnessed. They put the fish in a large bucket of water and the next day took it to Tyler's Tackle in Chesapeake Beach, an Award Center for the Maryland Fishing Challenge. It was weighed on the certified scale of the store's adjoining seafood market. Colton caught the fish using a spinning rod loaded with an 8-lb test line and a plastic worm, rigged weedless and without a weight.

Fisheries biologist Keith Lockwood verified proper procedures were followed and identified the fish as the new Freshwater Largemouth Bass State Record. Lockwood said that the fish could have easily weighed more if it had been in a fattened condition.

The previous record of 11 pounds, 2 oz. was held for nearly 30 years by Rodney Cockrell.

Colton will be recognized as a State record holder at the 2013 Maryland Fishing

Challenge Finale on September 7 at the Maryland Seafood Festival at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis.

Fishing Regulations

2013 Md. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish Season – March 28th – Dec 31st

2013 Va. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish per day
No closed season

Tournament News

Classified Ads

Charter Services

Island Queen Inland Charters

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FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER - 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	12	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	26-27	- Kent Island Chapter Flea Market
FEBRUARY	1-3	- MSSA Convention, Annapolis, MD
	2	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Free in Deale MD
	13	- Frederick Meeting -
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	23	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Post 91 – Cambridge, MD
	23	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
28	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center	
MARCH	1-3	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	23-24	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
APRIL	6	- Frederick Shakedown Cruise/Brunch – Sandy Point
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
MAY	3-5	- 29th Annual MSSA Spring Tournament – Solomons
	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
	21-23	- 20th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17	- Chapter Lower Bay Charter Trip
	24	- 3rd Annual MSSA Beach N Boat Flounder Tournament – Ocean City
SEPTEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	14	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	5-12	- Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	16	- Frederick Meeting
	23	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	23-24	- 19 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament
DECEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting