

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

As the weather begins to cool, many things are just beginning to heat up for our Chapter on a lot of fronts. With the bait schooling up, fish schooling, action on the bay should be on fire within the next couple of weeks. Speaking of that, the Main MSSA fall tournament kicks off a two days of fishing on November 22nd and 23rd. With over \$60,000 in prize money available, get your crew together, grab you gear and hit the water to hopefully win some cash. It looks like the timing will be just right for those BIG fish to arrive.

Staying hot, the board is working hard to put together another great line up of tackle and boating suppliers, dynamite seminars, as well as, many other fishing related items for our EXPO on January 17, 2015. We all need new tackle or gear, so I ask that all of us patronage the vendors at OUR show. Last year I overheard many talking about what they purchased at other shows, yet, never attended our EXPO. Keep in mind, these people are supporting our chapter and if we don't patronize them, then they will not return. So, please everyone, if you have some needs for next year, purchase them at

We should have a great meeting this month. Gary Ritchie from Spankin Strippers will be our tackle vendor. He will have full variety of his fish Spankin lures available to be purchased prior to the Main's tournament.

Ed Miller from Hi-Tech Marine will be our speaker. He will be educating us on everything we need to know about taking care of our engines in general, especially for the upcoming winter.

importantly.....FISH HARD !

Next Meeting

November 12, 2013

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

Speaker:

Ed Miller – [Hi-Tech Marine](#)

Topic: Maintenance and weatherization

Ed will have weatherization supplies at the meeting. Should you want something specific, you can call them at 410-375-1638

Vendor:



Dinner Menu

Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Gravy
Green Beans
Coleslaw
Dessert

October Raffle Winners:

Spinning Rod Combo – Alan Dissin
Spoon-brella – Rob Pellicott
Fishing Pliers – Jim Bremer
Trolling Rod – Bach Vu
Tackle Bag – Mike Diehl
MSSA Hat and Shirt – Ed Susa
Offshore Dredge – Jim Parrotte

50/50 Raffle

Jim Scott – \$125

Attendance at October Meeting:

53

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

ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass Board Approves Addendum IV for Implementation in 2015

The Commission's Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board approved Addendum IV to Amendment 6 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass. The Addendum establishes new fishing mortality (F) reference points, as recommended by the 2013 benchmark stock assessment. In order to reduce F to a level at or below the new target, coastal states will implement a 25% harvest reduction from 2013 levels. Chesapeake Bay states/jurisdictions will implement a 20.5% harvest reduction from 2012 levels since their fisheries were reduced by 14% in 2013 based on their management program. All states/jurisdictions will promulgate regulations prior to the start of their 2015 fisheries.

"I congratulate members of the Management Board for making tough choices yesterday to ensure the long-term health and viability of our striped bass fishery resources," stated Board Chair Douglas Grout of New Hampshire. "The Board struck an important balance intaking immediate action to reduce fishing mortality back to the target while also recognizing the unique characteristics of the Chesapeake Bay fisheries. The action will assure a more rapid increase in the abundance of spawning fish which has been declining in recent years."

The Addendum responds to results of the 2013 Atlantic striped bass benchmark assessment indicating F in 2012 was above the new F target, and female spawning stock biomass (SSB) has been steadily declining below the target level since 2006. This means even though the stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring, SSB is approaching its overfished threshold and stock projections show SSB will likely fall below the threshold in the coming years. In addition, a similar decline has been observed in total harvest.

The Addendum includes changes to the coastal commercial quota and the coastal recreational fishery to achieve reductions in 2015. Commercial quotas established in Amendment 6 will be reduced by 25% while maintaining current size limits to minimize discard mortality. The Board also maintained no transfer of unused commercial quotas as a conservation benefit to the resource.

The coastal recreational fishery harvest will be reduced by implementing a one fish bag limit while keeping a 28" size limit. Under Amendment 6, states may use conservation equivalency to develop state-specific measures that are different than a one fish bag limit and 28" size limit for their coastal fisheries but still achieve a 25% reduction in harvest.

The Chesapeake Bay states/jurisdictions will reduce their 2012 Bay commercial harvest level by 20.5% and will submit conservation equivalency proposals to achieve a 20.5% reduction from the Bay recreational fishery. The Technical Committee will continue to work on Chesapeake Bay specific reference points for future management.

The Addendum will be implemented on January 1, 2015. The Technical Committee will review any submitted conservation equivalency proposals by the states and the Board will review and consider approval of those proposals at the Commission's Winter Meeting in Alexandria, VA.

Addendum IV will be made available on the Commission's website, www.asmf.org, under Breaking News by mid-November.

For more information, please contact Mike Waine, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at mwaine@asmfc.org

Reminder for the MSSA Fall Classic Tournament Nov 22-23.

The last two years have brought a huge number of anglers and prize money. Sign up online at www.mssa.net/fallclassic or at a Captain's Meeting. See the tournament book or Tidelines for details.

Fishing Reports

Chincoteague Action

By Charlie Koski
Tight lines.....

Ocean City Action

Nov 10th 2014
Water Temp: 60.4
Report by Sue Foster

Tautog are really biting though getting keepers was tough. Sea bass fishing offshore has been especially good when the boats can go out.

Stripers are picking up at the Bridges and Inlets. We are selling lots of live eels at Oyster Bay. Only a few flounder have been reported.

Surf's seen some snapper blues, rays, sharks and a few stripers. One 48-inch striper was reported from Assateague.

We received several reports of good tog fishing around the rocks at Martha's Landing. A lot of short fish with a few keepers mixed in. Green crabs and sandfleas are working well.

Maryland DNR Fishing Report

In the upper bay there is a lot of action around prominent points and channel edges for those using live eels, jigging soft plastics and metal or trolling a mixed spread of bucktails dressed with sassy shads and swim shads. Umbrella rigs are very popular this time of the year and with the bluefish out of the equation Storm type swim shads and similar soft plastics are a good choice. Love Point, Swan Point, Pooles Island and Podickory Point are all good places to give a try and of course breaking fish can be encountered along channel edges at most any time. Chumming is also a very viable option this week along steep channel edges at traditional locations such as Love Point.

The Bay Bridge area continues to a good place to fish whether one is working the structure of the bridge piers and rock piles or cashing in on the breaking fish that can often be spotted along the shipping channel edges. Drifting live eels or jigging near the bridge piers and rock piles are very popular methods of fishing for striped bass and jigging is the way to catch the large white perch that often congregate at the rock piles this time of the year. The swift currents along the shipping channel are great places to check for striped bass feeding on small menhaden that are being swept along by the currents. This past Friday before the weekend blow any driver crossing the Bay

Bridge that happened to be a fisherman surely had to discipline themselves to keep their eyes on the road as diving birds and boats worked breaking fish below.

Water temperatures in the middle bay region are running about 56F this week and bait in the form of small menhaden are pouring out of the tidal rivers. After a tough weekend blow the action has been nonstop this week when it comes to jigging and trolling for striped bass in the lower sections of the tidal rivers and out in the bay. Usually the birds lead the way to the action but a trusty depth finder is a fisherman's best friend this time of the year to spot fish holding near the bottom. Casting topwater lures to the breaking fish is always a lot of fun but hooking a sea gull can be a real headache to fisherman and bird as well. Most are using metal or soft plastic jigs and the 2-ounce Crippled Herring is a standout for this type of fishing. A fair percentage of the fish being encountered are coming up just short of 18" but most are falling in the 19" to 22" size range.

The lower bay region has its share of striped bass action this week as bait is being swept down the shipping channel and out of the region's tidal rivers. Light tackle enthusiasts are having a ball, finding plenty of breaking striped bass to cast or jig to. The mouths of the region's major tidal rivers have been great places to get in on the action as well as bay locations such as Point No Point. The Tangier and Pocomoke Sound areas and the lower Patuxent and Potomac have also been real hot spots lately. Trolling is a fine option for fall striped bass fishing and a mixed spread of swim shads and bucktails dressed with sassy shads is a great choice. There may still be a few bluefish in the region but with water temperatures in the 56F range the last of them may exit after this weekend's predicted blow. There is a lot bait in the form of menhaden moving down the bay and with salinities up perhaps there will be a fall run of large striped bass in the lower bay region soon.

White perch are moving into the deeper areas of the regions tidal rivers and small jigs dressed with a piece of bloodworm or a bottom rig baited with the same will often get results. The lower Potomac from the Wicomico River north is holding a lot of medium sized blue catfish which freeze well and make excellent table fare. Most any kind of fresh cut bait will entice them to strike.

Virginia Beach Action

07 November 2014
Yet another blustery cold front kept many anglers inshore for most of the week, but

the Veteran's Day Holiday weekend could provide some overdue weather relief.

Despite the elements, anglers still have options in protected backwater areas, as the fall speckled trout bite continues to gain momentum. Anglers are hooking lots of keeper trout, with the best catches occurring in Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets, the Poquoson Flats, the Eastern Shore shallows, and the Elizabeth River. Most fish are falling within the 19 to 23-inch range, but many citation-sized fish are also around, with one pushing to nearly 10-pounds caught this week. The Elizabeth River continues to host the largest of the fish, which is usually the case. Anglers are getting results with most any method, but Mirrolures, twitch baits, and jigs are effective lately. Folks floating live bait are experiencing improving action in the Elizabeth River Cove area this week. The puppy drum bite slowed in the Elizabeth River recently, but folks are still finding hit and miss action with keeper-sized fish in Lynnhaven, Rudee, and Little Creek Inlets. Local surf anglers are also reporting some quality pups coming from the surflines from Fort Story to the Sandbridge area.

The tautog bite is still going strong in lower Bay waters. When boats can get out, folks are having no trouble finding willing takers along the entire span of the CBBT, on lower Bay wrecks, and along the Concrete Ships lately. Fiddler crabs are still the best offering if you can get them, but blue crabs and clams are also working. Some recent catches pushing to over 9-pounds are coming from near the 3rd island of the CBBT. The bigger tog are lurking on deeper water wrecks, but the weather is a limiting factor. Sheepshead are also still a possibility in the same vicinities within the Bay, while big triggerfish are lively on many inshore and coastal structures right now. Nice seabass will respond on many deeper water wrecks, with the Triangle wrecks a popular location. Big bluefish should also be roaming in the vicinity of the Triangle wrecks and other offshore structures, but few boats have tried for them due to the recent challenging winds.

Anglers are experiencing an upswing in lower Bay striped bass activity when they can make it out on the water. The best developments are occurring with the school-sized fish around all of the lower Bay bridge tunnels, with many schoolies ranging up to around 23-inches hitting mostly on a moving tide. The old stand-by lures, including Wind Cheaters, Storm Lures, and buck tails continue to entice strikes in light lines after dark, and along the spines of the artificial islands of Bay bridges. Local tackle shops are also reporting a nicer class of rockfish

ranging to around 35 to 40-inches coming from the HRBT and the small boat channel of the CBBT, as well as the 4th island and high rise areas of the CBBT. These bigger fish are primarily falling for live bait and eels, chunking, and wire lining along the bridges and tubes. Surf casters are also finding some good rockfish action from the shorelines near the Lesner Bridge in Lynnhaven recently. Look for the regulations to tighten up for rockfish after the 1st of the year. Plenty of snapper bluefish are also still around in these same areas within the Bay. The Bay flounder scene still has much to be desired. Some flatfish are available along channel edges and near the Bay Bridge Tunnel structure, but most people are concentrating on other species. The opportunity for decent flounder catches is better on offshore structures, with the Triangle wrecks and the Light Tower areas favorite picks. Fresh strip baits and Gulp Swimming Mulletts are also enticing strikes lately.

Deep dropping is good when boats can get out. Anglers are still finding a good variety of big blueline tilefish, golden tilefish, and blackbellied rosefish in deeper water. Scattered grouper pushing to around 40-pounds are also responding in some of these same areas near the Canyon.

Offshore, Virginia waters are mostly an unknown right now, since few boats have ventured out. Yellowfin tuna, wahoo, and dolphin are still possibilities when folks make the run, but the best action has been to the south in Carolina, where boats are still scoring with good numbers of fat yellowfin tuna, scattered blackfin and bigeyes, and some nice wahoo lately.

www.drjball.com.

Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr.*

Updated: Nov. 6, 2014

DELAWARE BAY The first rockfish of the fall run have been taken from the Rips between Cape May and Cape Henlopen. So far all the fish I've seen were caught on Stretch or Bomber plugs. I am sure at some point in time drifting with live spot or eels will be added to the list of successful techniques. The first fish weighed between 30 and 44 pounds.

The weekend weather does not look promising for fishing the open waters at the mouth of the bay. So what else is new? If possible, you may want to consider taking a vacation or sick day and try to get out on Monday when conditions are supposed to be much better.

Tog fishing has been fair when boats can reach the Outer Wall and Ice Breakers. The other problem has been dirty water stirred up by the never-ending wind. Tog to 14 pounds have been caught on green crab and this action will only improve as the water cools.

Keeper rockfish have been caught in the upper bay out of Collins Beach along the shipping channel between the 4L and 6L buoys. Unlike the lower bay, up here it is chumming with cut bunker that has been the most effective technique. So far these fish are in the 28 to 34-inch size range with bigger fish sure to show up soon.

The lower Delaware River is also producing more keeper rockfish. Here too fresh bunker is the key to success. Augustine Beach and the pier at Woodland Beach have been two of the better land-based locations. The Yellow Can and the area off of Green's Beach are two places to try from a boat.

I have not had any recent reports of tog at the bay reef sites, but I am sure they are there. Windy weekends have kept most boats from fishing these sites and it looks like another one is on the way.

The tidal rivers and creeks have provided some sport for those who can't get out on the bay. White perch fishing has been good with big catches made once the large schools are located. Bloodworms have been the top bait. Small rockfish are mixed in with the white perch.

INSHORE OCEAN Limits of sea bass continue to come from structure located 25 to 30 miles or more off the beach. Reef Site 11 and the Radford hold fair numbers of keepers, but the real good fishing is even further offshore. Clams have been the most popular sea bass bait.

Big blues to 16 pounds have been caught along with the sea bass. Most of these fish are caught when they try to take a sea bass off the hook. I would take a few metal lures such as AVAs with me should I ever get a chance to fish out here.

Ocean tog fishing has not gotten up to speed. The water out here is still a bit too warm and unlike the lower bay there are no Outer Walls where boats can get out of the wind. I would expect to see improvement in the tog fishing after the next shot of cold weather.

OFFSHORE OCEAN Nothing to report from boats running out of Delaware. The tuna bite out of Oregon Inlet and Hatteras Village has been very good.

INDIAN RIVER INLET Tog fishing remains the best bet for putting a fish in the cooler.

Green crabs fished right in the rocks have been the top tog bait.

Short rockfish are available from the Inlet and the North Pocket. Live eels have been the most productive bait with shads and bucktails the top lures. After dark a few keeper rock are mixed in with the shorts.

The first of the fall run of large rockfish should arrive any day. Once they show up many anglers will switch to live spot or eels to catch them.

SURF FISHING No big rockfish from the beach as of Thursday. It is only a matter of time before they make an appearance and then the price of fresh bunker will rise.

One can hope a few of those big blues that are currently eating sea bass off of angler's hooks will join the fun. It has been a few years since these fish have paid a visit to the beach.

Tips and Tackle

Winterize Your Boat Yourself and Save Hundreds of Dollars

It's the end of the season and time to put away the Hawaiian shirts and water skis. The days are getting shorter. There's a chill in the evening air. Days on the boat will soon be precious memories, it's time to winterize your boat. Fall lay-up is quite possibly the single most important maintenance duty a boater will perform.

Proper winterization will prevent costly damage that can result from freezing, dormancy, corrosion and moisture, and will allow for a smooth launch come springtime. Without fogging the cylinders with fogging oil, severe rust may occur. Without flushing the cooling system or draining the gear oil case, trapped water can freeze, expand and destroy the expensive housing. Three or four hours of work and some inexpensive maintenance materials and tools can get the job done right.

Here is a fairly comprehensive list to guide you through the process. Depending on what type of boat you have, some of this may not apply, but for most boats, following these steps will provide safe haven for your boat and all of its parts throughout the winter. All of the materials are available at your local boating supply store.

Clean

- Clean your boat and apply a rust inhibitor on the metal hardware and on your steering and control cables.
- Use "No Damp" or other mildew control bags or buckets throughout the cabin and any enclosed lockers or compartments

Drain

- Drain the fluid from your engine block and manifolds, water pumps and coolers. Consult your engine manual for the location of all of the drain plugs.
- Drain and fill the gearcase with gearcase lubricant.
- Drain Porta-Potty and fresh water system. Add freshwater antifreeze to water tank and Porta-Potty

Fill

- Fill up the gas tank and stabilize with additives. Run the engine for approximately 15 minutes to ensure that the additive reaches the gasoline in your fuel lines.
- Pump antifreeze into the supply lines that lead to the faucets and shower.
- Fill block, manifold, and circulating pump with propylene glycol antifreeze (-200 antifreeze is best for engines).
- Backwash the cooling system and lower unit of the sterndrive to get rid of salt, sediment and rust flakes, by using an earmuff style flushing kit that clamps onto the water intake. Use a winterization kit to pull antifreeze into the cooling system.

Change

- Replace the fuel-water separator.
- Change oil and oil filters.
- Inspect belts and hoses, replace if necessary.
- Replace any sacrificial anodes (zincs in saltwater, magnesiums in fresh water) that are less than half of their original size.

Lubricate

- Grease the sterndrive gimbal bearing and engine coupler.
- Inspect and lubricate steering and trim.
- Grease your trailer bearings.

Fog

- Test run the engine and spray fogging oil on the cylinders until the engine stalls. This protects the inside parts from corrosion.

Paint

- Sand down and repaint the lower unit to prevent rust.

Take Home

- Remove the battery and store it in a safe dry place. Check battery fluid levels.
- Remove interior cushions and jumpseats and store in a cool, dry place. Otherwise, place the cushions on ends to allow for maximum ventilation, thereby reducing mildew damage.
- Be sure to remove any food or drink from the boat. Rodents cannot refuse that Snickers bar and love to rear their young in boats. Also remove any charts, linens, electronics that could be damaged by moisture.

Also

- Store boat in a garage or other temperature controlled facility if possible. If not, cover the boat with shrink-wrap or a large tarp.
- If your boat is stored on a trailer, block the wheels so they are off the ground and loosen tie-down straps to reduce stress on the hull.
- Store your inflatables away from rodents, who love to eat hypalon and PVC fabrics. Also, do not leave the inflatable exposed to the elements - clouds do not inhibit UV rays.

DNR in the News

Statement from DNR Secretary on the ASMFC Striped Bass Action Statement

from DNR Secretary Joe Gill on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Striped Bass action:

"This week's decision by ASMFC acknowledges its strong commitment and shared responsibility in managing striped bass, a flagship species along the Atlantic coast. A 25% reduction to the coastal fisheries is needed, as these are the areas that primarily catch large, female striped bass and have been the principal cause for the elevated coastwide fishing mortality levels.

Maryland, along with its Bay partners of Virginia, the Potomac River Fisheries Commission and the District of Columbia, presented a strong case for requiring lower reductions to our Bay fisheries. While the approved reductions are higher than we requested, we appreciate that ASMFC was able to recognize the inequities of the situation and agree upon a reduction that attempts to balance the level of conservation with the socio-economic needs of our local communities. The ASMFC also made a strong commitment to develop Chesapeake Bay reference points, which will take into

consideration the predominance of male fish in this fishery.

As a strong partner of ASMFC, Maryland is committed to implementing the required actions. Over the next couple of months, we will be working with our fishermen to develop the final rules that need to be in place prior to the beginning of the 2015 fishing season."

To better understand how ASMFC's decision will affect Maryland anglers, see the summary [here](#).

Partners Program
Don't have a boat? Want to fish?

Many of us who have boats go fishing and have vacancies. Get your name on the list and we will give you a call when we are going fishing if we have vacancies.

Stan Mordensky - 301-639-8584

To get your name on the list, send your contact information to Clyde Hunt at clyde.hunt@verizon.net

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info@spankinstripers.com
www.spankinstripers.com



Richard Briggs
Vice President / Chief of Operations

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Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

www.hiwayandsafety.com

p. (301) 948-4970 x 103
c. (301) 252-3496
e. rich@hiwayandsafety.com

2014 Chapter Officers

President: Ed Susa

Phone: 301-253-5597

E-mail: esusa99@yahoo.com

Senior Vice President: Rob Pellicot

Phone: 301-606-0392

E-mail: robert.pellicot@wellsfargo.com

Secretary: Clyde Hunt

Phone: 240-674-8646

E-mail: secretary@mssafrederick.com

Treasurer: Jim Bremer

Phone: 301-728-7853

E-mail: jbremer@fgmc.com

2014 Board of Directors

Jodie Ammerman (Membership Coordinator)

Phone: 240-723-0853

E-mail: JPAmmerman@aol.com

Chris Linetty - Phone: 301-824-7050

E-mail: retriever@myactv.net

Bob Pellicot - Phone: 301-606-6200

E-Mail: rpellicot@shockleyhonda.com

Fred Keene - Phone: 304-856-2596

E-mail: poppafred4@frontiernet.net

Walt Shaw - Phone: 301-662-4481

E-Mail: floshaw@cescomputers.net

Jeff Townsend - Phone: 410-903-9416

Email: kindit@peoplepc.com

Neal Ammerman - Phone: 240-832-3671

E-mail: JPAmmerman@aol.com

Chris Conway - Phone: 301-704-4196

E-mail: twitty044@yahoo.com

Jim Lorditch - Phone

E-mail: JLorditch@frankelauto.com

FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER - 2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	11	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
	18	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	25-26	- Kent Island Chapter Flea Market
	23-26	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
FEBRUARY	1-3	- MSSA Convention, Annapolis, MD
	1	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Free in Deale MD
	12	- Frederick Meeting -
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
	15-16	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	22	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Post 91 – Cambridge, MD
22	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD	
MARCH	5	- Frederick Board Meeting
	12	- Frederick Meeting
	15-16	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	22-23	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
APRIL	2	- Frederick Board Meeting
	5	- Frederick Shakedown Cruise/Brunch – Sandy Point
	9	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
MAY	2-4	- 30th Annual MSSA Spring Tournament – Solomons
	7	- Frederick Board Meeting
	14	- Frederick Meeting
	15-18	- Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	4	- Frederick Board Meeting
	11	- Frederick Meeting
	20-22	- 21th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	2	- Frederick Board Meeting
	9	- Frederick Meeting
AUGUST	6	- Frederick Board Meeting
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	23	- 4rd Annual MSSA Beach N Boat Flounder Tournament – Ocean City
SEPTEMBER	3	- Frederick Board Meeting
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	13	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
OCTOBER	1	- Frederick Board Meeting
	4-11	- Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	15	- Frederick Meeting
NOVEMBER	5	- Frederick Board Meeting
	12	- Frederick Meeting
	21-23	- 19 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament
DECEMBER	3	- Frederick Board Meeting
	10	- Frederick Meeting