## Miss K, Marsea sweep Reef Builder Tournament

Staff report Jul 15, 2015



**Robert Carlson**, off the boat **Miss K**, weighs a 20.13-pound dolphin Saturday at Twisted Tuna, the biggest fish caught during the ninth annual MCAC Reef Builder tournament.

A record fleet of 46 boats fished the ninth annual Reef Builder fishing tournament Saturday presented by the MCAC Reef Fund.

The event raises money to help construct artificial reefs in waters offshore of Martin County.

As anglers returned to the Twisted Tuna in the Manatee Pocket for the weigh-in, many reported having a difficult time getting targeted species to bite.

The dolphin and kingfish categories, two of the tournament's six eligible species categories, were swept by competing boats. The grouper and cobia categories only had one entry weighed while the wahoo category had no fish weighed.

Miss K with Bob Carlson and sons Robert and Andrew Carlson, all of Jensen Beach, swept the dolphin category with catches weighing 12.63, 13.80 and the Reef Builders' largest fish, 20.32 pounds. The big dolphin earned the family the Kyle Conrad Memorial Trophy as the tournament's top private boat.

"We were trying to catch a wahoo trolling north in 170 feet, and it didn't work," Bob Carlson said. "But we ended up somewhere off Vero Beach in about 1,000 feet of water when we found a board floating." Carlson said the board was a 4-by-6 about three feet long. Using live bait and ballyhoo, they were able to get the school of dolphin excited and caught a few, plus a couple of chunky tripletails weighing up to 16 pounds.

Will Embrey, Robert Huntley and Marcy Burford teamed up to sweep the kingfish category aboard Marsea. They caught fish weighing 10.02, 10.04 and 19.77 pounds.

Chad Woodham, on Stuart Plumbing, won the snapper category with a 9.13-pound mutton.

Richard Debevec won the grouper category while fishing from the party boat Safari I. Steve Broxmeyer's 4.37pound snapper was another fish caught on Safari I that placed third in the category. It was enough for Safari I owner Marjorie Belcher and Capt. Rocky Carbia to win another Top Charter Boat Award.

Richard Kramer, on Ferd the Third, caught a 4.44-pound dolphin to earn second place in the Junior Angler category.

Pierce Killer, 12, of Jensen Beach, fishing aboard Renegade with great uncle Capt. Bob Pelosi of Palm City, won first place in the cobia category with a 14.9-pounder, the only one weighed in the tournament. Killer also won the tournament's Ted Glasrud Top Junior Angler Award for the third consecutive year. He also caught and released a sailfish, a mutton snapper, two kingfish and some really large blue runners.

Tournament chairman Dave Powell said a final tally for proceeds raised was not available, but that at least three different sets of anglers who wished to remain anonymous donated back their winnings for an additional \$2,500 raised.

Since being founded in 2003, the MCAC Reef Fund has helped county coastal engineering department staff deploy more than 20 artificial reefs.

For more information, go to www.mcacreefs.org or www.martinreefs.com.

## RESULTS

Dolphin

- 1. 20.32 pounds, Robert Carlson, Miss K, \$1,000
- 2. 13.80, Andrew Carlson, Miss K, \$500
- 3. 12.63, Bob Carlson, Miss K, \$250

Kingfish

- 1. 19.77, Will Embrey, Marsea, \$1,000
- 2. 10.04, Robert Huntley, Marsea, \$500
- 3. 10.02, Marcy Burford, Marsea, \$250

Snapper

- 1. 9.13, Chad Woodham, Stuart Plumbing, \$1,000
- 2. 4.83, Dave Hickson, Skippers Revenge, \$500
- 3. 4.37, Steve Broxmeyer, Safari I, \$250

Cobia

1. 14.94, Pierce Killer, Renegade, \$1,000

Grouper

1. 0.51, Richard Debevec, Safari I, \$1,000

Wahoo None weighed

Awards

Ted Glasrud Top Junior Angler Trophy: Pierce Killer, 14.94 cobia, Renegade

Second place Junior Angler: Richard Kramer, 4.44 dolphin, Ferd The Third

Top Charter Boat: Marjorie Belcher's Safari I, 4.37 snapper

Top Private Boat, Kyle Conrad Memorial Trophy: Bob Carlson's Miss K, 20.32 dolphin