

Frank's Shark, Stingray & Sailcat Tournament

Water LIFE Staff Report

It was a muggy hot sunny Sunday morning in June when I arrived at Fishin' Franks at 7 a.m. There was already one shark laid out on the pavement and a lone angler, presumably part of the team that brought in the animal, was stretched out on the pavement sleeping near the shark. That's the way it goes, fish all night and then show up dead tired and sunburned in the morning. By 9 am it's all over. Two years ago there was a guy with a pine-tree air freshener like you see in a car, hung around his neck. It didn't help. By 8:30 it can be odiferous at the shark tournament.

If the old white collar Oberto Redfish Cup was the high end of local fishing tournaments then Franks Shark Tournament is the blue collar parallel and Frank's event is still going. This is Frank's 26th year. Entries were down slightly this year, down to 342 from a record near 600 a few years back. Those who fished had the customary good time. The stingrays (10) were big, the sharks (9) were about average (5-6 feet) and the catfish, all but the winning 6.78 pound monster, were mostly around 4 pounds. Scientists took bone and tissue samples of the sharks and some of the shark meat was donated for human consumption.



WINNERS

SHARK

- 1ST HAMMER 77 1/8 INCHES **JAMES JONES**
- 2ND HAMMER 69 7/8 INCHES **REMO LOYAL**
- 3RD BULL 69 INCHES **WILLIAM STEFFANI**

SAIL CATS

- 1ST 6.78 POUNDS **LARRY MAY**
- 2ND 4.96 POUNDS **ALEX**
- 3RD 4.90 POUNDS **MACHADO**
- BRANDON PACK**

STING-RAY

- 1ST 42 7/8 INCHES **DENNIS WILSON**
- 2ND 39 5/8 INCHES **TOM SAVINSKY**
- 3RD 39 1/2 INCHES **RONALD SWEERIS**



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