

## Benton Harbor Howard Tanner Salmon Tournaments May 20 & 21, 2023 Results

Submitted by Port Captains Chris Thompson & Mark Platt

**Port Captains Chris Thompson:** Most people arrived to fish Friday and did quite well. Fish, mostly kings and coho, were taken from 60' to 160. My best luck has been in the deeper water, so I tended to migrate towards there. I went 21 for 28 over the long weekend.



However Saturday was a different story. Friday night I got a call from other captains who were concerned because of the pending small craft advisories. The decision was made to meet at harbor docks and discuss at 6:30. They all wanted to try it. So all went and to reconvene in an hour on radio. We discovered the wave report was correct, actually worse, where we witnessed 6 footers. So I cancelled the tournament so no one had to feel pressured to fish. All stayed out fishing anyhow and all caught several fish - and nice ones.

Lunch was awesome. Tackle Haven provided a space in parking lot to set up table and chairs. My wife, Marilyn, did a wonderful job taking care of lunch!

As a side note, I did not do this. But I was going to offer we delay the Saturday tournament 10 + hours. I had been out almost every evening and actually did very well, including Saturday night. I felt that idea would not go well with group for many reasons. Catching rate seems to be about double in evening. But I was in West Basin, real easy trip up river. Not an easy trip to Tackle Haven in the late evening.

**Port Captains: Mark Platt:** Lake Michigan did settle down a little after yesterday's blow. We made the wrong choice of where to fish but as I write this the location should have been obvious. The wind from the North brought in a cold front Saturday meaning what?? I don't know but apparently it meant fishing on Sunday would be good South and shallow.



That's what Bounty Hunter did and he cleaned up!!! Couldn't have happened to a better guy or crew. Bob's crew consisted of a couple young dads (Mike and John) with their sons Preston and Aiden. Saturday Bounty Hunters crew toughed it out with waves of 2' ta 3' with some 4's thrown in to make sure you were holding on. The boys, who are around 10 or 11 years old, did well. Sunday they got 10 fish plus a couple throwbacks putting them in 1st place plus Preston got Big Fish with a 12.65 lb King. Kinda reminds me of my kids back in the days.

Me, I did terrible, never got the skunk out of the box. I thought the Guy that chaired the tournament was supposed to win it!!! Oh well it was a good trip with a great bunch of people.

Thanks to all!

Captain Mark Platt

### The chart tells the story!

Last	First	Boat	Place	Total	Weighted	Lbs	Points	Total	Big Fish	Big Fish	C of Y Place	BF	Tot	Crew
Schulz	Bob	Bounty Hunter	1	10	5	39.06	25	64.06	12.65	8.90	12	3	15	5
Zawacki	Dave	Salty Dog	2	5	5	19.80	25	44.80	6.15	6.00	10		10	3
Traver	Kirk	Sara Ann	3	4	4	19.55	20	39.55	11.70		8	2	10	3
Christoph	Chris	Reel Affair	4	3	3	16.45	15	31.45	10.35	3.30	6	1	7	4
Thompson	Chris	Fishin' Fools	5	4	0	0.00	0	0.00			3		3	4
Platt	Mark	Willie Joe	6	0	0	0.00	0	0.00			2		2	2
<b>6</b>	<b>Boats</b>	<b>Total</b>		26	17	95			41	18				21

Page two has lots of pictures from the weekend!



## Benton Harbor Salmon Tournaments in Pictures!

Pictures provided by Mike Apostolopoulos, John Somers, Kirk Traver, Fabian and Eric Braden!



**Fun Time on Lake Michigan at St. Joe/ Benton Harbor!**

**Michael Apostolopoulos:** "Bob Shultz is a great guy and great captain. My boy will never forget that!"

**John Somers:** "Just a big thanks to all the captains and crew that made the boys feel like they were "one of the guys". Here we are on Thursday and Aiden is still talking about the "best fishing trip ever". Thanks Bob and all of Metro West for helping us build memories with our kids! The best part is you are all part of those memories now."