

# Benton Harbor Howard Tanner Salmon Tournaments May 18 & 19, 2024 Results

Submitted by Port Captains Chris Thompson & Mark Platt

**Port Captains Chris Thompson:** This year West Basin Marina allowed us back in for tournament events. That is a nicer harbor for many reasons; nicer amenities and closer to big water being the most attractive. The weekend's weather was good, Saturday's weather was wonderful – too warm for some.



Fishing this year was good, fish averaging a little smaller, due to warm weather early pushing bigger fish up north. We had 9 boats in tournament, but 8 were official – Mark had issues. We had a couple new comers to this tournament, that is always welcoming to see new people attend.

Lunch was fabulous. My wife Marilyn really does a great job accenting the broasted chicken from Roosters with many salads, beans, fruits, and cookies. Everyone applauded her, and I especially thank her. This tournament is a way more laid-back event due to such a nice lunch.

Thanks also to Dennis Kelley, Mark Platt, my son Nick, my son Brian, his wife Kim, and all for helping with lunch and weigh-in and preparing for event.

**The chart tells the story!**

Last	First	Boat	Place	Total	Weight	Lbs	Points	Total	Big Fish	Big Fish	C of Y Place	BF	Tot	Crew
Thompson	Chris	Fishin' Fools	1	5	5	34.30	25	59.30	13.45	7.60	14	3	17	5
Kinney	Jeff	Freshwater Drum	2	6	5	27.50	25	52.50	16.40		12	4	16	4
Spangler	Richard	Mr. Barkie	3	8	5	25.80	25	50.80	7.65	6.95	10	1	11	3
Traver	Kirk	Sara Ann	4	4	4	15.30	20	35.30	6.90		8		8	3
Zawacki	Dave	Salty Dog	5	2	2	20.55	10	30.55	13.00		6	2	8	4
Traver	Marc	Final	6	1	1	4.20	5	9.20	4.20		4		4	3
Kovacs	Dennis	Merlin	7	1	1	2.10	5	7.10	2.10		3		3	3
Baez	Juan	Blue Fish	8	0	0	0.00	0	0.00			2		2	2
Platt	Mark	Willy Joe	NIT				0	0.00			0		0	1
<b>7</b>	<b>Boats</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>27.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>129.8</b>			<b>63.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>				<b>28</b>
		<b>NIT = Not in Tournament</b>		<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>BF</b>					



# Benton Harbor Salmon Tournaments in Pictures!



**Port Captains: Mark Platt & Dennis Kelley:** 1st pic you see is an hour into the start of Sunday's Tournament in St Joe/Benton Harbor. Weather forecast is pretty good, there was a slight chance of some storms right around 9 o'clock fish call, but they never appeared. Winds were light out the Southwest but increasing and switching to The Northwest around noon. Still ok since we shortened the end of the tournament by an hour so we could get packed up and head home plus it gives us trailing seas to come back to port.

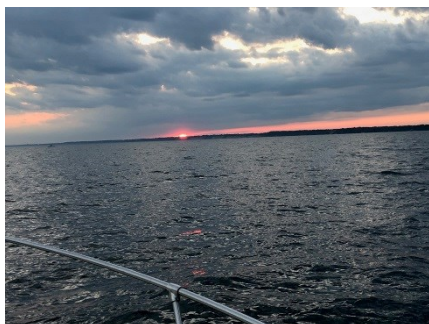
The 9 o'clock fish call came and everybody seemed to have 1 to 2 except Mr Barkie and Sara Ann, Barkie had plus one Sara had minus one. Most of the boats stayed around 60 to 100 FOW. Shortly after the fish call I had a hit on my starboard planer board, got him settled down a bit when my port rigger went off. Gotta luv those trailing seas when you got no driver !!!! This is why I got disqualified, rules are a minimum of two people--I only had one. Landed both of them, not bad for an older feller A ??? Still a great high!!!!

As the morning got closer to noon my hopes of limiting out were diminishing but the weather man looked like he could be accurate--SHOCKER !!! I then headed out to 110' and came about, it was getting bumpy. Adjusted my speed as the waves were pushing pretty well, Saw Salty Dog heading out as I was trolling in. Probably in 65 FOW that port rigger went off again, so I then boated number 4 fish which was a 5.15lb Coho, NICE. That's when Salty Dog hailed over the radio that he took a wave over the bow, had alot of water in the boat so he was pulling lines.

This is the nice thing about the safety and friendships we have in the club, immediately 4 other boats were pulling lines so they could render assistance. The last line I pulled was that 5TH SALMON I HOPED FOR--LIMITED OUT !!!! That's when Salty Dog went flying by heading for port. Everybody made it back to port, weigh-in was completed and a good lunch was had by all.

Mark Platt

Last	First	Boat	Place	Total	Weight	Lbs	Total	Big Fish	Big Fish	C of Y	BF	Tot	Crew	
Spangler	Richard	Mr. Barkie	1	7	5	39.30	25	64.30	13.05	9.25	14	5	19	3
Kovacs	Dennis	Merlin	2	5	5	18.30	25	43.30	6.10		12		12	3
Thompson	Chris	Fishin' Fools	3	4	4	21.90	20	41.90	12.00		10	3	13	3
Zawacki	Dave	Salty Dog	4	3	3	9.25	15	24.25	3.20		8		8	4
Traver	Marc	Final	5	2	2	8.00	10	18.00			6		6	3
Kinney	Jeff	Freshwater Drum	6	1	1	10.00	5	15.00	10.00		4	2	6	4
Traver	Kirk	Sara Ann	7	0	0	0.00	0	0.00			2		2	3
Platt	Mark	Willy Joe	DQ	5	5		17.4	17.40	5.2	4.5			0	1
<b>7</b>	<b>Boats</b>	<b>Total</b>		27	25	107			50	14				24
		<b>DQ - Disqualified</b>		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Place	BF					



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