

19th Annual Caloosa Catch & Release**A HUGE** Success

The move to The Pink Shell Beach Resort and Spa offered anglers remarkable value, excellent facilities and unmatched hospitality. At check-in, anglers were treated to an open bar sponsored by The Edison and received custom Bimini Bay Tournament fishing shirts and hats as well as a variety of great items for their angler bags.

Pink Shell hosted the Captain's Dinner and Rules Meeting where everyone feasted on great food and enjoyed an open bar. On Friday morning at 6:00 AM, teams checked in and picked up Culligan water and tasty Jason's deli lunches for their boats. The Fox 4 Wild Bill's Florida Road Show was live at the dock and many other media came over both days to film and write about the event including: The News-Press, Wink TV, NBC-2, WGCU, The Beach Bulletin and many others. Fishing was great and so was the weather. As anglers came in at the close of the day, cold refreshing Buds were offered, function water was enjoyed and the grill was serving up some much needed food.

Hooters Girls and Function girls were on site and the Miller & Moulton Show broadcast live from the docks and weigh station. There were plenty of spectators on site to view the weigh-in. The auction, held on Friday evening provided a fantastic venue of fine food, open bar, gulf breeze and 200 auction and raffle items including: a 17' Maverick Micro Technical Poling Skiff with Yamaha Motor and Boatmaster Trailer, a fully rigged kayak, destination resort packages, framed art, private chef dinner parties, golf packages, sculptures, fishing gear, and special custom jewelry from Bradley's Jewelers, to name just a few items.

Saturday, the final day of fishing, had even more people come to enjoy watching the teams return from fishing. The WGCU show "Connection" filmed a segment for airing on September 6. The Awards Banquet featured another great dinner with open bar and Budweiser products and everyone talked about "the one that got away...if only we didn't leave our spot...if our snook didn't break off...etc."

Tournament Champions were Billy & Jenn Glass and Sherri Hale and Shane Dooley with 328.5 inches of fish. The winners of the Hooters Catch the Big One's Redfish Bonanza were Steve Matthews, Kerri Ross and Matt Haag with a total weight of 14.2 lbs. For the complete leaderboard and to learn more about the second leg of the Caloosa Tournament Series, the Back Country Classic held at Port of the Islands in Naples, visit www.caloosacatchandrelease.com

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