



12th ANNUAL STURDIVANT ISLAND TUNA TOURNAMENT

PRESS RELEASE: June 30, 2009

The 12th Annual Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament will once again be held at Spring Point Marina in South Portland. The Captain's Meeting and auction will be Wednesday evening, August 5th, and the fishing dates are August 6 – 8. This tournament has grown into Maine and New England's premier cash prize big-game fishing event, and has developed a reputation where honesty and fair play are the rule, and camaraderie and fun come natural.

The tournament is limited to 40 pre-registered boats and the accumulated entrance fees pay for the \$12,500 prize money. The Captains who land the five largest Blue fin tuna qualify for the cash prizes of \$6,250 for first prize, \$3,250 for second, \$1,500 for third, \$1,000 for fourth, and \$500 for fifth prize. As an added incentive, the largest Blue fin landed that officially sets the Maine State Rod and Reel Record (819 lbs), will win a **Grand Prize award of \$50,000!** Last year, Roger Gagne and the crew of the *Sea Wench* took home the first place prize when they brought in the largest tuna weighing 659 pounds.

Over the past 11 years, with the help of tournament participants and generous sponsors, the Sturdivant Island Tuna Tournament has made charitable contributions exceeding **\$300,000!** Some of this money has been donated to established scholarships at three of Maine's Community Colleges: NMCC, SMCC, and WCCC. In addition, donated funds have been given to the Byron R. Gouzie Foundation, the McAuley Residence at Mercy Hospital, and the Isaac Baker "Baker-Mobile" fund.