



U.S. OPEN KING MACKEREL TOURNAMENT FACTS

- The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament is the second oldest competitive king mackerel fishing tournament in North Carolina. It began in 1979 and has been held annually on the first weekend in October since that time. It is the largest king mackerel tournaments on the East Coast.
- U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament will celebrate its 42nd Anniversary in 2020.
- Total purse for the 2019 tournament was over \$322,000 in CASH.
- All Prizes in the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament are guaranteed. We do not base payout on number of boats that participate.
- 551 boats entered the 2001 US Open & 507 boats entered the 2002 U.S. Open. In 2009, the U.S. Open captured the title of largest king mackerel tournament on the East Coast and possibly the nation with 453 boats.
- In 2019, 496 boats fished the US Open from 8 different states. States represented in the 2019 U.S. Open included North Carolina, Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. There were 147 different cities represented in North Carolina.
- Almost 300 boats entered the 1999 U.S. Open after it was postponed from its October date to late November due to Hurricane Floyd. 305 boats entered the 2010 U.S. Open after it was postponed due to a unique rain event.
- Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce officials estimates the economic impact of the U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament is \$2,141,280.
- Entry fee for the U.S. Open is \$340.00 per boat. A very low fee to attract every level of competitor.
- 5,000 brochure/registration forms bearing the names of the tournament sponsors will be delivered this year in an area reaching from Ohio to Florida.
- The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament is governed by an eight-member board of directors comprised of volunteers from the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce and assisted by the Chamber's professional staff.
- The Southport-Oak Island area is a region of over 24,000 residents, Brunswick County, NC (population 130,897), ranked 9th in the state for tourism expenditures.
- The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament receives multi media coverage including radio, newspaper, television and social media.
- The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament website –www.usopenkmt.com generated over 72,800 sessions in 2019.
- The U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament is sanctioned by the SKA (Southern Kingfish Association).