

# **VIRGINIA SALTWATER FISHING TOURNAMENT DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 2017 TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**2600 Washington Avenue; Fourth Floor, Commission Library  
Newport News, VA  
December 7, 2017  
7:00 pm**

- I. Introductions/Announcements
- II. Approval of minutes from the 2016 annual meeting
- III. Public Comment Period
- IV. Review 2017 Program
- V. Update State Records from 2017
- VI. Citation/State Record Appeals
- VII. Discussion: Use of Power-Assist Equipment

This discussion hinges on a new variation of power-assist gear that is used by some daytime deep-droppers for swordfish. Some units are nothing more than a heavy duty down-rigger with a release once the fish hits. But a new innovation uses a large offshore reel on a separate fishing rod. The reel can be disengaged once the fish is hooked or it can remain engaged with the power-assist unit to fight the fish. I'm hoping anglers who have used the gear and have an interest in the Committee's decision will attend.

- VIII. Discussion: Consideration of a name change for the Tournament

A Tournament Committee member that was very involved last winter in assuring continued funding for the Program has suggested the Tournament suffers from an identification problem and has suggested changing the name to something more descriptive, along the lines of "Virginia Saltwater Fishing Development Program."

- IX. Other Business
- X. Adjournment