



KAYAK TOURNAMENT — Anglers return at day's end from fishing March 11 in the Third Annual KayakSportfishing Tournament at Dana Point's Doheny Beach. Tough weather didn't stop the 191 anglers from fishing the coveted event. The tournament is hosted by www.kayaksportfishing.com.

WON PHOTO BY LEW CARPENTER

Kayak anglers brave tough weather, tougher fishing for Dana Point tourney

BY LEW CARPENTER
WON Staff Writer

DANA POINT — One squall after another peppered the California coast Friday night, and at one point left the jetties at Dana Point Harbor covered in hail. Tough conditions for most boaters, yet 191 kayak anglers hit the water early Saturday, March 11, for the Third Annual KayakSportfishing Tournament.

Amid rain and cold Kiyo Sato of Gardena claimed big fish victory with an 8.14-pound halibut caught on a live smelt and 8 ounces of lead between Doheny Beach and the first buoy off Dana's harbor. Robby Mott won the bass catch-and-release division with a total weight of 14.875 for 10 fish.

Ron Pascual, also of Gardena, found a 5-pound, 10-ounce calico on a Berkley Gulp! Squid, but his total weight of 7.813 for 3 fish kept him in 7th place in the catch-and-release bass division. Anglers were only allowed to enter one fishing category (C&R or Big Fish). Calicos and spotted bass were not eligible for the big fish division.

The tournament was staged out of Doheny State Beach, which last year saw a 55.7-pound white seabass in the winner's circle. This year's conditions were decidedly different, with the waters at Doheny looking more like a muddy pond from runoff than clean ocean water.

"More than 200 kayakers registered for the event," said kayak-sportfishing.com owner and tournament director Jason Morten. "One hundred and ninety one anglers checked in to fish today and spirits are high."

Following the 1:30 p.m. final weigh in anglers were treated to a barbecue and awards ceremony at Doheny State Park. Five kayak prize packages were awarded that included an Ocean Kayak Prowler 15, Cobra Kayaks Marauder, Wilderness Systems Tarpon 160, Hobie Adventure and Advanced Elements StraitEdge 1006. Additional prizes were awarded to the tune of \$20,000 in value from a host of sponsors, which can be viewed on the Web site.

Both Sato and Pascual are dedicated kayak anglers, and Sato runs the www.baytubers.com Web site giving back to the community with how-to information and articles on both kayaking and bay tubing.

C & R Bass Results

1. Robby Mott 14.875 10 fish weighed
2. Dave Easton, 12.813, 6 fish weighed
3. Tom Buckalew, 12.250, 9 fish weighed
4. Jake DeAngelis, 11.563, 8 fish weighed
5. Eduardo Zamora, 10.625, 10 fish weighed

Big Fish Results

(non eligible fish: calico, spotted bass, sharks, skates and rays)

1. Kiyo Sato, 8.14-pound halibut
2. Mark Flick, 6.2-pound halibut
3. Kent Myers, 5.7-pound sheephead
4. Trevor Stimson, 3.10-pound sandbass
5. Harold Henriksen, 3-pound sandbass



CATCH-AND-RELEASE — Ron Pascual of Gardena took this 5-pound, 10-ounce calico on a Berkley Gulp! Squid and had a total weight of 7.813 for 3 fish for 7th place in the bass catch-and-release division.

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