Top teams head to Port Aransas for 2025 Yamaha Bassmaster Redfish Cup Championship Presented by Skeeter, Nov. 7-9

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., October 16, 2025— The nation's best redfish teams will converge on the Texas coast Nov. 7-9 for the 2025 Yamaha Bassmaster Redfish Cup Championship presented by Skeeter, taking place on the legendary waters of Aransas Bay and Corpus Christi Bay out of Port Aransas, Texas.

Competition will run from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CT daily, with weigh-ins beginning at 2:45 p.m. The event will feature a catch-weigh-release format, with each team allowed to bring in two fish per day measuring between 20 and 28 inches. The accumulative three-day weight will determine which team takes the top spot.

Anglers will be competing for a $100,000 total purse, including a $75,000 first-place prize for the winning team.

"The Redfish Cup Championship has quickly become one of the most exciting events in competitive fishing," said B.A.S.S Executive Director of Tournaments Hank Weldon. "The mix of redfish pros and Bassmaster Elite Series anglers creates a unique dynamic — you see different strategies, styles and strengths play out on one of the most scenic fisheries in the country. Port Aransas and the Texas coast always deliver an incredible stage for this event, and I can't wait to see what the teams bring to the scales."

Adding another layer of intrigue to the competition, Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series pros Easton Fothergill, Carl Jocumsen, Bryant Smith and Tyler Williams will step outside their usual freshwater arenas to take on the challenge of saltwater competition. Known for their precision, adaptability and relentless drive on the Bassmaster Elite Series trail, these anglers bring their big-stage experience and bass-fishing instincts to the flats of the Texas Gulf Coast, where redfish behavior and tidal patterns demand a whole new level of skill and strategy.

The 2025 field will feature a combination of Bassmaster Elite Series pros, the defending Bassmaster Redfish Cup champions and top performers from professional redfish circuits across the Gulf Coast:

Teams:

•Easton Fothergill/Skeeter/Yamaha pro
•Carl Jocumsen/Skeeter/Yamaha pro
•Bryant Smith/Skeeter/Yamaha pro
•Tyler Williams/Skeeter/Yamaha pro
•Michael Frenette/Mark Robinson — Defending Champions
•Austin Angel/Lance Reynolds — Professional Redfish League
•Jeremy Reeves/Recie Tisdale — Elite Redfish Trail
•Frank Risk/Bo Favre — Elite Redfish Trail
•Ryan Rickard/Patrick Marsonek — Power-Pole Redfish Trail
•Darren Frost/Tony Vercillo — Power-Pole Redfish Trail

Known for its pristine flats, diverse wildlife and strong fall redfish bite, Port Aransas will once again provide a world-class backdrop for one of the most competitive and scenic events in saltwater fishing.

Fans are invited to attend daily weigh-ins at Port Aransas Fisherman's Wharf and experience the excitement in person. Whether on-site or online, fans can expect plenty of action, tight races and unforgettable moments as the best in the sport chase the coveted Redfish Cup trophy.

All of the action can be found live on Bassmaster.com as well as on Roku throughout the three-day event.

This event is being hosted by Port Aransas Fisherman's Wharf.

2025 Redfish Cup Championship Title Sponsor: Yamaha

2025 Redfish Cup Championship Presenting Sponsor: Skeeter Boats

B.A.S.S., which encompasses the Bassmaster tournament leagues, events and media platforms, is the worldwide authority on bass fishing and keeper of the culture of the sport, providing cutting-edge content on bass fishing whenever, wherever and however bass fishing fans want to use it. Headquartered in Birmingham, Ala., the organization's fully integrated media platforms include the industry's leading magazines (Bassmaster and B.A.S.S. Times), website (Bassmaster.com), TV show, radio show, social media programs and events. For more than 50 years, B.A.S.S. has been dedicated to access, conservation and youth fishing.

The Bassmaster Tournament Trail includes the most prestigious events at each level of competition, including the Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series, St. Croix Bassmaster Opens Series presented by SEVIIN, Nitro Boats Bassmaster Elite Qualifiers Series presented by Bass Pro Shops, Mercury B.A.S.S. Nation Qualifier Series presented by Lowrance, Strike King Bassmaster College Series presented by Bass Pro Shops, Strike King Bassmaster High School Series, Bassmaster Junior Series, TNT Fireworks Bassmaster Team Championship, Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series presented by Native Watercraft, Bassmaster College Kayak Series, Yamaha Bassmaster Redfish Cup Championship presented by Skeeter.

Tennessee State Parks and TN Environment and Conservation celebrate dedication of Fiery Gizzard State Park

SEQUATCHIE – The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and Tennessee State Parks today celebrated the dedication of Fiery Gizzard State Park at a ceremony in the park's pavilion with local leaders from Marion and Grundy counties.

Fiery Gizzard State Park, once part of South Cumberland State Park, is now a standalone state park. With the significant expansion of South Cumberland over the past decade through assuming operations of TVA property and adding additional new land, it had nearly doubled in size. By separating this large and complex park into distinct units, Tennessee State Parks continues its mission to preserve, protect, and share Tennessee's natural and cultural resources while providing safe and quality outdoor experiences.

"We live in one of the most beautiful places in America, and in order for the next generation of Tennesseans to inherit the same remarkable environment, it's important that we make investments today," said Gov. Bill Lee. "The Fiery Gizzard Trail has long been recognized as one of the top hiking destinations in the Southeast, and I'm grateful we have dedicated resources to make this a standalone park and preserve its unique and natural beauty."

Fiery Gizzard State Park will be better positioned to focus on protecting natural resources, expanding services, and serving the community and park visitors.

The Lee administration is establishing 14 new Tennessee State Parks, setting the Tennessee record for the most state parks created by one administration. The new parks are part of the governor's conservation strategy, which combines protection of the state's natural resources with robust economic growth.

Fiery Gizzard State Park reflects a collaboration between Tennessee State Parks, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the U.S. Forest Service. The park's core destinations include Grundy Lakes, Grundy Forest, Foster Falls, Denny Cove, and the renowned Fiery Gizzard Trail.

Retired Lt. General Buchanan examines case of Master Sergeant Ballard .... from sports-military 2

and our job was to infiltrate by land, sea, or air to collect and report on enemy activity deep in their own area. We were in the field in far north Queensland for 35 straight days. The conditions were grueling and at the end of the exercise, the Australians threw a party. Ballard drank too much beer and beat up an Australian soldier. I was the only officer in our small, elite unit, and as such, had the authority to administer punishment. It would have been easy to kick Ballard out of our unit (we were the only group in our division on parachute status), but my first sergeant, Bob Bails, argued to keep him with us.

Bob, a recent veteran of 2nd Ranger battalion said: "He really screwed up and we need to give him an article15…but we should also keep him. He's just a kid who made a bad decision, but I'm confident he'll learn from it."

Bob, a recent veteran of 2nd Ranger battalion said: "He really screwed up and we need to give him an article15…but we should also keep him. He's just a kid who made a bad decision, but I'm confident he'll learn from it."

So that's what I did. I busted him to Private, fined him seven days' pay, and put him on extra duty for 7 days. I have no doubt that if I terminated his jump status and kicked him out of our unit, he would have continued to get in trouble and would probably have been out of the Army in a year. Instead, we kept him on our team and gave him a second chance. And twenty years later, he was still in the Army and his leadership in a desperate fight made all the difference. I think about my decision and its impact in Iraq 20 years after the fact, and three big lessons come to mind.

First, listen to your first sergeant…or assistant coach, deputy director, research assistant, etc. Nobody has the market cornered on good ideas. This can apply to a wildlife management agency, a guide service, or even a law enforcement unit. In my case, I was a "commander" with absolute authority and responsibility for everything my unit did or failed to do. But I made better decisions when I opened myself up to others and listened to what they had to say. We never "took avote" and I still made and owned the decision and the results, but if I listened to others, I always got additional options.

Second, everybody makes mistakes. Sometimes the mistakes are serious enough that one must follow through with a court case and potential prison sentence, but that is usually not the case. I learned that if I gave others a second chance, they frequently became one of my best Soldiers. A friend of mine used to say: "Good judgement comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgment."

Third, don't kick out everybody who can fight. You may just want that dude on your team someday. The next time one of your employees makes a mistake, I encourage you to reflect on your own rough patches. Sometimes the mistake is serious enough to warrant a firing or even prison time, but usually it is not. When you give somebody a second chance, they will frequently rise to the occasion and may become one of your best "troops." They might even save a city. Everybody makes mistakes. Give them a second chance when it is warranted and you will rarely be disappointed.

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About Jeff Buchanan

Jeff Buchanan retired as a Lieutenant General from the Army in 2019. He had four combat deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. He also led the military forces supporting FEMA in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria and commanded more than 6,000 troops on the Southwest border in support of CBP. He and his wife live on a small ranch outside of Patagonia, Arizona and he is one of five commissioners for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Kick It 15th Annual 5K Presented by Baptist Health Care kicks off Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month October 26

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - The Kosten Foundation will host its 15th Annual Kick It 5K, presented by Baptist Memorial Health Care, to support pancreatic cancer research and patient services. The event kicks off Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and will feature a pre-race ceremony honoring survivors and those lost to pancreatic cancer, a 5K run, a 1-mile walk, and a community celebration. Register or donate online at https://kickit5k.raceroster.com.

About the Kosten Foundation:

The Kosten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research was founded in 2003 by the family of Herb Kosten after his death due to pancreatic cancer. Kosten's family sought to improve community support, awareness, and funding for pancreatic cancer, one of the deadliest known cancers. The organization has donated more than $3 million for pancreatic cancer research. It hosts a very active monthly support group meeting for patients, their families, and anyone interested in learning more about pancreatic cancer. The Kosten Foundation hosts an annual Kick It 5K has grown to include more than 2,500 participants and a new Kick It Pickleball Tournament. Money raised from the 5K, pickleball tournament, and other Kosten Foundation events helps fund pancreatic cancer research. For more information about the Kosten Foundation, its programs, and events, visit the website at kostenfoundation.com

Pancreatic Cancer Survivors are all smiles after celebrating victory over cancer. ***(Photo/Courtesy Kosten Foundation)***

GOA gets victory

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victory will no doubt play a major role in next month's election.

John Velleco, Executive Vice President of GOF added:

"For five years, Gun Owners Foundation fought for Virginians' right to purchase firearms without infringement. Let this victory be a lesson to any Virginia legislator who might consider violating the Second Amendment."

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