October 2, 2010 ● ‘Teach-a-Kid-Fishing Clinic’ at Mote Aquaculture Park
October 8-9, 2010 ● ‘Snook Research Tournament’ in Sarasota Bay

ORIGINS: The Teach-a-Kid-Fishing Clinic and the Snook Research Tournament were originated by the Stock Enhancement Program in the Center for Fisheries Enhancement at Mote Marine Laboratory.

TEACH-A-KID-FISHING CLINIC (October 2, 2010)
The Snook Shindig includes the ‘Teach-a-Kid-Fishing Clinic’ at Mote Aquaculture Park. This event will kick off our 2010 Shindig a week before the Snook Research Tournament. Kids ages 6 to 15 are welcome along with their parents. The first 100 registered kids will receive a free rod, reel and tackle box. Bring smiles, positive attitudes and patience along with you! The event will include clinics on casting, cast netting, fish habitat and biology, conservation, fishing safety, knot tying, catch-and-release tactics, Gyotaku (Japanese art of fish printing), along with fishing from pier with professional guides and knowledgeable anglers. Fly-fishing instructors will also be on-hand for interested youth and adults.

Date/Time: 9 a.m. to 12:30 noon, Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010. Kids & parents should arrive no later than 8:45 a.m.
Lunch: begins at 11:00. Thanks to Sarasota Sportsmens Association – Lunch is included.
Location: Mote Aquaculture Research Park, 12300 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL (7 miles East of I-75).
Ages: 6-15 (plus parents/guardians)
Cost: $10.00
Pre-Registration Required: Pre-register by Monday, Sept 27, 2010. Registrations Limited to 100 Kids.
Register online at www.mote.org/snookregistration or call Carole Neidig at (941) 388-4441, ext. 303.

SNOOK RESEARCH TOURNAMENT (October 8-9, 2010)
Location: Sarasota Bay from Cortez to Venice. The Snook Research Tournament is now in its 12th year. This special catch, sample and release tournament is used to help document contributions to the fishery of snook that were raised by the Center for Aquaculture Research and Development at Mote Marine Laboratory, tagged and released into Sarasota Bay by Mote’s Center for Fisheries Enhancement. Stocked snook, all tagged with tiny coded wire tags before release into Sarasota Bay, are the focus of pilot studies to identify stock enhancement potential and the best release strategies. Snook caught during the tournament are checked by Mote researchers, who recover tag data and use the information to adjust release protocols. This research tournament has documented that the stocked hatchery-reared snook are contributing to the fishery in Sarasota Bay and changes in snook release strategies based on the results of these pilot studies have improved survival of our stocked snook by as much as 200%. The Center for Fisheries Enhancement uses the Snook Shindig for outreach to help the community learn more about Mote fisheries research and fish conservation, and to gather additional evidence about hatchery snook contribution rates in the fishery and about snook population size and movements in Sarasota Bay. The results are published in scientific journals. Visit the Science Consortium for Ocean Replenishment for current publications on Mote’s snook stock enhancement research in Sarasota Bay (http://www.StockEnhancement.org).
SNOOK RESEARCH TOURNAMENT DIVISIONS

Men’s Division and Lady’s Division (any age): Fishes only for snook

Youth Division (ages 15 and under): Fishes for any type of game fish. No adult supervision required.

Novice Division (ages 15 and under): Fishes for any type of game fish. By definition, a Novice angler must have attended the Kid’s Fishing Clinic sponsored by Mote on Oct 2nd and must also be supervised by an adult angler who is also a paying participant in the Snook Research Tournament.

- Both the Youth and Novice Divisions are included to involve the next generation of responsible anglers in the Research Tournament aspect of the Snook Shindig.
- For any type of game fish caught in Sarasota Bay, the junior anglers must record on their own individual data sheet the type of fish caught, size and location.
- Additionally, any snook captured by anglers in either of these divisions shall be kept alive until checked for tags, or it will not be counted.

REGISTRATION:

All participants {be they young or old} must register and must attend the Captain’s meeting.

- Pre-register online at: www.mote.org/snookregistration
- Late registration {after Oct 7}: Must register at the Captain’s meeting.

Please pre-register if at all possible because it makes the Captain’s meeting go a lot quicker.

ENTRY FEES:

Men’s and Lady’s Divisions: $40 if pre-register before midnight on Oct 7, or $50 at Captain’s Meeting.

- Entry fee includes dinner at the awards banquet. $15 for dinner only or each additional guest.

Youth Division: $0 entry fee for fishing - optional $10 in advance for awards dinner.

Novice Division: $0 entry fee for fishing - optional $10 in advance for awards dinner. The Novice must be accompanied by an adult angler who is also a full paying participant in the Research Tournament.

SNOOK RESEARCH TOURNAMENT MANDATORY CAPTAIN’S MEETING

Date/Time: 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, 2010

Location: Captain’s meeting will be in the Hendry Room on the 2nd floor of the building behind the Marine Mammal Center .. which is across the street from the main Mote Aquarium on Ken Thompson Parkway .. {follow the signs}.

NOTE: All Anglers MUST attend the Captain’s Meeting to ensure that participants receive special Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s (FWC) special permit, angler ID numbers and log sheets.

All questions will be addressed at this meeting. Anglers MUST abide by all boating regulations. No more than four (4) people may fish from any boat, vehicle or as a shore team. All snook caught during the tournament must be turned over to Mote Marine Laboratory. Angler MUST abide by all Florida fishing rules and regulations.

SNOOK RESEARCH TOURNAMENT FISHING HOURS

Fishing hours are limited to “lines in the water” no earlier than 7.00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, 2010, after check-in at the Captain’s Meeting. Mote will process catch that anglers bring to weigh-in stations with their angler ID number and log sheet. All log entries must be clear in content and printed legibly. Entries that are not legible will be voided and will not be counted. Fish must be taken to a weigh-in station prior to Noon on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010, to be eligible for the tournament. Boats may depart any time after the Captain’s Meeting to any desired location in the Sarasota Bay Area from Cortez to Venice. No further check-in will be required.

Weigh-in Stations: Open from 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8 until Noon (12 p.m.) Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010.
METHODS, TACKLE, RECORDING
International Game Fish Association rules will apply. NO stainless steel hooks for live baiting.

– CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY when fishing with bait. Individual anglers must hook, fight and land fish unaided by any other person. No one other than the angler may touch the rod. This is an “individual angler” contest and NO “pooling of fish” will be allowed. Only fish caught by an angler may be entered on that angler’s log sheet. Method of catch and tackle are at the discretion of the angler (except as specified above) and must comply with State of Florida Rules and Regulations.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
A special permit for this tournament will be issued at the Captain’s Meeting by the state of Florida that governs the possession of snook for this tournament. Anglers, including kids in the Youth and Novice Divisions, must comply with all Florida fishing regulations and cannot hold more than 1 snook unless in possession of the special permit. Current Florida saltwater fishing license required, unless exempt. Boat registrations, Coast Guard requirements, federal stamps and other safe boating practices are the responsibility of the individual boat operator. Each participant must have the means (18-gallon minimum, release well or floating bait pen) to keep all snook alive. Tournament is open to all anglers. Employment of a professional guide is advantageous and encouraged. All boats, anglers, crews and guests will fish at their own discretion and own risk. All participants and guests in the William R. Mote Memorial Invitational Snook Shindig agree to indemnify and hold harmless all volunteers and members of the Tournament Committee, and all members, directors and/or officers of Mote Marine Laboratory.

PRIZE AWARDS DINNER
Door prizes, raffles, give-a-ways and tournament awards will presented at the Snook Shindig Awards Banquet, sponsored by Bonefish Grill. Fishing tournament awards shall be limited to one per individual participant.

• Men’s and Lady’s Divisions: a plague for 1st place, and certificates for 2nd, & 3rd place. Awards based on the sum total lengths of all snook scanned for embedded research tags.

• Youth Division: Certificates for following categories of game fish: most game fish caught, longest and smallest snook, and longest and smallest game fish{other than snook}.

• Novice Division: Same certificates as issued for the Youth Division.

• Any Angler / Any Division: a certificate for the most research tags scanned.

Date/Time: 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct 9, 2010.
Location: Mote’s Chickie (behind Mote Aquarium – park in Aquarium parking lot, not Ski-A-Rees lot), 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236.

NOTE: Mote Marine Laboratory is not responsible for any taxes, reporting of taxes or control of any federal or state collection of such, for prizes awarded at this tournament.

SNOOK SHINDIG SPONSORS
GOLD SPONSORS {≥ $1,000 cash or fair value} As of 6/10/2010: Mote Marine Laboratory, Bonefish Grill, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Jason Mathias Art, Sarasota Sportsmens Association, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
COMMUNITY SPONSORS: Increasing by the day … please refer to updates on our website.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to co-sponsor an important conservation project. If you, or your company or organization wish to help support this community event, contact Ken Leber at (941) 388-1748, KLeber@mote.org or Carole Neidig at (941) 388-4441, ext. 303, CNeidig@mote.org.