

IGFA Representative Announcement

Dr. Julie Ball, IGFA Representative, Virginia Beach

Pending IGFA World Records APPROVED!!



Red Drum and Black Drum

Red Drum

All Tackle Length World Record

107 cm

Dr. Julie Ball

Chesapeake Bay, Virginia Beach VA

7 May 2011

Since it was such a beautiful day, we decided to take a run to the Eastern shore in the Chesapeake Bay. With Bill "Gordy" Knapp and his son Robbie (age 7) as my crew, we cruised easily in light southerly winds across the Chesapeake Bay to find a fleet of boats sitting outside of Fisherman's Inlet. We motored past them and into the Inlet.

We anchored in about 8-feet of water, and managed to get the rods out before the sun went down. The rods began going down almost as soon as we were set up, and never slowed down. Sometimes we had two on at a time; we missed several, and pulled a few. We used blue crabs for bait on fish-finder rigs. My largest red drum hit as I held the rod, and I could tell it was a nicer fish. After about a 15 minute fight, I guided the fish into the net as Bill scooped it up.

We quickly measured and photographed the drum, and gently released the fish, which quickly swam off. The drum measured 107 cm on an official IGFA World Record Measuring tape.

Black Drum

All Tackle Length World Record

121 cm

Dr. Julie Ball

Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, Chesapeake Bay,
Virginia Beach, VA

21 May 2011

My mom, Sharon Sheely, came into town from Florida to visit. We ran out to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel in my boat to try casting for a few black drum around the islands for an hour or so. Bill "Gordy" Knapp, and his son Robbie rounded out my crew. We arrived at the 2nd island and found a huge school of drum meandering about. Gordy and I tried his method of casting blue crabs at them for a while with no luck. Frustrated, I searched around in my tackle to find my old standby, a buck tail with a grub, which I have used for years to entice black drum. I scrounged around and found an old beat up 2-ounce buck tail and a faded grub.

I spied the school a gain, and tossed the buck tail a few times. The bite was subtle, if fact I thought I was hung up at first, and then the rock moved! My Mom was my cheerleader as I battled the black drum for about 15-minutes. It was a nice fish, with plenty of power.

Gordy netted the fish, and we both lifted the drum into the boat. We quickly measured and photographed the fish, then gently revived it for a few minutes before it swam off with a kick. The black drum measured 121 cm on an official IGFA World Record Measuring tape.

Dr. Julie Ball