



## Florida West Coast Going Strong

This was not the record turn out the Inshore Fishing Association (IFA) Redfish Tour had in Punta Gorda, but 107 tournament entries is nothing to hang your head about. Sixty-two of the teams brought fish in to be weighed. The team of Tom Tamanini, from Odessa, FL and partner Derek Powell, from Belleair Bluffs, FL took home the first place win with a 6.7 and 7.78-pound Redfish giving them a total weight of 14.48-pounds.

Tom and Derek took home a certificate for a Ranger Banshee, valued at approximately \$20,000 as equipped with a 40 HP, 4-stroke Yamaha outboard, Loadmaster trailer, Power Pole shallow water anchor, Minn Kota trolling motor and Humminbird electronics. Along with this fully rigged Ranger Banshee, the team was also awarded \$500 for Big Fish of the tournament.

In explaining technique, Derek said, “We used Gulp all day and were dead sticking and moving to get them to bite. We caught about eight fish all day.”

“This was a pretty good day for us. Sooner or later we knew it had to stick and this was our tournament,” Tom was stated as saying. Tom fished the very first IFA event, bizarrely enough, this same weekend seven years ago.

Rounding out the top five finishers of this IFA Redfish Tour presented by Cabela’s Englewood event were: second place – Brady Nelson and Josh Ramsey with 14.30 pounds (\$5,300); third place – Bob Looper and Rich Walters with 13.77 pounds (\$3,200); fourth place – Keith Pratt and Scott Dalton with 12.86 pounds (\$2,100); and fifth place – Boone Moore and Lee Taylor with 12.80 pounds (\$1,600). Of the sixty-two teams that weighed in Redfish, fifty-two of these teams had double-digit weights

The second place team of Brady Nelson and Josh Ramsey, were the Ranger Cup powered by Yamaha winners and took home the \$750 Ranger Cup check by being the top finishers qualified for the special incentive cash prize by owning and fishing from a Ranger boat (for Ranger Cup program details visit [www.rangerboats.com](http://www.rangerboats.com)).

The top finishing team mentioning and wearing their Solar Bat sunglasses across the weigh in stage received a \$100 check and that team was Tony Katsarelas and Dave Turgeon.

Mark Jones and partner Justin Hood received the \$100 Sperry Topsider Spotted award for being the top finishing team mentioning and wearing their Sperry Topsider shoes across the weigh in stage. To find more about these IFA contingency awards and more, go to [www.redfishtour.com/contingency](http://www.redfishtour.com/contingency).

In addition to the Florida West division, there are also Florida East Coast, Atlantic, Gulf Coast, Louisiana and Texas IFA Divisions. All are one-day events with three tournaments in each. Teams that fish in all three events qualify to compete in the two-day, no-entry-fee IFA Redfish Tour Championship at the end of the season.

IFA Redfish Tour sponsors include Cabela's, Ranger Boats, Yamaha Outboards, Minn Kota, Humminbird, Loadmaster, Sebile Lures, Jax Wraps, Power Pole, Solar Bat, Pioneer Beef Jerky, Sperry Topsider Shoes, DriGrip Sunscreen, CW Crab, Charter Lakes Marine Insurance and Audubon Nature Institute.

For more information about the IFA Redfish Tour tournaments, visit [www.redfishtour.com](http://www.redfishtour.com) or call (478) 436-4266.

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