

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Yak Anglers Weather the Elements to Set Records at 2013 Columbia Sportswear Jacksonville Kayak Fishing Classic



JACKSONVILLE, FL - MAY 4, 2013 – [Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville](#) won big at the **2013 Columbia Sportswear Kayak Fishing Classic** as **403** kayak anglers raised over **\$35,000** for the charity's programs. Intrepid kayak anglers had to deal with winds gusting over 35 knots and heavy rain after the Jacksonville area experienced a three day tropical depression disguised as a nor'easter to check in 10 slams, 20 Redfish, 35 Trout, and 25 Flounder.

"We are thrilled to be associated with such a world-class event, and want to thank the kayak anglers, sponsors, and everyone that made the Classic happen for their generous support ", said Debbie Revels, Executive Director of DSAJ. Tournament director Mike Kogan stated, "Every year we are awed by the incredible turnout – even in the face of the worst weather imaginable kayak anglers from all over the country come out to enjoy the recreational, charitable, conservation, and family-oriented format of the Classic."

The catch-photo-release charity event run by [JaxKayakFishing.com](#), is the world's largest kayak fishing event for the eight consecutive year. The 2013 Classic was led again by the title sponsorship of [Columbia Sportswear](#), whose focus on products that allow people to enjoy the outdoors longer and more comfortably is a perfect match for kayak fishing. All the entrants received a custom shirt featuring the latest outdoor comfort, protection, and stain release technology from Columbia's performance fishing gear product line.

Columbia was joined by other industry leaders such as Ocean Kayaks, Malibu Kayaks, Emotion Kayaks, Native Watercraft, Hobie Kayaks, KC Kayaks, Freedom Hawk Kayaks, Jackson Kayaks, NuCanoe, Native Watercraft, Costa Del Mar, Lowrance, Tsunami, Maui Jim, and KayakFishingSupplies.Com. The Classic also pulled together all of Northeast Florida's kayak and fishing retailers led by Strike-Zone Fishing, Black Creek Outfitters, All Wet Sports, and Dick's Sporting Goods to name just a few of the over 80 sponsors. Kogan related "the outstanding efforts of our volunteers and the kayak fishing community combined with the generosity of our terrific sponsors continue to make the Classic an unqualified unmatched success."

Eddie Cabler of Jacksonville, FL claimed the top prize in the Ocean Kayaks slam division for the second consecutive year with a tournament record 75.2" slam, winning a fully-rigged Ocean Kayaks Trident Ultra 4.7 fishing kayak. His winning slam blew away the previous record by 6" and consisted of a 29.3" red, a 22.5" trout, and a 23.4" flounder all caught on spinner lures. Cabler was closely followed by a group of Northeast Florida anglers including Arun Ramalingam at 73.2", Jim Miller with 62.5", Blake Beltz at 60.7", and Scott Harmon at 59.4".

Seventeen-year-old Micha Mixon of Vero Beach, FL won the KC Kayaks redfish division with a 33.25" red. Top flounder honors went to D.J. Cabler, brother of slam champ Eddie, with a 24.9" flattie and he scored a Freedomhawk Kayaks Pathfinder. Leading the way in the Jackson Kayaks trout category was Robert Altman Jr. with a 24.8" flattie.

Another highlight at the Classic this year was the FishingNosara.Com Family Cup, an award that recognizes the best fishing performance by a family. The Family Cup was won by the Cabler family of Jacksonville, FL and they will enjoy a one week vacation in Costa Rica.

Micha Mixon won the Junior Angler division and Capt Patty Greene won the Lady Angler award. Frank Gregg took Senior Angler honors and Chris James of St. Augustine won the Fly Angler award.

For more results and information about next year's Classic visit Jacksonville's kayak fishing community at www.JacksonvilleKayakFishingClassic.com. A media and press image preview package is available online.

Special thanks go out to the volunteers and over 80 sponsors who supported the Classic including: Columbia Sportswear, Strike Zone Fishing, BlackCreek Outfitters, All Wet Sports, Dick's Sporting Goods, Ocean Kayaks, Accent Paddles, Costa Del Mar, Maui Jim Sunglasses, Malibu Kayaks, Jackson Kayaks, FreedomHawk Kayaks, Hobie Kayaks, Emotion Kayaks, Advanced Elements, KC Kayaks, Bote, Old Town Canoes & Kayaks, Native Watercraft, FishingNosara.Com, NuCanoe, Great Atlantic Outfitters, Slayer Lures, Yak-Gear.Com, Outdoors Show, Riptide, DOA Lures, Calcutta, Saltlife Sport Optics, Rat-L-Trap Lures, Crack of Dawn, MTI, Malone Auto Racks, KayakFishingSupplies.Com, SeaLect Designs, Kayak Amelia, Florida Sportsman, B&M Bait&Tackle, RAM Mounts, Polar Bear Coolers, Otter Box, Scotty Rod Holders, Daiichi Hooks, GearKeeper, Slayer Lures, Stohlquist, SureSet Jigs, Wheeleez, White Shell Bait&Tackle, Extrasport, Carlisle, 321Fish.Com, Fisherman's Seafood & Bait, YakLife.Com, TTI-Blakemore Fishing Group, Wang Anchors, Skwoosh, Florida Sportfishing Magazine, St. Croix Rods, FlyFishingJax.Com, Qualia Fishing, T. Allen Rods, IFA Kayak Fishing Tour, Minuteman Press, Watermans Applied Science, Cannon Rod Holders, Lowrance, Emmrod, YakAttack, Rat-L-Trap Lures, Ego Nets, Tsunami, Overboard Rods, Tailin Toads, Boomerang, BooneDoxUSA, Yakaholics.Com, Illumarine, Species Studios.

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[Event Photo Preview Pack \(High-Res Available on Request\)](#)

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