

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Children's Charities Win Big at 2010 Columbia Sportswear Kayak Fishing Classic



**JACKSONVILLE, FL - MAY 8, 2010** – The kids at [Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville](#) and [Daniel Memorial](#) won big at the **2010 Columbia Sportswear Kayak Fishing Classic** as **430** kayak anglers raised over **\$42,000** for the local children's charities and the [Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation](#). The catch-photo-release charity event, run by [JaxKayakFishing.com](#), is the world's largest kayak fishing event for the fifth consecutive year.

"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 Jeff Leach Board President, and Debbie Revels, Executive Director of DSAJ. Tournament director Mike Kogan stated, "Every year we are overwhelmed at the incredible turnout – even in these challenging economic times the surge in participation from the anglers and sponsors points to continued strong growth for kayak fishing and great community support."

The 2010 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. According to Columbia Sportswear VP of Global Sales Mitch Fields, "Events like the Classic are an ideal way for us to work with local charities in conservation-oriented outdoors activities while featuring our outdoors Performance Fishing Gear like the Superlight Blood & Guts apparel line.

Columbia was joined by other industry leaders such as Ocean Kayaks, Malibu Kayaks, Emotion Kayaks, Hobie Kayaks, Wilderness Systems, Cobra Kayaks, Native Watersports, Pure Fishing, Costa Del Mar, and Accent Paddles. 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 90 sponsors. Kogan related "the great efforts of our volunteers and the kayak fishing community combined with the generosity of our terrific sponsors continue to make the Classic an unqualified success. This year we had over 150 anglers travel from around the country including a huge contingent from Texas and even a group from England as well."

Ryan Conner of Fernandina Beach, FL claimed the top prize in the Hobie Kayaks slam division, winning a fully-rigged Hobie Mirage Pro Angler fishing kayak. He fished near Fernandina Beach in "Ryan's Creek" en route to his 60.1" winning slam, which consisted of a 30" red, a 17.1" trout, and a 13" flounder. Conner was closely followed by a cadre of Jacksonville anglers including fly angler Troy James with 58.6", Chris Fricker with 57.8", Alex Crotzer with 57.1", and senior angler Dan Arvin with 55.8".

Adam Boyd of Jacksonville won the Ocean Kayaks trout division with a 26.5" trout on a day when the trout bite was challenging. Top redfish honors went to tournament newcomer Larry Wagner of Jacksonville with a 30" red and he scored a Malibu Stealth kayak. Leading the way in the Emotion Kayaks flounder category was fourteen year-old Luke Shaw of Palm Valley with a 19.2" flattie. Another highlight of the flounder division was seeing nine year-old Jessica Parker take third place with a 17.6" flounder.

Luke Shaw was also the Emotion Kayaks Junior Angler and Melita Ganoë won the Blue Storm Lady Angler award. Dan Arvin took Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation Senior Angler honors and

Troy James won the Black Fly Outfitter Fly Angler and placed second overall using fly tackle only.

All winners and placers also received Polar Bear Coolers, gift certificates from Strike-Zone Fishing, Black Creek Outfitters, Dick's Sporting Goods, Kayak Fishing Supplies.Com, and subscriptions to Florida Sportfishing magazines.

For more results and information about next year's Classic visit Jacksonville's kayak fishing community at [www.jaxkayakfishing.com](http://www.jaxkayakfishing.com). A media and press image preview package is available online.

Special thanks go out to the volunteers and over 90 sponsors who supported the Classic including: Columbia Sportswear, Strike Zone Fishing, BlackCreek Outfitters, Accent Paddles, Cobra Kayaks, Costa Del Mar, Malibu Kayaks, Emotion Kayaks, Advanced Elements, Wilderness Systems Kayaks, Ocean Kayaks, Native Watercraft, Hobie Kayaks, Dick's Sporting Goods, Black Fly Outfitter, All Wet Sports, Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation, Purefishing, Great Atlantic Outfitters, Slayer Lures, Bending Branches, FishingNosara.Com, Creative Feathers Studio, Outdoors Show, BullFrog, Mirrolure, Daiwa, DOA Lures, Calcutta, Crack of Dawn, MTI, Surf To Summit, Malone Auto Racks, KayakFishingSupplies.Com, Kayak Amelia, Florida Sportsman, Kayak Fisherman Magazine, B&M Bait&Tackle, Talic, RAM, Polar Bear Coolers, Otter Box, Scotty Rod Holders, Daiichi Hooks, Hook1, GearKeeper, Slayer Lures, Fishbites, ThermaCELL, Penn Fishing, Exude Mister Twister, Kayak Angler Magazine, Gulp, Fenwick, Stohlquist, AquaEast, Bite-A-Bait, Wheeleez, White Shell Bait&Tackle, Arlington Bait&Tackle, Extrasport, Carlisle, Tilley Hats, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grip CrateMate, Precision Pak, 321Fish.Com, Fisherman's Seafood & Bait, YakLife.Com, TTI-Blakemore Fishing Group, AT Paddles, Wang Anchors, Yak-Gear.Com, Skwoosh, Helter Skeletons, Florida Sportfishing Magazine, IrishWaterDogs.com, Aquabound, Bluestorm, Stowmaster Nets, St. Croix Rods, Heddon, StandNFish.Com, FlyFishingJax.Com, QuickSlide Stringers, Qualla Fishing, ZackTack, RodWrap.Com, FINS Braid, WiiDoSolar, IceMule, BackwaterFishingAdventures.Com, First-Light USA, RodOarPaddle.Com, Coastal Angler Magazine, Kayak Fishing Magazine, Emmrod, FindMeSpot, IFA Kayak Fishing Tour, FlyFishingJax.Com, Sticky Fingers BBQ.

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