

New Leaders in Valdez Silver Salmon Derby Weigh In at 17 Plus Pounds

VALDEZ – Richard Kruckenberg of Fairbanks weighed in a 17.64 pound silver Friday to take the lead in the Silver Salmon Derby and Paula Noel netted first place in the Women’s Silver Salmon Derby and sits at 2nd place in the overall standings after reeling in a 17.50 pound silver aboard Capt’n Patty’s Saturday. Robert Arbaugh of Ft. Collins, Colorado dropped to 3rd place in the overall standings. Charter Captain Stacey Mitchell said the Silver fishing was a bit slow, but picked up just in time for the Women’s Silver Salmon Derby. Her morning charter picked up 21 fish just nine tenths of a mile from the Valdez Harbor. “No need to go very far”, Mitchell said. “The fishing is great just about everywhere in the Port”.

Anglers venturing across the beach to Allison Point by boat or car this weekend were treated to quite a Sea Lion show as they surfaced just 20 to 50 feet from shore and tossed fish in the air. The pink salmon the sea lions are feeding on are being easily caught off of Allison Point. Anglers are starting to see more silvers at Allison Point and the shores were lined with young children and adults picking up a pink with nearly every cast. Construction is completed on Dayville Road and, with the widened road, anglers can park alongside the shoreline from just before the hatchery past the Allison Point campground area.

In the Halibut Derby, the overall standings remained the same with Kevin Lincoln leading the way with his mammoth 343.6 pound flatfish. Big halibut continue to come in to Port Valdez. The first place weekly winner in the Halibut Derby was Harvey Eckert of Fairbanks, Alaska with a 233.8 pounder he caught aboard the *Orion* and a 226.3 pounder also caught aboard the *Orion* by Taylor R. Brown of Cub, New York took the second place weekly prize.

Anglers looking for a bit of advice on catching the largest silver salmon might want to consider the advice given by Women’s Silver Salmon derby winner Paula Noel. When asked to come on stage Ms. Noel was anything but speechless as she told the crowd her secret weapon for winning. According to Paula, Captain Patty’s dog licked her fishing pole just before she dropped her line into the water. The next thing she knew, fish on. The Valdez Halibut and Silver Salmon Derbies run through September 3rd at noon. For more information, visit www.valdezfishderbies.com

HALIBUT DERBY – OVERALL LEADERS – WEEK #12

	Name /address		Weight	Date	Charter
1 st	Kevin Lincoln	North Pole, AK	343.6 lbs.	8/5	Harvester
2 nd	Derek Nahinu	North Pole, AK	262.3 lbs.	7/7	North Country
3 rd	James Fields	Glennallen, AK	253.8 lbs.	8/1	No Excuses

HALIBUT DERBY - WINNERS – WEEK #12

1st	Harvey Eckert	Fairbanks, AK	233.8 lbs.	8/8	Orion
2nd	Taylor R. Brown	Cub, NY	226.3 lbs.	8/10	Orion

SILVER SALMON DERBY – OVERALL LEADERS

	Name /Address		Weight	Date	Charter
1st	Richard Kruckenberg	Fairbanks, AK	17.64 lbs.	8/11	Private
2nd	Paula Noel	Tucson, AZ	17.50 lbs.	8/12	Capt’n Patty’s
3rd	Robert Arbaugh	Ft. Collins, CO	16.82 lbs.	8/10	Seaclusion

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