



TURNINGPOINT

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Turningpoint has been providing outdoor activities to the physically challenged for more than 25 years. The Turningpoint Gulf Coast chapter was the first of the national organizations eight chapters and began in 1996 with a grant from the Harris Kempner Foundation.

On Friday, April 9th and Saturday, April 10th, Turningpoint Gulf Coast will be holding the 13th Annual Drum Fishing Tournament for the Physically Challenged at the Galveston Yacht Basin. Registration for both adult and youth tournaments, the captains meeting, the raffle and the shrimp dinner will begin at 5:30PM on Friday. Following Saturday's tournament there will be a BBQ dinner and awards ceremony where more than \$2,000 in prizes will be awarded to participants. Dinner on both days, are provided for the participants, one AB and the many wonderful volunteers. Items for the past Tournament and Raffle prizes have included rods, reels, fishing trips, hunting trips, sports memorabilia, artwork, gift certificates and much more.

The Drum tournament alone has grown from just 15 physically challenged participants in 1996 to over 100 physically challenged anglers in 2009. Along with the participants there will be over 200 local fishermen and their families. Since the Turningpoint Gulf Coast chapter's inception, we have been providing recreational activities to the Gulf coast Texas disabled population with kayaking, fishing, sailing, hand cycling, hunting and skeet shooting along with sponsoring large venues such as the Sports Festival at Moody Gardens, the Don Allen Wildwood Sports Day and most importantly the Black Drum Tournament for the Physically Challenged that has been held every spring in Galveston for the past thirteen years. All of these activities and the growth of the events have been made possible through the generous donations from our private and corporate sponsors of whom we are very thankful and gratefully appreciative.

Over the past years, Turningpoint Gulf Coast has partnered with Memorial Hermann/TIRR, UTMB and the Texas Parks & Wildlife along with various local recreational programs in providing outdoor activities and important information to the community's physically challenged. Through partnering with TIRR and UTMB, disabled members of Turningpoint are able to work with the young and newly injured individuals helping to provide them with answers to their questions that their friends, family and even health care providers often cannot answer. We have expanded this concept into a mentoring program in which we pair a newly injured participant with a more seasoned individual during recreational activities such as fishing or hand cycling.

Turningpoint Gulf Coast is a 501©3 non-profit organization and your donations are tax (Tax ID #76-0662123) deductible. Please know that with your support many of the areas physically challenged individuals discover that they are able to continue to participate in the fun and excitement of outdoor activities, helping to lead very active lives with their family and friends. For many, especially the youth participants, this annual fishing tournament is a first-time fishing expedition! We THANK YOU for your help in insuring another successful year via your gracious contributions.

For more information, please feel free to contact David Gaston (409) 939-4827 dgaston@turningpointnation.org