



26TH ANNUAL TREASURE CAY BILLFISH TOURNAMENT RULES

.G.F.A. RULES SHALL PREVAIL. All anglers and crew members should be familiar with the I.G.F.A. International Angling Rules.

FISHING DAYS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

FISHING HOURS: 8:00AM - 4:00PM. Boats may leave in "Safe Light" conditions and must depart and return to Treasure Cay Marina every fishing day for points to count. Any changes to Angler lists must be done between 6:00AM - 7:00AM before departing the marina for fishing. The fuel station will open at 7:00AM. The Committee Boat will announce official start time for "LINES IN".

NUMBER OF ANGLERS: No Limit **NUMBER OF LINES:** Maximum of Six (6) **MAXIMUM LINE:** 130 Pound (60 kg) Manufacturer's Stated Test

WEIGH-IN STATION: Opens at 4:00PM. No early weigh-ins permitted. Fish must be brought to the weigh-in station by 5:30PM on the final day. All photos/videos must be handed in to the Tournament Committee by 6:30PM/5:30PM on the final day.

BAITS: Only natural bait or artificials are permitted. No live bait. Teasers and "birds" are allowed.

WEIGHT/LENGTH LIMIT: Blue Marlin: 110 Inches (measured along the lateral line from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail)

White/Hatchet Marlin: All Release; Spearfish/Sailfish: All Release

SCORING: RELEASED Blue Marlin: **300 Points** / White or Hatchet Marlin: 200 Points / Spearfish/Sailfish: 100 Points

BOATED BILLFISH: One (1) point per pound for eligible billfish in excess of the minimum length. For example, a 675 pound blue marlin will be awarded 675 points. Should a fish be brought to the dock which does not meet the above length requirement, the team will be penalized 300 points.

NON-BILLFISH: CATEGORIES: Top Dolphin, Top Tuna, Top Wahoo **WEIGH-IN LIMITS:** One fish per category per fishing day. Minimum 20 pounds.

CASH AWARD: Guaranteed \$10,000.00 for minimum of 10 boats. Calculated at \$1,000.00/boat.

SCORING: Largest fish in each category for the week wins. Non-billfish weigh-in ends at 6:00PM/5:30PM on the final day.

OTHER TREASURE CAY RULES: (Preliminary)

1) All hookups must be reported immediately to the Committee Boat by using the designated tournament channel. A team must immediately inform the Committee Boat when a reported hookup is either lost, released or boated. Do not report until you have made a final decision. Once a fish is reported as either lost, released or boated and the angler name is announced, the report and the angler name cannot be changed. Reports may be relayed by any participating boat, if the reporting boat cannot communicate with the Committee Boat. In case of communication failure, a "designate" boat will be the official record-keeper until communication is restored.

2) In case of a tie, time of release will decide the winner.

3) To qualify as a released fish, the fish must be released in the water, not boated, measured and then returned to the water. What constitutes a release is when the swivel or wind-on leader touches the rod tip, or when the leader is grasped by the mate.

4) For released and boated billfish, you must identify the species and the angler who caught the fish.

5) All tournament participants must supply their own digital and/or video camera! NO PICTURE, NO POINTS.



Photos of billfish must be taken when the fish is within 30 feet of the boat and are ideal if taken while the leader is touching the rod tip at the time of release. The photo(s) must allow the Tournament Committee (TC) to identify the release and species of billfish. Photos that show billfish but are unidentifiable as to the species of billfish, will receive 100 points. When catch is completed, take a picture of the angler who caught the fish, unless otherwise instructed.

6) To receive points a 'Billfish Capture Affidavit' or 'Billfish Release Affidavit' must be completed for all billfish caught (boated or released) and presented to the Tournament Official on the same day the fish is caught. Entrance to the committee office/room for camera/affidavit verification is limited to one person per team. Camera and affidavit submissions are to be made to the designated room/office by one member from each team. The Billfish Release Affidavit must be accompanied by a time and date-stamped digital image (still shot or video) of the fish which shows the billfish species. Points are posted after review of the digital image and verification of the affidavit. Your camera is as important as the rod used to catch the fish. It is the team's responsibility to keep it safely onboard, make sure that the time and date stamp is activated, and that it is in good working condition. Get familiar with your camera - you have a moving target. The TC is not responsible for malfunctions or operator error.

7) The angler must hook, fight and bring the fish to gaff or to the point of release unaided by any other person. Only the angler may touch the rod.

8) Fish must be hooked, fought and brought to the Treasure Cay weigh-in station on the same boat.

9) In the case of a multiple hookup, by a single angler, only the first fish fought will count.

10) There shall be no time limit on any fish hooked before "lines out of the water", except on the last day of fishing when a boat with a boated billfish must arrive at the weigh-in dock by 5:30PM. All times recorded by the Committee Boat (or designate) will be the official time.

11) Each team member must register and sign the entry form. All team members including captains, mates, anglers and substitutions must be registered with the TC in advance. Failure to abide by this rule may result in disqualification.

12) There will be NO weather days. Any weather data posted or announced by the TC will be for information purposes only. If 75% or more of the participating teams/boats decide not to fish for weather reasons, then fishing for that day will automatically be cancelled.

13) There are no refunds on registrations cancelled less than 30 days prior to the tournament start date. In the case of a registered boat mechanical break down, a team may request to transfer to a "substitute" boat, to be approved by the TC. Tournament boats must be docked in Treasure Cay.

14) Protests must be submitted in writing, accompanied by \$100 cash (to be returned if protest is upheld), to the TC on the same day of the allegation. All team members shall agree to the final decision of the TC.

15) If any team/boat, for any reason (excluding a hookup), does not plan to return to Treasure Cay Marina promptly, it must notify the Committee.

16) In the case a team decides not to fish on any of the fishing days, it must notify the TC.

17) Rules as listed above are subject to change by the TC.