

*While all efforts are made to keep this information current, all published rules shall be considered unofficial. Official rules will be distributed and announced at the registration check-in and captains' meeting. All participants agree to the terms of these rules by participating in the tournament. 2026 Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament Unofficial Rules*

## **2026 SEA HORSE ANGLERS CLUB BILLFISH TOURNAMENT UNOFFICIAL RULES**

### **THE TOURNAMENT**

The Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament is a three-day, team-based event with top-team honors going to the team that accumulates the most points during the tournament. Prizes are awarded to the top three teams—first, second, and third place.

Additional awards are given to the team or teams that land the heaviest blue marlin and the largest meat fish by weight. There are also trophies and prizes for teams earning the most billfish release points.

Individual honors include awards for the high-point angler, top lady angler, and top junior angler (17 and under), each receiving a trophy and prize package.

Eligible species include blue marlin, white marlin, spearfish, sailfish, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, and wahoo.

### **BASE ENTRY FEE**

The base entry fee is \$4,000 per team and includes up to six(6) registered anglers. This fee covers both tournament participation and access to all scheduled entertainment and social events for those six participants. The tournament committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any individual, organization, or corporation.

### **OPTIONAL JACKPOTS**

Jackpots are completely optional, and you must be entered into each specific category in order to be eligible for cash prizes. See "Prizes & Jackpots" for more information.

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Event Locations:** Kickoff will take place at Docksider Pub. Weigh-ins and release video check in at the Barr's Bay Park Waterfront. Awards will take place at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club.

**July 17** — Final registration, captains' meeting and kickoff party from 5 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Docksider Pub. The captain's meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m.

**July 18** — Fishing day: 8:30 a.m. start, 4:30 p.m. lines out. Release Video Check-In, Private Bar and Weigh Station at Barr's Bay Park.

**July 19** — Fishing day: 8:30 a.m. start, 4:30 p.m. lines out. Release Video Check-In, Private Bar and Weigh Station at Barr's Bay Park.

**July 20** — Fishing day: 8:30 a.m. start, 4:30 p.m. lines out. Release Video Check-In, Private Bar and Weigh Station at Barr's Bay Park.

**July 21** — Awards Banquet Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club.

## **ANGLERS AND CREW**

Each boat must carry one designated captain and one designated mate at all times, without exception. Any changes to the captain or crew must be reported to the tournament committee prior to the start of fishing on that day.

A maximum of six registered anglers is allowed per boat. If an angler drops out, a replacement may be added, provided they are registered and the change is communicated to the tournament committee before the start of that day's fishing. Designated captains and mates may also be registered as anglers.

Guests are permitted on board.

All participants are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism and good sportsmanship at all times—whether at the dock, underway, or while fishing.

## **TEAM REGISTRATION**

Final registration will be held from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026 at Docksider Pub in Hamilton. All preregistered teams, as well as those registering onsite, must have at least one representative present to collect tournament credentials and the captain's bag.

To encourage maximum participation, registrations will remain open until 8:29 a.m. (Bermuda time) on July 18, 2026.

## **CAPTAINS MEETING**

The mandatory tournament rules briefing will take place at 7:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026, at Docksider Pub in Hamilton. All anglers and captains are required to attend. Those who do not attend agree to be bound by any instructions or rule changes issued during the meeting, whether communicated verbally or in writing.

## **CANCELLATION POLICY**

Cancellations made more than 30 days prior to the tournament start date will receive a full refund of the base entry fee and all optional jackpots. Cancellations within 30 days of the start date will receive a 50% refund of the base entry fee, along with a full refund of any optional jackpots.

## **CANCELLATION OF ENTIRE TOURNAMENT**

If the tournament is canceled prior to any scheduled fishing days due to circumstances beyond Bonnier's control—such as extreme weather, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other force majeure events—50% of the entry fee and 85% of any optional jackpot funds will be refunded. If the tournament is canceled by Bonnier for any other reason, including insufficient participation, all entry fees and optional jackpot payments will be refunded in full.

Refunds will be issued to the Team Representative via ACH, check, or wire transfer within four weeks, provided all tournament entry fees have cleared the bank

## **ELIGIBLE SPECIES**

Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish, Spearfish, Yellowfin and Bigeye Tuna, and Wahoo.

## **FISHING DATES/TIMES**

Tournament fishing days are July 18, 19, and 20. Lines-in: 8:30 a.m., Lines-out: 4:30 p.m. daily. Lines-in and Lines-out calls will be announced via tournament radio—no fishing is permitted before the “lines-in” call. The tournament committee reserves the privilege of changing starting and finishing times for any reason it deems necessary.

## **LATE HOOK-UPS**

Hookups occurring within the final 15 minutes of fishing must be called in immediately. If a fish is still hooked at lines-out, the angler may continue fighting until the fish is released, boated, or lost; however, tournament control must be notified once the fight ends.

## **FIGHTING TIMES**

All fish must be at the weigh station, or the boat must be back in its slip, by 11:59 p.m. on the day of fishing.

## **RULES**

IGFA angling and tackle rules apply unless otherwise stated. All registered anglers must hook and fight their own fish until it is released or boated. All participants—anglers, captains, and crew—are responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with IGFA and tournament rules throughout the competition. Any participant who intentionally breaks these rules is subject to expulsion and disqualification, upon determination by the tournament committee, from this and future tournaments without a refund of any registration fees. For a complete list of IGFA angling and tackle rules, go to [igfa.org](http://igfa.org).

## **BILLFISH RELEASE RULES**

All teams are responsible for supplying and operating their own video equipment to verify billfish releases. To validate a catch, all recordings must be time- and date-stamped in accordance with the official time as stated by Tournament Control prior to each day’s fishing. Teams must use the official release cards included in the team packets received at the captains’ meeting, and it is their responsibility to ensure the cards are on board before fishing begins. Teams will be notified which release card to use prior to the start of each day’s fishing.

To score an official release, the video footage must include clear and sufficient evidence of the following:

1. Clear identification of the species
2. Leader/mainline connection **clearly visible** inside the rod tip, swivel reeled all the way to the rod tip, OR a team member touching the leader while the fish is still hooked
3. Display the release card of the day designated by the tournament
4. Full release of the fish, showing the line being cut, hook removed, or fish swimming away freely

## 5. Time and date of the release

After each release, the official time, species, and angler name must be recorded on the catch affidavit. The affidavit must be signed by each registered angler and the boat captain.

At the end of each fishing day, teams must bring their camera, signed catch-report affidavit, and all original video footage to Barrs Park for verification. Catch reports must be submitted by 7:00 p.m., unless a team is actively fighting a fish after lines out at 4:30 p.m.

## **POINTS**

**Overall points** are determined by the combination of billfish release points and blue marlin weigh-in points.

### **Blue Marlin:**

- 500 points are awarded for each blue marlin officially released
- One point per pound for any blue marlin weighed and verified at or above the 500-pound minimum.

### **White Marlin, Spearfish, or Sailfish:**

- 100 points are awarded for each white marlin, spearfish, or sailfish officially released.

If a blue marlin brought to the scales does not meet the 500-pound minimum, the team will be penalized 500 points, plus two points for every pound under the minimum. For example, a 480-pound fish results in a 540-point penalty (500 points plus 40 additional points for being 20 pounds under), and no points will be awarded for that fish.

Any boated blue marlin must be weighed. Failure to do so will result in immediate disqualification from the remainder of the tournament and forfeiture of all previously earned points.

Only one blue marlin may be boated and weighed per day. All white marlin, sailfish, and spearfish must be released.

Once a blue marlin is boated, the team must photograph or video the fish while measuring its short length, girth, and tail circumference, and report those measurements to the tournament committee.

In the event of a tie, rankings will be determined by the team that first reaches the highest combined point total, based on release or boated time.

## **MEATFISH**

Eligible species include yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, and wahoo. Scoring is calculated to the tenth of a pound for fish up to 200 pounds, and to the nearest pound for fish over 200 pounds. The minimum qualifying weight is 25 pounds.

Once a meatfish is boated and the team intends to weigh it, tournament control must be notified. Teams must use the designated card of the day and capture a photo or video of the fish with the card once boated; this will serve as the official time of catch.

In the event of a tie, the team that first reaches the highest score—based on the recorded time of the boated fish—will be awarded the higher placement.

### **WEIGH-IN/RELEASE VIDEO CHECK IN**

The weigh station and release video check-in will be at Barr's Bay Park.

### **CATCHSTAT**

The Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament uses CatchStat for registration and team management and live scoring updates. All content on CatchStat is for entertainment purposes only. All content on CatchStat is for entertainment purposes only and may not reflect official standings or payout amounts. For official results, please contact the tournament committee directly.

### **BOATS WITH SONAR**

Sonar devices may not be deployed prior to Lines In (8:30 a.m.) and must be powered off no later than 15 minutes after Lines Out (4:30 p.m.) each day.

### **LINE**

The maximum line strength allowed is 130-pound-test. Tournament and/or non-tournament lines are eligible. If the line test stated on the label is 130 pounds or less, the line will be allowed in the tournament. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first five meters of line directly preceding the double line, leader or hook. This section must consist of a single, homogenous piece of line.

### **LEADERS**

The length of the leader is the overall length, including any lure or hook arrangement. In all line classes exceeding 20-pound (10 kg), the leader shall be limited to 30 feet (9.14 meters). The combined length of the double line and the leader shall not exceed 40 feet (12.19 meters) total. The tournament committee holds the right to examine any hook sets, line and/or leaders at any time during the event. Refusal to allow the committee to examine any hook sets, line and/or leaders will result in immediate disqualification from the event without a refund of any jackpot or registration fees.

### **RODS**

Unlimited in use or numbers.

### **TEASERS**

Unlimited in use or numbers.

## **BAITS**

Live bait, dead bait, lures and any combination thereof are permitted in this tournament.

## **HOOKS**

Bait must be rigged with non-offset circle hooks only. Artificial lures without natural bait may be rigged with conventional J-hooks.

## **RADIO/COMMUNICATIONS**

The official tournament channel is 7 International. Tournament control may also be reached by phone or WhatsApp at (813) 928-6266 or the official radio Whatsapp group. If out of radio range, all catches must be reported via radio or phone as soon as possible.

Tournament control's time will serve as the official time for all starts, hookups, and stops, without exception. All billfish releases and any boated blue marlin or meatfish intended for weigh-in must be reported to tournament control, along with the angler's name and species. All hookups must be reported during the final 15 minutes of fishing each day.

The tournament channel is reserved strictly for official announcements and catch reports. Competitor communications must take place on alternate channels.

## **WEATHER**

There is no weather committee. The tournament is conducted on a "fish at your own risk" basis. If any portion of the tournament is fished and a team or teams land or release fish that match the tournament's eligible species and minimum weight limits, then prizes will be awarded.

## **PROTESTS**

Participants may lodge protests against any catch which they believe was not made in accordance with these rules. All protests must be stated in writing and accompanied by \$500. All protests will be settled the day of the incident. All protests on July 18, 19 and 20 must be in the hands of the tournament's designated rules official by 7 p.m. on the day of the alleged incident unless there is a protest regarding a fish that comes to the scales late, in which case the deadline is extended one (1) hour following the weighed fish. The tournament committee may call a protest hearing at their discretion; a protest hearing is not guaranteed. The protesting party, as well as the accused team members, captain and crew, must be present in any official protest hearing. The tournament committee may refuse to consider any protest evidence not submitted at the protest hearing in the presence of the protested team. If the protesting or protested team fails to show up for the protest hearing, that team forfeits its right to submit evidence. Official tournament release video footage may only be viewed by the tournament committee and the team who submitted it. Decisions of the tournament committee with regard to protests are final, non-appealable, and nonjusticiable.

## **SPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT**

All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and sportsmanlike manner at all times. Any unsportsmanlike or threatening behavior toward tournament organizers or other

participants—or any conduct deemed inappropriate by the tournament committee, at its sole discretion—may result in immediate disqualification of the entire team without refund and possible exclusion from future events.

*The Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament committee reserves the right to update or change these rules at any time. By entering the Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament and paying the entry fees, all participants agree to abide by the tournament rules and accept all decisions made by the Tournament Committee as final.*

Tournament Contact Information:

[www.bermudatriplecrown.com](http://www.bermudatriplecrown.com)

Michelle Gaylord, Tournament Director  
michelle.gaylord@marlinmag.com – (813) 928-6266

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### **FULL RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK READ CAREFULLY!**

This Release affects your legal rights and its completion is a prerequisite for your enrollment and participation in the Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament (the “Tournament”). Your entry indicates your FULL acceptance of these terms.

By entering the Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament and paying the entry fees, I AGREE AS FOLLOWS: I am applying to participate in the Tournament; acceptance of my application is at the sole discretion of the Tournament organizers. In consideration of being permitted to apply for, enroll or participate in the Tournament and such activities as may be arranged for me in connection with such application, enrollment and participation (collectively, the “Tournament Activities”), individually for myself and on behalf of my personal representatives, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, and next of kin, and as the vessel’s master (if I am the vessel’s master):

1. I hereby acknowledge that the Tournament Activities are dangerous and hazardous, and may entail the risk of serious injury, death, and property or economic damage. I understand that the risks include, but are not limited to, dangers posed by inclement weather and the inherent risks posed by game fishing. I hereby fully assume all non-economic and economic risks posed to me by my enrollment and participation in the Tournament Activities, whether those risks are known or not and whether those risks are foreseen or not. I hereby release and discharge the Tournament, its sponsors and Bonnier LLC; each of their respective parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliated companies; the officers, employees, associates, agents, and contractors of all of the foregoing; all other Tournament participants; and all location owners and operators (collectively, the “Releasees”) of and from any and all claims, suits, causes of action, obligations, liabilities, debts, costs, damages, or demands of every kind and nature

which I now have or which may arise from or in connection with my enrollment and participation in the Tournament Activities, whether or not caused or contributed to by the negligence of the Releasees or the manner in which the Tournament is conducted by the Releasees. ALL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN THEIR OWN INSURANCE COVERAGE.

2. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Releasees, their heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, assigns, and parent organizations from any damages, costs, expenses, or liabilities, including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees or other professional fees, resulting from or in any way connected with the risk posed by the Tournament or Tournament Activities, and regardless of whether those risks were caused in full or in part by a party indemnified hereunder.
3. I agree that this Release supersedes any other agreements, written or oral, between the parties and is governed by the laws of Florida. I intend this release to be interpreted as broadly as possible, and if any portion of this Release is held invalid, I intend the remainder to continue in full legal force and effect.
4. I acknowledge receipt of the rules of the Tournament and I agree to fully abide thereby. I further agree that: (i) I will abide by and accept all decisions made by the Tournament organizers or any representative of the Tournament organizers in connection with my application, enrollment, or participation in the Tournament; (ii) all such decisions will be final, non-appealable, and in the sole discretion of the Tournament organizers or their representatives; and (iii) any economic or non-economic consequences to me as a result of such decisions are within the scope of the foregoing release.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS BY ACCEPTING IT. MY ACCEPTANCE AND TOURNAMENT ENTRY IS GIVEN VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE BEING MADE TO ME, AND I INTEND MY ENTRY TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

Participants in Tournaments are advised to obtain their own insurance covering them and their vessel's participation. By entering the tournament, I hereby affirm receipt of the rules of the Tournament. I also affirm that I will abide by and accept all decisions made by the Tournament committee.

### **PUBLICITY RELEASE**

In consideration for being permitted to enroll and participate in the Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament (the "Tournament"), I hereby agree to the following terms:

1. I grant the Tournament, Bonnier LLC, and their respective licensees, affiliates, successors and assigns (collectively, the "Licensed Parties") the unrestricted, irrevocable, and perpetual worldwide right to record, copy, reproduce, publish, exhibit, perform and otherwise exploit (collectively, "use"), and license others to use in any and

all media now existing and hereinafter developed, without payment of additional compensation, my appearance, name, likeness, voice, and statements that I make in interviews connected with the Tournament, and any photographic, video or audio materials that I create during my participation in the Tournament (collectively, the "Property"), for any purpose, including but not limited to advertising and promotion. I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve any use of the Property or any materials including the Property.

2. The Licensed Parties shall have no liability to me relating to the use or publication, as set forth herein, of the Property for any reason. For myself and on behalf of my personal representatives, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, and next of kin, I hereby irrevocably release and exempt the Licensed Parties from and against all actions, claims and demands that I now have or may have in the future arising from or relating to any such use or publication of the Property.
3. Nothing herein obligates the Licensed Parties to make any use of any of the rights set forth herein. The rights granted shall not revert to me by reason of the Licensed Parties' lack of use and are irrevocable.

*By registering as a participant, you are consenting to our privacy policy and agreeing to grant The Marlin Group use of your personal information to send you newsletters, surveys, offers, and other emails that may be of interest on behalf of Marlin and our trusted partners. You can opt out or amend your email preferences at any time.*