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Dear Participants and Sponsors:

Thank you for your loyalty and your ideas. These tournaments were inspired by all of you. Someone asked me to do the Abaco Beach Blue Marlin Tournament. Then came the idea of the Production vs Custom Shootout. Next came the White Marlin Roundup. With each tournament came new challenges. The biggest challenge for me was “will the boats come?” To be honest, I never would have thought we would have this many boats here at the Abaco Beach Resort & Boat Harbour Marina fishing a White Marlin tournament. And the fishing has been exactly as the Captains told me it would be.

With the three tournaments being successful, we started the Abaco Diamond Series to award the boat that did the best overall, giving them the recognition they deserve. We added a trophy and a nice check to the winner, too!

One of the secrets to the success of these tournaments is Kevie and the Abaco Beach Resort. When you can have an air-conditioned tent to have your events in, that makes us all comfortable. No bugs, great food, cold drinks and good friends to party with!

It has been my pleasure to be the tournament director for these events. I love giving back to our great sport!

Catch-em-up,

Captain Skip Smith

P.S. Please read the rules for each tournament carefully.

Captain Skip Smith
The new Dometic is one brand, one promise. That promise is to provide smart, reliable products with outstanding design in the areas of Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, Sanitation, Shipwide Ventilation, Reverse Osmosis Systems – Fresh & Saltwater, and Fish-Box Ice Makers. So before you head out, head to dometic.com.
Skip’s Tournaments has expanded their platform to provide competitors an opportunity to show proficiency in three different billfish tournament formats. With this three leg series, the Committee awards the team whose prowess proves good enough to wear the series championship ring.

INCLUDED IN THE ABACO DIAMOND SERIES:

- White Marlin Roundup, April 10-13, 2019
- The Shootout: Production vs. Custom, May 15-18, 2019
- Abaco Beach Blue Marlin Tournament, May 29 - June 1, 2019

RULES

1. Participating teams must fish all three designated series tournaments to qualify.
2. The series championship shall be awarded to the team who obtains the highest combined score over the three tournament series (named above).
3. Participating teams must adhere to the Rules of each tournament leg. Failure to do so will be grounds for disqualification.
4. Participating teams assume all responsibility and fish at their own risk.

PRIZES

1. The first place team will be awarded a check (amount tbd*) A trophy will be awarded.
2. Each first place team member (4 total rings) will receive a custom-designed championship ring designed by Mark Lloyd of the renowned Vanmark Jewelry Designers of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

*Please note: the total cash prize purse will vary depending upon the number of entries received during the tournament series

U.S. COMPANY DISCLOSURE

Skip’s Tournaments is a U.S. based company and requires all payouts be submitted with an IRS Form 1099 Misc., even if the winnings are earned in a foreign country. If your team is entitled to a cash reward at the conclusion of a tournament, an IRS Form 1099 must be submitted to the Committee prior to receiving the award. Each tournament team must designate one representative payee to receive payment. Payment of “cash prizes/awards” is by check and will be written to the team’s representative. The Committee has up to one week after the conclusion of the tournament(s) to make payment(s) to the winner(s). The Tournament Committee accepts no responsibility for the division of cash rewards, or any other rewards between team members.
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THANK YOU!

To Skip, Smith-Merritt, and all involved in making this world class tournament series happen, we greatly appreciate all of your hard work so we can fish! Good luck to everyone, and have a great time fishing!
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Smith-Merritt.com
White Marlin Roundup
Schedule of Events

Wednesday, April 10th
3:00pm - 5:00pm  Registration
7:00pm  Kickoff- Cocktail Party Captain’s Meeting
8:00pm  Dinner & Cocktails

Thursday, April 11th
6:30am  Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 1 Fishing
4:30pm  Rum punch tent bar
7:00pm  Grill night!
Bring your meat, fish, chicken, etc. and our Chef will grill it for you! We will have all the side dishes - burgers and hotdogs available!

Friday, April 12th
6:30am  Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 2 Fishing
4:30pm  Rum punch tent bar
7:30pm  Dinner- You are on your own tonight. Help support the local restaurants!

Saturday, April 13th
6:30am  Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 3 Fishing
7:30pm  Awards Dinner

Photos courtesy of Debra Todd Photography
White Marlin Roundup
2019 Jackpot Schedule - $12,000

$2,000 - LARGEST WHITE MARLIN. 66” LJSL
PAYS 1ST & 2ND ONLY. 70/30 PAYOUT.

$2,000 - MOST BILLFISH RELEASED
ALL POINTS COMBINED. PAYS 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD. 50/30/20 PAYOUT.

$1,500 - FUN FISH DIVISION, $500 EA.
ENTER ONE OR ALL (MAHI, TUNA, WAHOO) WTA

$500 - TOP CAPTAIN & CREW. WTA

DAILY $6,000 - ALL BILLFISH POINTS COMBINED
$2,000 EACH DAY. PAYS 1ST & 2ND EACH DAY ONLY. 70/30 PAYOUT

2019 Trophies

1ST PLACE BOAT  2ND PLACE BOAT  3RD PLACE BOAT

Top Angler
Top Lady Angler
Top Jr. Angler
Top Captain
Top Crew
Largest Tuna
Largest Wahoo
Largest Mahi
Largest White Marlin
White Marlin Roundup Tournament Rules

The Captain’s Meeting will be held Wednesday, April 10th, 2019 at 7pm in the Tournament Tent at the Abaco Beach Resort, Marsh Harbour, Bahamas for all registered teams. A team representative must be in attendance as rules are subject to change.

All boats must stay at Boat Harbour Marina or enter & depart each day, with permission from the committee.

Any fish that is harvested, must be brought in on the boat on which the fish was caught.

1. PERMITS & LICENSES

   All teams must possess a Bahamas Fishing Permit and a Tournament Sticker. The Tournament Sticker will be located in your team package which you receive at registration. The Tournament Sticker is required to be adhered to your Bahamian fishing license.

2. FISHING HOURS

   The Tournament will begin with the call of “lines in” at 8:30am and continue until 4:30pm on April 11th, 12th and 13th, 2019. Fighting is allowed after the call of “lines out” is permitted, however all boats must be inside the marina before 7pm each evening - the Committee must have your catch affidavits and video by then. Any white marlin or gamefish requiring a weigh-in must be at the scales prior to closing at 7pm. There are no lay days or weather days, unless determined by the Committee. Fish at your own risk.

3. BOUNDARIES

   70-mile radius from the marina boundary.

4. ANGLING & EQUIPMENT

   a. International Billfish Tournament Regulations apply.

   b. Six anglers per team per day are permitted, with no restrictions. Teams are permitted to hook and hand, but only once, upon the initial hookup!

   c. To be eligible to compete as a Junior Angler, the angler must be 16 years old or under at the start of tournament registration.

   d. A maximum of six lines (with hooks) are permitted at any one time. An unlimited amount of hookless baits or teasers are allowed. “1st” hooks may be used on lures only. Natural baits must be deployed with non-offset circle hooks. No live bait allowed.

5. TOURNAMENT SPECIES

   White Marlin may be eligible for weigh-in, with a 66-inch lower jaw-to-fork length, 65 lb. minimum weight requirement, however only one per angler/two per boat may be harvested each day, with permission from the committee.

6. REPORTING OF BILLFISH

   A billfish hook-up must be called in to the “Committee Boat” within the first minute on VHF channel 71. The “Committee Boat” will validate your hook-up by announcement. A billfish release must be called in to the “Committee Boat” within 30 minutes of your call. Verification information: species released, boat name, angler name, and type of tag, if applicable. The “Committee Boat” will then verify your information by announcement and give you a release time, which must be recorded on your daily catch affidavit and turned in at the end of the fishing day, with your video evidence. It is unnecessary to call in any other species besides billfish. If you lose your fish prior to release (i.e. jump-off, pulled hook, etc.) please inform the “Committee Boat” as soon as possible.

7. REPORTING A KILL FISH

   If you call in a release, then you may not harvest your fish. Be sure of your intent before calling the catch in to the “Committee Boat”. Once you call in a “release” it is recorded as a release and cannot be changed. “Deck-checking” is not permitted. Once you have declared a kill you cannot change your mind. Call the “Committee Boat” of your intent, and again when it is landed. It is highly recommended you continue to capture your kill on video, although not required.

8. WHITE MARLIN WEIGH-IN

   Each team may kill only two fish per day. To qualify for weigh-in, the fish must have a lower jaw short length of 66” and 65 lbs. If the fish does not meet the minimum requirement, then the undersized fish is disqualified and no points will be awarded. Fish meeting the minimum requirement will be awarded 5 points per pound. Short billed, Local Mediterranean and Long billed Spearfish are not allowed for this tournament. The fish must be to be boated. A “Hatchet Marlin” and a “round scale marlin” will be considered a White Marlin for this tournament and may be boated.

9. GAMEFISH DIVISION WEIGH-IN

   Teams may weigh in one of each species per day. Scale hours are 4:30pm - 7pm each fishing day. Any fish eligible for weigh-in must be brought to the scales by a team representative, preferably the actual angler. In the event of a tie, we request you record your landed gamefish on the day’s catch affidavit, with the angler’s name and be in attendance as rules are subject to change.

10. CATCH & RELEASE RULES

   All billfish must be released to qualify. A billfish is considered released when: a) the swivel between the mainline or double line and leader hits the rod tip b) the mate grabs the leader or c) the wind-on leader comes through the rod tip. Please release the fish immediately after the wind-on leader comes through the rod tip. The angler must be the first to inform the Committee by calling out “release” followed by your boat name, angler name and the species caught. “Deck-checking” is not permitted. Once you call in a release, it is recorded as a release and cannot be changed. “Popping” the leader is not a good method of healthy release, and we ask that you refrain from doing so.

11. CATCH & RELEASE POINTS

   a. White Marlin: 325 points

   b. Blue Marlin: 150 points

   c. Spearfish: 150 points

   d. Sailfish: 25 points

   e. Unidentifiable Billfish: 25 points

   f. A “Hatchet Marlin” will be considered a White Marlin in this tournament and therefore is categorized as such.

   g. All ties will be broken on time.

12. CATCH & RELEASE VERIFICATION

   a. Identification Markers: each team will obtain a marker prior to the day’s fishing. This marker must be displayed during the fight and recorded. Failure to show the marker in your video proof will disqualify your catch, even if it is time-stamped.

   b. Release Verification Recordings - each team is required to show video evidence of billfish catch and release. This recording shall be time and date stamped and submitted to the Committee, which shall verify the hook-set or cutting the leader as close to the hook-set as possible. “Popping” the leader is not a good method of healthy release, and we ask that you refrain from doing so.

13. PAYMENT OF CASH AWARDS

   a. Participation in optional jackpots is not required to compete for awards.

   b. 90% of all optional jackpot fees are distributed in the form of cash prizes/awards except for the Gamefish and Captain/Crew categories (if applicable), where 100% of fees will be distributed.

   c. Participants wishing to pay optional jackpot fees, may pay by U.S. currency, check (payable to Skip’s Tournaments, LLC), or wire transfer.

   d. Cash awards for the Catch & Release divisions are determined by points as stated in these Rules.

   e. Heaviest Marlin (if applicable) divisions are determined by weight as stated in these Rules. In the event no qualifying fish are weighed, 100% of all fees collected for this/these division[s] will be refunded.

   f. Gamefish: If no gamefish are caught in any division then that category will be shared/split into the other divisions. If no gamefish are caught, then all money will be refunded at 100%.

   g. Please reference U.S. Company Disclosure in regard to award payouts.

11 • Skip’s Tournaments
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$3,000 - LARGEST BLUE MARLIN. 101” LJS.L
REFUNDABLE IF NO FISH CAUGHT.
PAYS 1ST & 2ND ONLY. 70/30 PAYOUT.

$1,000 - BILLFISH RELEASE DIVISION
ALL POINTS COMBINED. PAYS 1ST & 2ND & 3RD. 50/30/20.

$1,500 - FUN FISH DIVISION
ENTER ONE OR ALL (MAHI, TUNA, WAHOO) WTA

$1000 - TOP CAPTAIN & CREW. WTA

DAILY $6,000 - RELEASE
$2,000 EACH DAY. ALL BILLFISH POINTS COMBINED.
PAYS 1ST & 2ND EACH DAY ONLY. 70/30 PAYOUT

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<td>Largest Blue Marlin</td>
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The Shootout Production vs Custom
Schedule of Events

Wednesday, May 15th
3 - 5:00pm  Registration
7:00pm      Captain’s Meeting
7:30pm      Kickoff - Cocktail Party
8:00pm      Dinner & Cocktails

Thursday, May 16th
6:30am      Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 1 Fishing
4:30pm      Rum punch dock greeting
4:30 - 7:00pm  Weigh-in and video review
7:30pm      Grill night!
Bring your meat, fish, chicken, etc. and our Chef will grill it for you! We will have all the side dishes - burgers and hotdogs available!

Friday, May 17th
6:30am      Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 2 Fishing
4:30pm      Rum punch dock greeting
4:30 - 7:00pm  Weigh-in and video review
6:00 - 7:00pm  Hatteras Happy Hour
7:30pm      Dinner- You are on your own tonight. Help support the local restaurants!

Saturday, May 18th
6:30am      Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm  Day 3 Fishing
4:30 - 7:00pm  Weigh-in and video review
7:30pm      Cocktails
8:00pm      Awards Dinner at the Tournament Tent

Photos courtesy of Debra Todd Photography
The Captain’s Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 15th, 2019 at 7pm in the Tournament Tent at the Abaco Beach Resort, Marsh Harbour, Bahamas for all registered teams. A team representative must be in attendance, as rules are subject to change.

All boats must stay at Boat Harbour Marina or enter & depart each day, with permission from the committee.

Any fish that is harvested, must be brought in on the boat on which the fish was caught.

1. PERMITS & LICENSES

All teams must possess a Bahamas Fishing Permit and a Tournament Sticker. The Tournament Stickers will be located in your team package which you receive at registration. The Tournament Sticker is required to be adhered to your Bahamian fishing license.

2. FISHING HOURS

The Tournament will begin with the call of “lines in” at 8:30am and continue until 4:30pm on May 16th, 17th, and 18th, 2019. All boats must be inside the marina before 7pm each evening, as the Committee must have your catch affidavits and video by then. Any gamefish requiring a weigh-in must at the scales prior to closing at 7pm. There are no lay days or weather days, unless determined by the Committee. Fish at your own risk.

3. BOUNDARIES

There is a 70-mile boundary radius from the marina.

4. ANGLING & EQUIPMENT

a. International Billfish Tournament Regulations apply.

b. Six anglers per team per day are permitted, with no restrictions. Teams are permitted to hook and hand, but only once, upon the initial hookup!

c. To be eligible to compete as a Junior Angler, the angler must be 16 years old or under at the start of tournament registration.

d. A maximum of six lines (with hooks) are permitted at any one time. An unlimited amount of hookless baits or teasers are allowed. “J” hooks may be used on lures only. Natural baits must be deployed with non-offset circle hooks. No live bait allowed.

e. Maximum line 130 pound test.

5. TOURNAMENT SPECIES

Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish are eligible for catch and release. Tuna (Yellowfin and Blackfin only), Wahoo, and Dolphin (Mahi-Mahi) are eligible for weigh-in, with a 15 lb. minimum weight requirement.

6. REPORTING OF BILLFISH

A billfish hook-up must be called in to the “Committee Boat” within the first minute on VHF channel 71. The “Committee Boat” will validate your catch by announcement. A billfish release must be called in to the “Committee Boat” with the following information: species released, boat name, angler name, and type of tag, if applicable. The “Committee Boat” will then verify your information by announcement and give you a release time, which must be recorded on your daily catch affidavit and turned in at the end of the fishing day, with your video evidence. It is unnecessary to call in any other species besides billfish, if you lose your fish prior to release (i.e. jump-off, pulled hook, etc.) please inform the “Committee Boat” as soon as possible.

7. BLUE MARLIN WEIGH-IN

A boat may kill only one fish per day. To qualify for weigh-in, the fish must measure a minimum of 101” UL on day one. If the fish does not meet the minimum measurement requirement, then the angler must release the fish as disqualification and no points will be awarded. Fish meeting the minimum measurement requirement will be awarded 1 point per pound. This division only pays two place prizes. The fish must be brought to the weigh-in station on the boat it was caught on.

8. GAMEFISH DIVISION WEIGH-IN

Teams may weigh in one of each species per day. Scale hours are 4:30pm - 7pm each fishing day. The minimum weight of each species is 15 pounds. Any fish eligible for weigh-in must be brought to the scales by a team representative, preferably the actual angler. In the event of a tie, we request you record your landed fish on the weigh-in board, with the angler’s name and time boated. We love videos too! The gamefish division is a tournament-wide winner-take-all and is weight-benchmarked by the last largest fish brought in by species. Species benchmarks will be listed in the Tournament Standings board and announced by the “Committee Boat” prior to lines in each day. Each fish must be brought to the dock by the boat it was caught on! You may then “walk or roll” the fish to the weigh station.

9. CATCH & RELEASE RULES

All billfish must be released to qualify. A billfish is considered released when: a) the hook is displaced from the fish (i.e. the leader hits the fish and grabs the leader) or c) the wind-on leader comes through the rod tip. Please release the fish in good condition by either removing the hook-set or cutting the leader as close to the hook-set as possible. “Posing” the leader is not a good method of healthy release, and we ask that you refrain from doing so.

10. CATCH & RELEASE POINTS

a. Blue Marlin 400 points
b. White Marlin: 150 points
c. Spearfish: 150 points
d. Sailfish: 100 points
e. Unidentifiable Billfish: 100 points
f. A “Hatchet Marlin” is considered a Spearfish in this gamefish tournament and therefore is categorized as such.

g. All ties will be broken on time.

11. CATCH & RELEASE VERIFICATION

a. Identification Markers - each team will obtain a marker prior to the day’s fishing. This marker must be displayed during the fight and recorded. Failure to show the marker in your video proof will disqualify your catch, even if it is time-stamped.

b. Release Verification Recordings - each team is required to show a video evidence of billfish catch and release. This recording shall be time and date stamped in accordance with the “official time” as stated by the “Committee Boat” prior to each day’s fishing. Your video proof shall include: 1) registered and/or verified release, 2) proper identification marker, 3) sufficient footage of the fish to accurately determine the species, 4) proper release evidence - see Rule 8 above. All recordings submitted must be verified by the Committee. It is the team’s responsibility to have these items and the video cued up for immediate viewing. Failure to do so will delay the verification process. We highly recommend you have at least two recordings on different cameras, and underwater shots are the best way to accurately identify the species.

c. Billfish Release Affidavit - each billfish release is required to be noted on the day’s Affidavit and submitted with your video to the Committee each fishing day. Failure to turn in your Affidavit will disqualify that day’s catch(es). Affidavits are supplied with your registration package. If you do not have one for each day, please see the Committee for a replacement.

d. Submission of Recordings - Verification recordings must be submitted to the Committee by 4:30pm and 7pm each fishing day. All submissions should be easily viewed by any member of the Committee. Any video, recordings, images, sounds, etc. may become property of the Tournament and may be used at any time. Recordings and/or images will be downloaded from the team’s device(s), if needed. Please seeINSTRUCTIONS & SUGGESTIONS re: video attached.

e. Disputes or Protests - All disputes will be settled by the Committee. All decisions are final.

12. PAYMENT OF CASH AWARDS

a. Participation in optional jackpots is not required to compete for awards.

b. 90% of all optional jackpot fees are distributed in the form of cash prizes/awards except for the Gamefish and Captain/Crew categories (if applicable), where 100% of fees will be distributed.

c. Participants wishing to pay optional jackpot fees, may pay by U.S. currency, check (payable to Skip’s Tournaments, LLC), or wire transfer.

d. Cash awards for the Catch & Release divisions are determined by points as stated in these Rules.

e. Heaviest Marlin (if applicable): 150 points
f. Sailfish: 150 points
g. Spearfish: 150 points
h. White Marlin: 150 points

17 • Skip’s Tournaments
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Call Brian Komer: 305.304.1015

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66’ 2015 Viking
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Call Dave Meyer: 561.722.1047

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Call Dave Meyer: 561.722.1047

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Call Glenn Clyatt: 786.258.2434

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“Martha D” 52’ 2015 Viking
Call Dave Meyer: 561.722.1047

“Bluefin” 45’ 1996 Rybovich
Call Dave Meyer: 561.722.1047

“Rehab” 55’ 2001 Jarrett Bay
Call Tim Gredick: 843.607.7256

“T-ZZR” 44’ 1991 Garlington
Call Dave Meyer: 561.722.1047

Cat Power!

NEW 62’ Viking
Call Mike Scalisi: 954.650.3706

HMY.com
Abaco Beach Blue Marlin
Schedule of Events

Wednesday, May 29th
3:00 - 5:00pm        Registration
7:00pm               Captain's Meeting
7:30pm               Kickoff- Cocktail Party
8:00pm               Dinner & Cocktails

Thursday, May 30th
6:30am               Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm      Day 1 Fishing
4:30pm               Rum punch dock greeting
4:30 - 7:00 pm       Weigh-in and video review
7:30pm               Grill night!
                      Bring your meat, fish, chicken, etc. and our Chef will grill it for you! We will have all the side dishes - burgers and hotdogs available!

Friday, May 31st
6:30am               Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm      Day 2 Fishing
4:30pm               Rum punch dock greeting
4:30 - 7:00pm        Weigh-in and video review
7:30pm               Dinner- You are on your own tonight. Help support the local restaurants!

Saturday, June 1st
6:30am               Breakfast delivered
8:30am - 4:30pm      Day 3 Fishing
4:30 - 7:00pm        Weigh-in and video review
7:30pm               Cocktails
8:00pm               Awards Dinner at the Tournament Tent

Photos courtesy of Debra Todd Photography
Abaco Beach Blue Marlin  
2019 Jackpot Schedule - $30,000

LARGEST BLUE MARLIN. 101” LJS / LJS
REFUNDABLE IF NO FISH CAUGHT.  
$5,000 PAYS 1ST & 2ND ONLY. 70/30  
$1,000 PAYS 1ST & 2ND ONLY. 70/30

BILLFISH RELEASE DIVISION  
$5,000 PAYS 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD. 50/30/20  
$1,000 PAYS 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD. 50/30/20

TOP BOAT ALL POINTS COMBINED  
$1,000 - WTA

DAILY  
$3,000 - $1,000 PER DAY  
$12,000 - $4,000 PER DAY  
PAYS 1ST & 2ND EACH DAY ONLY. 70/30

FUN FISH  
$1,500, $500 EA  
ENTER ONE OR ALL (MAHI, TUNA, Wahoo) WTA

CAPTAIN & CREW  
$500

2019 Trophies

1ST PLACE BOAT 2ND PLACE BOAT 3RD PLACE BOAT

Top Angler  
Top Lady Angler  
Top Jr. Angler  
Top Captain  
Top Crew  
Largest Tuna  
Largest Wahoo  
Largest Mahi  
Largest Blue Marlin
The Captain’s Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 29th, 2019 during the kickoff dinner in the Tournament Tent at the Abaco Beach Resort, Marsh Harbour, Bahamas for all registered teams. A team representative must be in attendance, as rules are subject to change. All boats must stay at Boat Harbour Marina or enter & depart each day, with permission from the committee.

Any fish that is harvested, must be brought in on the boat on which the fish was caught.

1. PERMITS & LICENSES
All teams must possess a Bahamas Fishing Permit and a Tournament Sticker. The Tournament Sticker will be located in your team package which you receive at registration. The Tournament Sticker is required to be adhered to your Bahamian fishing license.

2. FISHING HOURS
The Tournament will begin with the call of “lines in” at 8:30am and continue until 4:30pm on May 30th, 31st, and June 1st, 2019. All boats must be inside the marina before 7pm each evening, as the Committee must have your catch affidavits and video by then. An angler may fight a fish until it is lost, released or boated so long as it was hooked and reported to the Committee Boat prior to lines out of the water. If you are hooked up after the closing of fishing on Day 1 or on Day 2, you may continue fighting the fish until you catch that fish. You will then have 2½ hours to get to the weigh station. A billfish caught after 12:00 midnight will count as a release or capture for the day it was hooked-up on Day 3 of fishing you will have until 9pm to get to the dock! No gamefish is eligible as a weigh-in if the fishing day is not up to 7.00pm.

5. TOURNAMENT SPECIES
a. Blue Marlin: 400 points
b. White Marlin: 150 points
c. Spearfish: 150 points
d. Sailfish: 100 points
e. Unidentifiable Billfish: 100 points
f. A “Hatchet Marlin” will be considered a Spearfish in this tournament and therefore is categorized as such.
g. All ties will be broken on time.

11. CATCH & RELEASE POINTS
a. Blue Marlin: 400 points
b. White Marlin: 150 points
c. Spearfish: 150 points
d. Sailfish: 100 points
e. Unidentifiable Billfish: 100 points

3. BOUNDARIES
There is a 70-mile boundary rule - radius from the marina.

4. ANGLING & EQUIPMENT
a. International Billfish Tournament Regulations apply.
b. Six anglers per team per day are permitted, with no restrictions. Teams are permitted to hook and hand, but only once, upon the initial hookup!
c. To be eligible to compete as a Junior Angler, the angler must be 16 years old or under at the start of tournament registration.
d. A maximum of six lines (with hooks) are permitted at any one time. An unlimited amount of hookless baits or teasers are allowed. “J” hooks may be used on lures only. Natural baits must be deployed with non-offset circle hooks. No live bait allowed.

6. REPORTING OF BILLFISH
A billfish hook-up must be called in to the “Committee Boat” as soon as possible on VHF channel 71. The “Committee Boat” will validate your hook-up by announcement. A billfish release must be called in to the “Committee Boat” with the following information: species released, boat name, angler name, and type of tag, if applicable. The “Committee Boat” will then verify your information by announcement, and give you a release time, which must be recorded on your daily catch affidavit and turned in at the end of the fishing day, with your video evidence. It is unnecessary to call in any other species besides billfish, if you lose your release (i.e. jump-off, pulled hook, etc.) please inform the “Committee Boat” as soon as possible. If you call in a release, then it will be recorded as a release. The time stamp of the digital image is the official release time and must be within (plus or minus) fifteen (15) minutes of the time reported by radio to the Committee Boat. If the timestamp of the identification of the fish is over fifteen minutes from the VHF call, then the release time will be moved to the time of the identification time.

7. REPORTING A KILL FISH
If you call in a release, then you may not kill your fish. Be sure of your intent before calling the catch in to the “Committee Boat”. Once you call in a catch recorded as a kill and cannot be changed “Deck-checking” is not permitted. Once you have decided you have a kill fish on the leader, please inform the “Committee Boat” of your intent, and again when it is landed. The fish’s measurements must be given in by 15 minutes of landing, and will be relayed to the fleet by the “Committee Boat”. It is highly recommended you continue to capture your kill on video, although not required.

8. BLUE MARLIN WEIGHT-IN
A boat may kill only one fish per day. To qualify for weigh-in, the fish must measure a minimum of 101” LJFL on day one. If the fish does not meet the minimum measurement requirement, then the undersized fish is disqualified and no points will be awarded. Fish meeting the minimum measurement requirement will be awarded 1 point per pound. This division only pays two places. The fish must be brought to the weigh-in station on the boat it was caught on!

If you call in a release, then you may not kill your fish. Be sure of your intent before calling the catch in to the “Committee Boat”. Once you call in a “release” it is recorded as a release and cannot be changed. “Deck-checking” is not permitted. Once you have decided you have a kill fish on the leader, please inform the “Committee Boat” of your intent, and again when it is landed. The fish’s measurements must be given in by 15 minutes of landing, and will be relayed to the fleet by the “Committee Boat”. It is highly recommended you continue to capture your kill on video, although not required.

9. GAMEFISH DIVISION WEIGHT-IN
Teams may weigh in one of each species per day. Scale hours are 4:30pm - 7pm each fishing day. The minimum weight of each species is 15 pounds. Any fish eligible for weigh-in must be brought to the scales by a team representative, preferably the actual angler. In the event of a tie, we request you record your landed gamefish on the day’s catch affidavit, with the angler’s name and time boated. We love videos too! The gamefish division is a tournament-wide winner-take-all and is weight-benchmarked by the last largest fish brought in by species. Species benchmarks will be listed on the Tournament Standings board and announced by the “Committee Boat” prior to lines in each day. Each fish must be brought to the dock by the boat it was caught on! You may then “walk or roll” the fish to the weigh station.

10. CATCH & RELEASE RULES
All billfish must be released. A billfish is considered released when: a) the swivel between the mainline or double line and leader comes through the rod tip. Please release the fish in good condition by either removing the hook-set or cutting the leader as close to the hook-set as possible. Popping the leader at the hook-set is NOT a good method of healthy release, and we ask that you refrain from doing so.

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c. Spearfish: 150 points
d. Sailfish: 100 points
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f. A “Hatchet Marlin” will be considered a Spearfish in this tournament and therefore is categorized as such.
g. All ties will be broken on time.

12. CATCH & RELEASE VERIFICATION
a. Identification Markers - each team will obtain a marker prior to the day’s fishing. This marker must be displayed during the fight and recorded. Failure to show the marker in your video proof will disqualify your catch, even if it is time-stamped.
b. Release Verification Recordings - each team is required to show video evidence of billfish catch and release. This recording shall be time and date stamped in accordance with the “official time” as stated by the “Committee Boat” prior to each day’s fishing. Your video proof shall include: 1) registered angler fighting the fish 2) proper identification marker 3) sufficient footage of the fish in order to accurately determine the species 4) proper release evidence - see Rule 10 above. All recordings submitted must be easily viewed by the Committee. It is the team’s responsibility to have these items and the video cued up for immediate viewing. Failure to do so will delay the verification process. If you have two or more recordings on different cameras, and underwater shots are the best way to accurately identify the species.
c. Billfish Release Affidavit - each billfish release is required to be noted on the day’s Affidavit and submitted with your video to the Committee each fishing day. Failure to turn in your Affidavit will disqualify that catch. Affidavits are recorded as a replacement.
d. Submission of Recordings - Verification recordings must be submitted to the Committee between 4:30pm and 7pm each day of catching. All recordings, regardless of sounds, etc. may become proper evidence of the Tournament and may be used at any time. Recordings and/or images will be downloaded from the team’s device(s), if needed. Please see

13. INSTRUCTIONS & SUGGESTIONS
Disputes or Protests - All disputes will be settled by the Committee. All decisions are final.
The Tower That Tops Them All

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