



The Tournament:

The BK Big Fish Tournament is a three-day multi-species event with prizes awarded for first, second and third heaviest for Wahoo, Dolphin & Yellowfin Tuna. There will also be an award for the first, second and third heaviest eligible fish caught by a registered Junior angler, Female angler with the heaviest eligible fish as well as additional prizes listed on the prize sheet.

A Blue Marlin release category is also included in this event. All boats wishing to compete in this category must carry with them a digital video camera to record releases.

Eligible Species:

Eligible species for the tournament include Blue Marlin, Wahoo, Dolphin, and Yellowfin Tuna. Minimum weights for each species are as follows: Blue Marlin release only, Wahoo 20lbs, Dolphin 20lbs, Yellowfin Tuna 30lbs.

Release Rules

Blue Marlin only, are eligible for release points. This is strictly a release category; any such fish being landed may result in a disqualification or some other penalty at the discretion of the Rules Committee.

For the purposes of release points, a fish is considered released when the mate has grabbed the leader or the swivel has made contact with the rod tip in an area above the covering board. The hook may then be removed or the leader cut. In order to qualify for marlin releases a minimum of two people must be on the boat. In order to score a release, a date and time stamped video of the fish must be presented to the Weigh Master or another Tournament Official during weigh station hours on the day of the release. Once you are certain you have a Blue Marlin hooked up, call Tournament Control and request a "Release Card". When the fish is at leader have a crew member hold the "Release Card" so the fish and "Release Card" are visible in the video. The video must identify the fish and "Release Card" and must also show the fish swimming away freely after the release. All fish eligible for release points will be scored as 100 points per release regardless of line class. Failure to abide by Billfish conservation rules may lead to disqualification by the Rules Committee. The winner will be determined as the boat with the greatest number of releases. In the event of a tie, the prize shall be awarded to the boat first reaching the winning point's total. The time used in determining all such awards will be Tournament Control radio log time.

Entry Fees:

1. The fee is CI\$200 per boat (up to four registered anglers), additional anglers may be registered at a cost of CI\$100 per additional angler. Junior Anglers are eligible for all prizes.
2. An optional meatfish jackpot will also be run in this tournament. Entry fee is CI\$100 per species. The pot for each species will be divided over the three fishing days and paid to the heaviest and second heaviest each day. The heaviest will receive 2/3 of the daily pot and the second heaviest will receive 1/3.

Schedule of Events

Event location: Weigh Stations are located at The Barcadere Marina in Grand Cayman and the Channel Wharf in Cayman Brac.

March 20th — Registration, captains meeting and kickoff party from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at George Town Yacht Club.

March 22nd, 23rd & 24th — Fishing day: 6 a.m. start, 4.00 p.m. lines out. Weigh Station open 4.00pm to 6.00pm.

March 25th — Awards Ceremony: 7.00pm at George Town Yacht Club.

Rules:

The governing rules for this Tournament will be IGFA rules. Fishing is restricted to within 12 miles of each island, Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, fishing offshore banks is prohibited. Wire lines are not permitted in this tournament.

Daily Fishing Hours:

Fishing will commence at 6.00 a.m. and end at 4.00 p.m. on each fishing day. Tournament control's time will act as the official time for the start, catch and release and end of fishing each day. The tournament committee reserves the privilege of changing starting and finishing times for any reason it deems necessary. A radio start will take place each morning at 6a.m.

Weigh-in:

The weigh station is located at The Barcadere Marina in Grand Cayman and the Channel Wharf in Cayman Brac. All fish for Tournament awards must be weighed on the same day caught. Weigh station hours are 4.00pm – 6.00pm on each Tournament day. The angler must be present when his/her fish is weighed.

Radio/Communications:

All participating boats must have a working VHF radio on board at all times. VHF channel 28 in Grand Cayman will be the frequency which will be used for all Tournament communications. The telephone number for Tournament Control is 916-0179. Boats fishing in the Sister Islands are required to call Tournament Control in Grand Cayman with all details of hook-up's and fish landed, lost or released. The use of cellular phones or satellite phones is an acceptable means of contact with Tournament Control. All hook-up's must be called in, and after landing or releasing all fish, the Captain shall as soon as possible report the species, line class, anglers name and the location. Fish should be called in within 10 lbs of the actual weight. Gross inattention when reporting weight can render the fish to be disqualified. Lost fish should also be reported to Control.

Tournament Control radio hours are 6.00am – 6.00pm on all Tournament days. The tournament control's time will act as the official time for the start, catch and release and end of fishing each day without exception. The Captain of each boat **MUST** check in and out with Tournament Control each day.

Boats

Any type of boat may be used in the Tournament. All participating boats shall have adequate safety equipment on board and must comply with the Port Regulations (2007 Revision), or any amendments thereto. For safety reasons, all boats must have a minimum of two people on board for the duration of all fishing hours.

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 fish that match the tournament's eligible species, then prizes will be awarded.

Protests:

All protests must be stated in writing. All protests will be settled the day of the incident. All protests must be in the hands of the tournament's designated rules official by 6.00 p.m. on the day of the alleged incident. The protesting party, as well as the accused team members, captain and crew, must be present in any official protest hearing. If the accused or protesting teams fail to show up for the protest hearing, they forfeit their right to be heard and will abide by the decision of the official tournament judges. All decisions of the official tournament judges are final.

Indemnity:

It is expressly understood that all those participating in the Tournament do so at their own risk. By registering as an angler in the Tournament, the angler holds harmless all participating Sponsors, the Tournament Committee, the Rules Committee, Tournament Judges, the organizers, it's sponsors and donors and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Tournament from any liability for libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm injury or death suffered by any participant, entrant, sports-fisherman, their companions, boat captains, crew members, family, vessels and equipment which may occur during the Tournament. All registered anglers chartering boats do so entirely at their own risk. By registering as an angler in the Tournament, the angler consents to the use by the Tournament organizers, without payment or restrictions, any photographs in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever, including, but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial or promotional material. The angler further releases the Tournament organizers from any injury, loss or damage which may result from the use of said pictures.

Special Regulations

The Tournament Committee wishes to stress the conservation of our marine resources. It is expected of all participants that only those fish weighed for Tournament awards or used for food purposes are kept. Other fish of all species should be carefully released.