

Tournament Rules

7th Annual Tournament Official Rules

Rules will be discussed at Captain's Meeting.

IGFA Rules Apply, with the exception that anyone may hook-up the billfish.

Entry Fees:

Level I Billfish Release - \$400 Level II Billfish Release- \$500 Level III Game fish - \$400

Level IV Grand Slam Jackpot - \$200 Level V Laney Howell Women's Billfish - \$300.00

(See entry form for credit card pricing)

REGISTRATION- All boats must be registered with the Tournament committee and entry fee paid prior to the first Tournament fishing day, to qualify for prizes and trophies. Any boat may be withdrawn or substituted prior to 6:00 PM on the day before the first fishing day of the Tournament. A full refund (less the credit card processing fee if applicable) will be given to boats withdrawn prior to that time. Any substitute boat must be registered with the Tournament committee and entry fee paid. Any boat paid and entered that suffers mechanical or other issues that render the boat inoperable may fish on a substitute boat provided the Hatteras Grand Slam Rules Committee approves the substitution prior to fishing. Refunds will be issued if, based on the reasonable judgment of the Hatteras Grand Slam Rules Committee, severe weather conditions warrant canceling the Tournament. Fishing by any one boat either day or part of a day constitutes a tournament.

FISHING TIME – No chum, bait, lines or teasers in the water before official fishing hours each day. Available fishing days are July 8th 2011 and July 9th 2011. Official fishing hours are 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. In the event that a boat is hooked up prior to 3pm, they will have until 5pm to bring the fish to leader.

BOUNDARIES- All boats fishing in the Hatteras Grand Slam must fish between LORAN coordinates East 26750, North 40500, and South 39800. All boats fishing the Hatteras Grand Slam must return through Hatteras Inlet Friday, July 8th 2011, and depart from Hatteras Inlet Saturday, July 9th 2011.

FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS- All boats entered must be in full compliance with all State and Federal Fisheries Regulations. NMFS Highly Migratory Species permits are required. All boats must also conform to state and federal regulations with regards to fishing licenses (including North Carolina's Coastal Recreational Fishing License if required) bait, tackle, size limits & possession limits. For more information - www.nmfspermits.com or (888)-872-8862. The use of any natural bait requires the use of circle hooks. J-hooks may be used with artificial lures only.

REPORTING - All billfish (blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, Hatchet Marlin, Swordfish and Spearfish) must be reported to the committee boat when hooked, lost, or released. Radio frequency shall be VHF channel 74. No hookup reporting is required for game fish.

MANDATORY ENTRY- You must enter Level I before you can enter any other level.

LEVELS I AND II – BILLFISH POINTS

BILLFISH POINTS - Winners of level I & II will be determined by release points. All species of billfish (Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish, Hatchet Marlin, Swordfish, and Spearfish) are worth 200 points for each release. In the event of a Level I and II release points tie, the winner will be determined by the first boat to reach the most points.

LEVEL III - GAMEFISH

TUNA, DOLPHIN, WAHOO "Gamefish" - The largest Tuna, Dolphin, and Wahoo will win the prize money allotted to each Gamefish species. In the event no Gamefish are entered for a particular species, the prize money allotted to that species will be split between the other Gamefish species. Official weights will be determined by the Official weight station, Hatteras Harbor Marina. Eligible Tuna species include Bluefin, Big Eye and Yellowfin. All Gamefish must be in fresh edible condition and weighed the day they are caught. Gamefish may be brought to the weigh station by boat or vehicle. Weigh station opens at 3:30 pm and closes at 6 pm July 8th and 9th 2011. Any boat that is not through the Marina cut by 6 pm will not be permitted to weigh a fish. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by the first fish weighed-in. All Gamefish must be weighed on the day they are caught. Hookup time for Gamefish should NOT be reported to Tournament Headquarters.

Yellowfin Tuna- 27" curved fork length, 3 per person per day. Permit required. www.nmfspermits.com.

Wahoo- 2 per person per day

Dolphin- 10 per person per day

LEVEL IV – GRAND SLAM JACKPOT

GRAND SLAM JACKPOT - To win the Grand Slam Jackpot, the boat must be the first to catch and release one Blue Marlin, one White Marlin and one Sailfish on the same day during the Tournament. If no boat does this during the Tournament, then all prize money for the Grand Slam Jackpot will be carried forward to the following year's Tournament and Tournaments thereafter until we have a winner for this level. Winner will be determined by the time of release for the last of the three fish. Polygraph tests may be administered to the Grand Slam Jackpot winners and others if requested by the Tournament Committee (Anglers, and/or Captain and/or mate) prior to the award of any prize money.

LEVEL V – LANEY HOWELL WOMEN’S BILLFISH RELEASE

LANEY HOWELL WOMEN’S BILLFISH - Winner of level V will be determined by release points of fish caught by female anglers. Only billfish caught by female anglers apply to this level. All species of billfish (Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish, Hatchet Marlin, Swordfish, and Spearfish) are worth 200 points for each release. In the event of a Level V release points tie, the winner will be determined by the first boat to reach the most points.

RELEASE DOCUMENTATION - Released billfish must be attested to by signature of the angler, boat captain and one crewmember on board the boat at the time of the release on the Official Release Form provided by the Tournament Committee. This form shall be turned in to the official Tournament desk at Hatteras Harbor Marina by 6:00 PM on Friday, July 8th and by 6:00 PM on Saturday, July 9th. Release forms must be turned in the day the fish is released to qualify. To be considered a release, the mate or crewmember must touch the leader before the fish is released. All leaders must not exceed 30 feet. In the event of a tie, the first boat to achieve the winning total shall be declared the winner. Polygraph tests may be administered to the top money winners and others if requested by the Tournament Committee (Anglers, and/or Captain and/or mate) prior to the award of any prize money.

GENERAL RULES- IGFA rules apply, except that anyone other than the angler may hook a fish, however, once the angler is in possession of the rod, it must be brought to leader or gaff by that angler. No Greensticks or use of hydraulic reels (except for use in pulling teasers and dredges) are allowed. Kites, Planers and Spreader Bars are allowed.

RULES MEETING- At least one person from each boat is required to attend the Captains Meeting on Thursday July 7th 2011, the Captain’s Meeting will start at 7:00 pm.. Registration will continue until 8:00 PM at The Hatteras Civic Center and is responsible for knowing the Tournament rules, including any changes that may take place at the Captains Meeting. Failure to attend the Captains Meeting shall not result in disqualification, however, late registrants and boats failing to attend the Captains Meeting are still bound by any rule clarification or changes made at the Captains Meeting.

PRIZE MONEY- Prize money checks will be made payable to the person or entity so indicated on the registration form of the winning boat. Social security number or Taxpayer ID number of the recipient must be provided on the entry form. All prize money checks will be mailed within 14 business days from the last day of the Tournament.

PROTEST- Any dispute must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Rules Committee by 6:00 PM on the last fishing day. All decisions by the Hatteras Grand Slam Rules Committee will be final.

REFUNDS- In the event that no qualifying fish are caught in any entry Level (Levels I & II – Billfish Release, Level III – Gamefish, or Level 4 – Grand Slam Jackpot), all prize money from that Level will be retained and added to the following year’s purse to the prize schedule established by the Hatteras Grand Slam Rules Committee. .

DISQUALIFICATION - Any boat breaching any of the above Tournament Rules will be disqualified. Decisions of the Rules committee and Board of Directors are final and binding on all participants and owners.

WEIGHT ALTERATION - Attempted weight alteration of any Gamefish will automatically disqualify the boat from the Tournament. IGFA rules regarding mutilated fish apply to any fish weighed. The Rules Committee reserves the right to cut open any fish for inspection of suspected weight altering efforts such as inserted weights, ice, water, etc.

FORUM SELECTION/INDEMNIFICATION- By entering the Tournament, all participants, owners of vessels or pro hoc owners of vessels, consent and agree that the federal and state courts for Dare County, North Carolina, shall serve as the sole venue for all litigation and disputes arising out of a person or vessel’s participation in the Tournament. In the event any dispute results in litigation, the participants agree that the Hatteras Grand Slam Tournament, the Tournament Committee, the Hatteras Grand Slam Rules Committee, and the Hatteras Grand Slam Tournament organizers (collectively the “Tournament Organizers) shall not be a party to such litigation and that the litigation shall be maintained between the participants and/or boat owners. The sole responsibility of the Tournament Organizers shall be to pay the disputed prize money into the court in which such litigation is pending, or by paying the disputed prize money into a court of proper jurisdiction by bill of interpleader and the parties to such litigation agree to indemnify the Tournament Organizers for any and all expenses (including attorneys fees) incurred by the Tournament Organizers. If a participant does not secure the signature of the vessel’s owner and/or pro hoc owner for this agreement, the participant(s) agrees to indemnify the Tournament Organizers against all claims brought by the owner and or pro hoc owners of the vessel(s).

HMS PERMITS - All boats must have one of the following valid permits - HMS Angling (recreational), HMS Charter/Headboat, or Atlantic Tunas General Category Permit (commercial). Permits will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2011. Permits must be on board the vessel when engaged in fishing. The HGS is a registered recreational HMS Tournament.

Acceptance of Tournament Rules: _____ Signature

Title: _____

Date: _____/_____/2011