



THE BONFIRE TOURNAMENT RULES & GUIDELINES

Overview

The GHO Beach Bash & Bonfire Tournament will take place from Thursday June 25, 2015 until Sunday June 28, 2015 at The GHO Old Bahama Bay Resort in West End, Bahamas. This is a 2 day tournament format with Fishing taking place on Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th.

Registration: This is a boat tournament with an early entry fee of \$250 per angler, with a minimum of 4 anglers and a maximum of 6. Early entry fee ends May 25, 2015. After May 25th entry fee is \$350 per Angler.

Lines In/Out: All boats must checkout from the Old Bahama Bay Yacht Harbor Marina. Checkout begins at 5 am with lines in at 6 am each day. Lines out are at 3 pm each day. Scales will open at 3pm each day and close at 6pm. All boats must be entered into marina basin by 6pm for your fish to count. A tournament representative will be at marina entrance to verify time of entry after 5:30 pm.

Captain's Party

The Welcome Party will start at 1 PM Thursday June 25th at the Old Bahama Bay Yacht Harbor Marina followed by the Captains Meeting at 6 pm that same evening in the Aqua Lounge. The Captain from each boat must be present and sign in the boat before the Captains meeting.

Signing the Entry & Release Form

- Each angler executing the tournament entry and release agrees to follow the Tournament Rules & Guidelines
- The tournament and/or its sponsors may use without payment or restrictions any photographs or video in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial or promotional material.

- All anglers are required to sign their entry blank form as certification that they have read and agreed to abide by all rules and the above liability release.
- All participants acknowledge that they recognize that there inherent risks and dangers in any event involving boating and fishing in the ocean including weather conditions, sea conditions, unexpected obstacles, dangers from other boaters, equipment failures, and other known and unknown hazards. By participating in the tournament anglers expressly understand that all participants enter at their own risk and that Guy Harvey Outpost and Old Bahama Bay Resort & Marina and all collective officers and directors and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operations of the tournament shall be exempt from any and all liability libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, personal injury or death, including attorney fees, by any participant, entrant, sport fisherman or their companions, boat captains, mates, crew members, guests, vessels and equipment which may occur during any part of the tournament. All participants recognize that they must exercise their own judgment based on their own boat, equipment and abilities whether or not to participate or fish in this tournament in any capacity. It is the sole duty of the Captain of each vessel involved to express these rules and release to all of their crew and guests for this tournament.

Tournament Format

Target species will include: Dolphin, Wahoo, Kingfish, Blackfin Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna, Marlin, and Sailfish. All Bahamian bag limits and release requirements must be followed for each species. A minimum of 10 pound limit for tournament qualification is required. Any fish under 10 pounds are highly encouraged to be released. Please abide by this request. All fish must be in whole condition. No mutilated fish are eligible to be weighed.

This will be a “fun fish” Tournament with an added Billfish category. Boats are limited to weighing 6 “fun fish” total (Dolphin, Wahoo, Kingfish, Blackfin & Yellowfin Tuna) in the 2 day tournament, with a limit of 2 fish per species per day for a total aggregate weight of any 6 funfish for the grand prize winner. A heaviest single fish of each species (Dolphin, Wahoo, Kingfish, Blackfin Tuna & Yellowfin Tuna) will be awarded as well. Points will be awarded for Billfish releases for the Billfish grand prize winner. All billfish must be released.

Fun Fish category will be scored by the total aggregate weight of any 6 funfish for the two days with a limit of 2 fish per species weighed each day towards the aggregate 6 total with the heaviest 2 fish over the two day period counted. A Heaviest fish category will apply for each species (Dolphin, Wahoo, Kingfish, Blackfin & Yellowfin Tuna) over the course of the two day tournament. Boats must bring ALL fish caught that day to the scales to be weighed and for a photo op. Fish will be marked and returned to the boat.

Billfish releases will be scored at 100 points per Sailfish release and 200 points per White Marlin release and 300 points per Blue Marlin release. An additional 500 points will be awarded to anyone who releases a “Slam” of all 3 Billfish over the 2 day period of fishing. No limit on number of releases. The Highest total release points wins the Billfish division. All Billfish

releases must be videoed with the official tournament release card clearly visible when the mate touches the leader or leader swivel touches the tip of the rod. The fish must be clearly identifiable as well without being taken out of the water. Releases must be called in to the tournament director on a channel to be decided at the captains meeting. The captain will then be given an official time and number to mark on their release card. All boats will receive an official tournament release card at the captains meeting to be returned after the first day of fishing at weigh in. They will be then given another one for the second day of fishing at that time to be turned in upon the second days weigh in along with all video of releases.

Weighing and Scoring

All scorecards must be filled out completely before handing in to the scorekeeper. Failure to do so could result in disqualification. No Exceptions!

Anglers must provide their own digital camera with memory card or clearly visible phone picture. The picture must be clear and show the head of the fish and the pinched tail against the tournament provided measuring device. The entire fish must be shown with no obstructions of hands and/or fingers.

All Captains will get official scorecards at the Captains Meeting and will return them to the scorekeeper on Sunday afternoon immediately after returning to port. Scales and scorekeeper closes at 5pm. NO EXCEPTIONS. After 5 no more score cards will be accepted.

Awards

-Overall Funfish Winner: Aggregate of any 6 Funfish

-Heaviest Funfish Overall:

Wahoo

Tuna

Dolphin

Kingfish

-Billfish Winner:

Most release points

-Female Angler:

Heaviest single fish

-Junior Angler:

Heaviest single fish

*All ties will be broken by time the fish was weighed or released determined by the tournament

directors release time given over radio.*

Boundaries

No Boundaries, but boats must remain in Bahamian waters.

Boats and Gear

All boats, any engine configuration is eligible. A maximum of 6 lines in the water at any one time per boat. Wire lines are permitted. Planers, downriggers, and kites are allowed. NO electric reels allowed for catching fish. Electrics are only allowed to fly kites or run downriggers/planers with short kite rod configurations only. All hooked lines being on manual rod and reel set ups. All proper Fishing Licenses and permitting are required as per Bahamian Law. All Bahamian Laws must be followed. All IGFA Rules and guidelines must be followed except ones stated otherwise by the BBBT. No exceptions.

All boats may be inspected at any time at tournaments discretion, including but not limited to holds, coolers, and all compartments. All fish must remain in whole, fresh, non-mutilated condition and may not leave the boat until they have been brought to the dock for weigh in. No Anglers may change boats at any time during the tournament. All fish may be inspected at any time in any manner seemed necessary by the tournament committee and at random after being weighed, including cutting open and inspecting stomach contents, etc...

Chumming: No live chumming permitted. Live bait cannot be hit on side of boat and stunned to be thrown overboard. All live bait if not on a hook and line being fished or in a live well must be dead before being thrown overboard. No boat may chum for another boat at any time.

Protests

All protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director by 7pm on Saturday with a \$100 nonrefundable cash donation to the Ocean Foundation.

Cancellation

Cancellation of the tournament is up to the tournament committee. In case of bad weather the tournament will be turned into a 1 day format at the tournament committee's choice of which day will be fished. This is a Captain's Choice tournament. Each captain is solely responsible for the safety of his or her vessel and crew at all times. Captains and crews are responsible for following any federal, state and local fishing or boating laws. We encourage all Captains to heed any weather warnings or dangerous weather conditions, as safety is paramount. It is up to each

Participant to determine whether their craft is seaworthy for the conditions of any given fishing day. Go/No Go weather decisions will be made by the Tournament Committee, but the decision to take a boat to sea is left to the Captain of the vessel who is legally responsible for the safety of the vessel and its crew. SAFETY ALWAYS COMES FIRST. Due to the high costs associated with the tournament and festivities organized there will be no refunds given of any kind for any reason.

****By signing this entry all anglers agree to follow all tournament rules and release of any and all liability****

Release of any and all liability:

All participants acknowledge that they recognize that there inherent risks and dangers in any event involving boating and fishing in the ocean including weather conditions, sea conditions, unexpected obstacles, dangers from other boaters, equipment failures, and other known and unknown hazards. By signing the entry form I/We acknowledge that it is expressly understood that all participants enter at their own risk and that Guy Harvey Outpost and Old Bahama Bay Resort and all collective officers and directors and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operations of the tournament shall be exempt from any and all liability libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, personal injury or death, including attorney fees, by any participant, entrant, sport fisherman or their companions, boat captains, mates, crew members, guests, vessels and equipment which may occur during any part of the tournament. All participants recognize that they must exercise their own judgment based on their own boat, equipment and abilities whether or not to participate or fish in this tournament in any capacity. It is the sole duty of the Captain of each vessel involved to express these rules and release to all of their crew and guests for this tournament. _____ **Initial here**

_____ **Name of Boat**

_____ **Signature of Captain**

_____ **Date**