



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 awards for fish caught by registered Junior anglers, Female anglers as well as additional prizes listed on the tournament flyer.

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, Yellowfin Tuna and Barracuda. Minimum weights for each species are as follows: Blue Marlin release only, Wahoo 15lbs, Dolphin 15lbs, Yellowfin Tuna 20lbs and Barracuda no minimum (Barracuda are only eligible for Heaviest Barracuda Each Day prize).

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, or the connecting knot between the main line and leader has passed through the first rod guide. The hook may then be removed or the leader cut. In order to score a release, a date and time stamped video of the fish must be presented to and verified by 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 crewmember hold the "Release Card" so the fish and "Release Card" are visible in the video. The video must clearly 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 300 points per release regardless of line class. Failure to abide by Billfish conservation rules may lead to disqualification by the Rules Committee. The winner of prizes including Blue Marlin releases will be determined as the boat with the greatest number of release points. 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 tournament's base entry fee is CI\$350 per boat (up to four registered anglers, if the Captain wishes to fish they must also be registered as an angler), additional anglers may be registered at a cost of CI\$100 per additional angler. Juniors must be registered but are allowed free entry to the tournament and do not count toward the 4 members that comprise a team.
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.
3. Teams may also register for the optional Break The Weight Challenge. Entry fees for the BTWC are Tuna \$200, Wahoo \$200 and Dolphin \$200. The team catching the heaviest fish above the target weight for each respective species will be awarded the entire BTWC Pot for that species.

Schedule of Events:

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

March 12th — Registration, Captains meeting and kickoff party from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at George Town Yacht Club & Captains Table.

March 13th, 14th, 15th — Fishing days: 6:00 a.m. start, 4:00 p.m. lines out. Weigh Station open 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

March 16th — Awards Ceremony: 7:00pm at George Town Yacht Club.

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 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 stations are located at The Barcadere Marina in Grand Cayman and the Channel Wharf in Cayman Brac. Weigh station hours are 4:00pm – 6:00pm on each Tournament day.

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. The tournament committee reserves the right to change fishing dates based on weather forecasts in the interest of safety.

Rules:

1. The governing rules for this Tournament will be IGFA Saltwater Angling Rules (www.igfa.org) in conjunction with the rules specified in this document. Fishing is restricted to within 12 miles of each island, Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, fishing offshore banks is prohibited with the exception of 12 mile bank. Wire lines are not permitted in this tournament. It is the responsibility of each registered Captain, Angler and crew member to know, understand and abide by IGFA and CIAC tournament rules during this tournament.
2. All fish entered in the Tournament must be caught by registered anglers.
3. For the purposes of record fish, the relevant records are those current records in effect the day prior to the start of the Tournament. In line with IGFA regulations, in order to qualify as a new record, the weight must exceed the existing record by at least half of one percent.
4. All fish qualifying for any prize shall be subject to verification as to having been caught in compliance with all rules and regulations of this Tournament. The Rules Committee reserves the right to employ verification procedures at its own discretion including but not limited to the use of polygraph tests and consultation with any local or visiting marine biologist.
5. All cash prizes are in Cayman Islands dollars.
6. Fishing with live bait, as well as the use of kites is permitted.
7. There is no limit as to the number of lines which may be fished by each angler or from each boat.
8. 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, 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.
9. All fish for Tournament awards must be weighed on the same day it is caught prior to weigh station closing. The angler must be present when his/her fish is weighed.
10. It is expressly understood that all those participating in the Tournament do so at their own risk. By registering as a participant in the Tournament, the participant holds harmless all participating Sponsors, the Tournament Committee, the Rules Committee, Tournament Judges, the organizers, its 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.
11. By registering as a participant in the Tournament, the participant consents to the use by the Tournament organizers, without payment or restrictions, any photographs or videos in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever, including, but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial or promotional material. The participant further releases the Tournament organizers from any injury, loss or damage which may result from the use of said pictures.

12. 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 secondary contact with Tournament Control. **All hook-up's must be called in, when the hookup is called in the team is required to state the name of the angler fighting the fish. After landing or releasing all fish, the Captain shall as soon as possible report the species, line class, anglers name and the short length of any landed fish. Measuring tapes have been provided in the Captain's Bucket, it is the teams responsibility to have a measuring tape and accurately call in the short length of each fish caught.** Lost fish should also be reported to Control. Fish not called in to Tournament Control or called in without all required information listed above will not be weighed. Tournament Control radio hours are 6.00am – 6.00pm on all Tournament days. 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.

13. Travel between Grand Cayman and the Sister Islands is not permitted on fishing days.

14. The entry fee for the Tournament is CI\$350 per boat of up to 4 anglers. The entry fee entitles the anglers to enter fish caught by him/her during fishing hours on all Tournament days. No refunds of entry fees will be made for any cause after the first day of the Tournament. Each boat and anglers must register online and be registered by 8:00pm the day prior to fishing. Save in exceptional circumstances, anglers are not permitted to change boats for the duration of the tournament. If an exceptional event occurs, such as engine failure, permission to change boats must be received from the Tournament Committee prior to fishing. The composition of a team must remain the same for the duration of the tournament.

15. A registered junior angler is a boy or girl who has not attained age 17 on the day of the start of the Tournament. Junior Anglers are eligible for all prizes in this tournament.

16. Sanctioned tournaments during the BK Big Fish (Meatpots and Break the Weight Challenge) have their own prize lists and separate entry fees for those who choose to participate. In order to participate in the sanctioned tournaments anglers must first be registered with the BK Big Fish.

17. In the event of a tie, the prize shall be awarded to the angler, boat or team first landing the winning fish or first reaching the winning points total as the case may be. The time used in determining all such awards will be Tournament Control radio log time.

18. A registered angler may not qualify as both angler and boat captain in catching any fish.

19. The Cayman Islands Angling Club, reserves the right to refuse entry to any angler and/or boat.

20. All protests must be filed in writing or electronically (email, text message, etc) with Tournament Control before closure of the weigh station on the day of the alleged offence. Any pictures/videos or supporting evidence must be submitted with the protest. The Rules Committee will consult with both the protesting and protested party to make a ruling on the protest. If either party refuses to consult with the Rules Committee they forfeit their rights of representation in the protest process. All fish caught on the protested boat on the day that a protest has been upheld by the Rules Committee, will be automatically disqualified, unless, the Rules Committee in their sole discretion decide otherwise.

21. The Rules Committee will decide on appropriate penalties based on the rules that have been broken. These penalties may include the boat and or anglers being banned from participating in future events. All decisions of the Rules Committee shall be final.

22. "Spirit of the Tournament" – All fishing, conduct, protests and rulings are to be within the intentions and spirit of the Tournament. The tournament is intended to be enjoyable, in good fellowship, and for everyone to have a good time. Unacceptable conduct (ashore or at sea), unfounded protests, etc. will be strongly considered as grounds for exclusion from the tournament in future years.

23. 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.

24. Entry to the Meatfish Jackpot is per specie. Total entry fees (the pot) for each specie pot is divided by the number of fishing days (3) to be paid out for the heaviest and second heaviest eligible fish each day. Two thirds of each daily amount is paid to the heaviest eligible meatpot species fish and one third of the daily amount is paid to the second heaviest eligible species fish. If no eligible fish are caught on either day the pot for that specie will be recalculated based on the number of days that eligible species were caught. For example, if no Wahoo were caught on day 1 the total Wahoo pot would be divided by 2 and then paid to the eligible fish caught on day 2 and day 3. If only 1 eligible fish is caught on any day that fish will be awarded the total daily pot.

25. The Break The Weight Challenge is an optional category within this tournament. Target weights for the BTWC are 60 pounds for Wahoo, 85.2 pounds for Yellowfin Tuna and 48.2 pounds for Dolphin. The team with the heaviest eligible fish for each species over the target weight will receive the entire pot for the respective specie. The starting values for each pot are as follows, Wahoo-\$4,200.00, Yellowfin Tuna- \$4,060.00 and Dolphin-\$3,080. The payout for each pot will be a combination of the starting value plus all entries for the respective specie. For example if 10 teams register for the Dolphin BTWC, the total pot will be \$5,000.00 (\$3,000.00 starting value + \$2,000.00 additional registered teams).