

Hawaii Big Game Fishing Club
Rock 'n Reel Hawaiian Open
Official Rules

DATES: June 7 - 9, 2024

ENTRY FEE: \$750 per boat/team (80% payout). Boat/team consists of a maximum of 4 anglers and 2 crew. Additional anglers over 4 will be \$25 per person.

OPTIONAL ENTRIES: All boat/teams must be entered in the tournament to participate in the Optional Entries (see Awards for Optional Entry Fees).

REGISTRATION AND PACKET PICK-UP: Registration location will be at the HBGFC club house from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Friday, June 9, 2023. Any pre-registered teams should check in at the HBGFC club house during this time for confirmation and to receive their packets. NO registration will be accepted after 8:00 pm on June 9th.

BRIEFING: No official briefing will be given, however any questions that you have may be asked and answered at the tournament registration on Friday, June 9, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the HBGFC club house.

FISHING DAYS AND START/STOP TIMES: The fishing days are Saturday, June 8, 2024 and Sunday, June 9, 2024. The Start/Stop times will be announced on the radio. Start fishing is 7:00 am (GREEN BUOY START BOTH DAYS), stop fishing 3:00 pm, and dock time is 6:00 pm on both days.

All fish must be hooked by the time of the "stop fishing" signal each day. In the event a fish is still hooked at the call of stop fishing, the angler may keep fighting the fish until the fish is tagged and released, boated or lost. Tournament radio control must be notified that the team is hooked up prior to stop fishing signal being called or the fish will be disqualified.

Any boat with a qualifying fish must be in the mouth of Honokohau Harbor by 6:00 pm or the fish will be disqualified, unless they were hooked up prior to stop fishing and had reported to the tournament radio control, at which time they are allowed to fight the fish until boated, tagged and/or released, or lost. Teams with fish to weigh or released fish to qualify may NOT have any lines in water after 3:00 PM.

FISHING AREA: The area is limited to fish caught between a line due west of Upolu Point (the northern tip of the Big Island) and a line due south of Humuhumu Point (Near the southern tip of the Big Island). A grid chart will be furnished.

RULES AND GENERAL ISSUES: IGFA Rules will apply to all catches. All IGFA line classes, up to 130 pound, will be treated equally.

Only fish caught on rod and reel, trolling or drift fishing, will qualify. Live bait may not be passed between boats and cannot be caught prior to the start of fishing. Live bait and dead bait must be rigged with "non-offset tournament legal" circle hooks only. Lures can be rigged with conventional hooks.

Each angler must complete a Fish Catch form, which is supplied in the tournament bags at registration. The form must be completed and turned in at the end of the fishing day. No form, no points! The angler must furnish, upon request, the lure, leader, rod, reel, and/or the terminal tackle with which the fish was caught.

Re-weighing of any fish is left solely to the discretion of the judges and rules committee.

The rules committee has the right to investigate and act upon any incident occurring during the tournament. They shall have the right to disqualify any capture following examination and measurement of tackle and equipment used on the boat, including fish boxes. Any protest, concerning the validity of any catch, must be filed in writing, signed by the team captain and hand delivered to the rules committee not later than midnight of the day of the catch. The decision of the rules committee is final.

Tournament Control will operate on VHF Channel 68. No CBs will be used. Boat round-ups will be held at 10:00 am, 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm. All hookups must be called in to Tournament Control. If a tournament boat is out of range, the hookup must be relayed via radio. All Tournament boats must radio in to tournament control as "secure" when the boat has returned to Honokohau Harbor at the end of the fishing day.

SCORING: This is a Total Points Team Tournament.

Boated Marlin over 400 pounds are eligible for points, 1 point per pound (410 pound marlin = 410 points).

Boated Ahi over 100 pounds are eligible for points, 3 points per pound over 100 pounds (110 pound ahi = 30 points).

Boated Mahimahi over 20 pounds are eligible for points. 1 point per pound, over 20 pounds (25 pound mahimahi = 5 points).

Boated Ono over 20 pounds are eligible for points. 1 point per pound, over 20 pounds (25 pound ono = 5 points).

Released Blue or Black Marlin = 250 points.

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Released Striped Marlin, Sailfish or Spearfish = 50 points.

It is not required to physically "tag" any billfish to receive the released points mentioned above. A release is defined by options A and B of the IGFA Release Rules. They state that:

"IGFA will consider a fish officially released when one of the following actions is completed:

- A. The mate is able to grab the leader (or)
- B. The swivel hits the rod tip"

In order for a released fish to qualify, teams must send a video to Tournament Control that clearly shows: the Release meets the IGFA requirements (either someone on-board with the leader in hand or the swivel at the rod tip), the species of the fish, the hand sign given from Tournament Control, and the fish swimming away from the boat.

Videos should be sent within a reasonable amount of time, to Tournament Control at 808-430-4000 or 808-747-7852. If video cannot be sent to Tournament Control during the fishing day, video must be verified on the dock, of the same day as the catch.

Although it is not required to physically "tag" any billfish, teams can earn additional points by tagging, and then releasing their fish.

Teams may not earn stand alone tag points— tag points can only be earned in addition to release points!

In order to earn the additional tag points, all tagged, and then released fish must send a video to Tournament Control that clearly shows: the Release meets the IGFA requirements (either someone on-board with the leader in hand or the swivel at the rod tip), the species of the fish, the tag visible, the hand sign given from Tournament Control, and the fish swimming away from the boat.

Tagged Blue or Black Marlin = 15 additional points (tagged & released blue marlin = 265 points).

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Tagged Striped Marlin, Sailfish or Spearfish = 5 additional points (tagged & released spearfish = 55 points).

Total points accumulated through both days of the tournament will determine the *Grand Champion Fishing Team*.

Total points accumulated daily will determine the Daily Optional winner.

In the event there is a tie for most points, prize monies will be split equally between the tied teams, up to four places, based on time.

In the event there is a tie for Most Tagged & Released Points, the merchandise prize will go to the team that arrived with the most points first.

In the event there is a tie for most points in the Daily Optionals, prize monies will be split equally between the tied teams, up to four places, based on time.

In the event there is a tie for Heaviest Fish, the length, based on the short measurement of the fish, will determine the winner.

In the event there is no qualifying marlin or points either day, the Dailies will roll forward or backward.

In the event there is no qualifying marlin boated either day, the Dailies will be refunded (at 90%).

AWARDS

CASH PRIZES:

(based on 50 teams) - \$30,000 (80% payout)

Most Tagged & Released Points - 10% = \$3,000

Balance = \$27,000

1st Place Team - 50% = \$13,500

2nd Place Team - 25% = \$6,750

3rd Place Team - 15% = \$4,050

MERCHANDISE PRIZES:

Largest Qualifying Marlin - TBD

Largest Qualifying Ahi - TBD

Largest Qualifying Mahimahi - TBD

Largest Qualifying Ono - TBD

Most Tagged & Released Points - TBD

OPTIONAL ENTRIES:

*90% payout of the optional entry fees.

The Most Points of the Day

(If you are entering Dailies, you must enter both days.)

\$100 Daily Entry Fee = \$200 Total Entry Fee

\$300 Daily Entry Fee = \$600 Total Entry Fee

\$500 Daily Entry Fee = \$1000 Total Entry Fee

\$1000 Daily Entry Fee = \$2000 Total Entry Fee

The Largest Marlin of the Day

(If you are entering Dailies, you must enter both days.)

\$100 Daily Entry Fee = \$200 Total Entry Fee

\$300 Daily Entry Fee = \$600 Total Entry Fee

\$500 Daily Entry Fee = \$1000 Total Entry Fee

\$1000 Daily Entry Fee = \$2000 Total Entry Fee