

**WHITE MARLIN INVITATIONAL  
TOURNAMENT RULES**

- 1. By entering this Tournament, the angler holds harmless the Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club, its members and affiliates from any and all liability.**
- 2. An angler or boat will be disqualified for such cause as misconduct, unsportsmanlike behavior or any other incident deemed inappropriate by the Committee.**
- 3. All I.G.F.A. rules for fishing and tackle will apply in addition to Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club Tournament rules: Included, but not limited to:  
No Fang Hooks, No Hook and Hand, No spreader bars, other than spreader bars used as teasers, but not on rod and reel, No green sticks**
- 4. NMFS requires as of 1/1/2008, anglers fishing in billfish tournaments to use only non-offset circle hooks when deploying natural bait or natural bait/artificial lures. Anglers can continue to use J hooks on artificial lures. Examples of natural baits would be ballyhoo, mullet, bonito strips, etc.**
- 5. 130 lb. maximum tackle.**
- 6. There is no limit on the amount of lines with hooks or teasers.**
- 7. No live bait or chumming. Trolling only.**
- 8. Registration is by boat not by angler.**
- 9. Boats will be issued and must visibly display one tournament boat number on the port side of the vessel - not behind smoked glass.**
- 10. All boats may depart and return through Atlantic City, Little Egg or Barnegat inlets.**
- 11. Fishing grounds are limited to a 100 mile radius of Little Egg bell buoy.**
- 12. Fishing Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. BOATS MAY LEAVE DOCK AT 2:00 A.M. Committee boats maintain and announce these times on all fishing days.**
- 13. No lines of any kind are permitted in the water until the starting time is announced by a committee boat.**
- 14. Each boat must pick a non-fishing day by submitting a No Fishing Card with Boat Name, Tournament Number and Signature prior to 9:30 A.M. for the day selected. The card must be physically delivered by a member of the boat's crew to the Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club mailbox and/or as directed by the Tournament Director at the Captain's meeting. The boat must be dockside in order to declare a No-Fishing Day. Any boat not submitting the card by the 9:30 A.M. is assumed to be fishing on that day. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 15. Boats fighting fish after 2:45 P.M. must radio the hook-up immediately to a committee boat All other radio communication must cease. Report of a hook-up between 2:45 and 3:00 PM WILL NOT constitute a boated fish. For the fish to be eligible it must be REPORTED to a COMMITTEE BOAT or the BHMTTC, and have BOATED TIME ASSIGNED BEFORE RETURNING TO THE DOCK. This is the responsibility of the Captain of Vessel catching the fish. The Club radios will be on from 3:45 to 8:00 P.M.**
- 16. All boats must report boated or released White Marlin, boated or released Blue Marlin and boated Tuna over 60 lbs. to a committee boat, giving boat number and species only. The committee boat will assign the correct time. All committee boats must identify themselves.**
- 17. For release purposes, a fish is considered caught when the mate grabs the leader, or the swivel touches the rod tip.**
- 18. All fish eligible for prizes must be brought to the official scale at the Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club by the boat on which it was caught between 4:30 and 8:00 P.M. on the same day as caught, and a completed catch report must be delivered to the weighmaster. In the event that you do not have fish to be brought to scale, but have released White or Blue Marlin that day, you are responsible for turning in a completed catch report by 8:00 P.M. that day. A release report may be faxed to the BHMTTC (609-492-6566). Absence of catch or release reports means disqualified fish. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

19. Only 3 Tuna, 3 White Marlin, 1 Blue Marlin, 1 Dolphin and 1 Wahoo will be weighed in per boat per day.
20. Any protest as to the weight of a fish, the manner in which it is being weighed or the condition of the fish must be made while the fish is on the scale to the weighmaster. Once the fish has been removed from the scale it is official and shall stand. Any fish under protest will be kept at Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club until the judges release an official decision.
21. Any other protest, including any boat seen fishing before 8:00 A.M., must be presented to any tournament judge by 9:00 P.M. on the day of the alleged infraction. The committee shall serve as judge, and their decision is final.
22. Weighmaster has right of protest any fish.
23. If there is a tie for 1st place in the cash category, the tie splits 1st and 2nd place money. If there is a tie for 2nd place in the cash category, the tie splits 2nd and 3rd place money. If there is a tie for 3rd place in the cash category, the tie splits 3rd place money.
24. In the event of a tie in the point category, the winner shall be the first boat reaching the winning point total in its respective first or second day of fishing.
25. Only one day need be fished by at least one boat to make an official tournament and for the prizes to be awarded.
26. No entry of the White Marlin Invitational may participate in any other fishing tournament while fishing the Invitational.
27. The Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club reserves the right to cancel the tournament or modify any aspect of it at any time, for any reason.
28. Any amendments to the above will be announced at the Captain's meeting, on Wednesday, July 29th at 8:00 P.M.
29. Tournament radio channels VHF-69 and SSB-4149.
30. All fish eligible for cash prizes may be subject to examination by Tournament judges and/or consulting biologists should there be any question as to the freshness of the catch. It is the responsibility of the participant to keep all eligible catches in suitable and proper condition until weigh-in.
31. The time and place for the polygraph testing will be announced at the Captain's meeting and listed on the Tournament Information Book that is distributed with the boat packets.

In the event that a test cannot be taken at a scheduled time, tournament officials reserve the right to reschedule the test with in 30 days of the date on which the fish was caught. The rescheduled test must be administered by a White Marlin Invitational approved examiner administered to ASTM standards and will be at the angler's expense.

If an angler wishes to dispute an unfavorable polygraph result, the angler may have a second polygraph conducted with in 10 days by a qualified polygraph examiner at the angler's expense. This polygraph must be administered to ASTM standards. The decision as to which of the two polygraph tests will be used to determine prize money eligibility is that of the tournament committee in cooperation with the polygraph examiner(s).
32. No money will be paid out to a boat until the selected members of that boats crew are administered a polygraph test AND favorable polygraph results are obtained.
33. Prize money prize money will not be awarded to anyone who does not provide a social security number OR federal ID number AND refuses to take a polygraph examination.