



OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

1. GENERAL TOURNAMENT RULES

- A. Fishing window is open from Friday June 16th 6:00am to Saturday June 17th 6:00pm.
- B. Boats are permitted to depart out of Debs, Jones or Fire Island Inlet ONLY.
- C. Boats are not allowed to clear their respective Head Buoy before 3:00am Friday June 16th. They may leave any time after that they wish.
- D. Teams **MUST TEXT Tournament Coordinator at (516) 660-7179** while leaving dock with their **Team Name & Tournament Registration Number**. This is to ensure that teams are accounted for heading out, and in cell range within permitted times. If a team does not text tournament coordinator to declare they are fishing, they will be disqualified.
- E. Teams are permitted to fish **one trip** in the entire fishing window OR they will be allowed to fish **two day trips** either fishing day. If a team decides to fish two day trips, they are not allowed to clear their respective Head Buoy before 3:00am both Friday June 16th and Saturday June 17th. **Teams must also declare they are fishing BOTH days by texting Tournament Coordinator at (516) 660-7179 with Boat name and tournament registration number.**
- F. Fishing, Lines in, must not begin before 6:00am either day.
- G. Weigh ins will be held ONLY at Scotty's Fishing Station. Scales will be open at 10:00am to 6:00pm on Friday June 16th and 10:00am to 6:00pm Saturday June 17th.
- H. Teams returning from fishing from a single or either day trip that have not weighed in a fish must check in with Tournament Coordinator by texting (516) 660-7179 of their safe return. Please include boat name and tournament registration number.
- I. Vessels who do not check in their return, or weigh in a fish, will be contacted via the captain's contact number on the registration form. If no contact is made, the emergency contact will be notified. If no contact is made with either the vessel or emergency contact, the USCG will be notified to ensure the safety of all registered vessels.
- J. All team members must be registered in the tournament, private or for hire/charter, Captain, Mates, Anglers must all be listed in the registration. All persons listed on the registration form are eligible anglers.
- K. Official Tournament VHF Channel will be 71. Please use and monitor this channel for any pertinent information while fishing in the tournament.
- L. In the event of boat disability, contestants may transfer to another boat not entered in the tournament and may fish in the name of the original, with the prior approval of the Tournament Directors.

2. Fishing Rules & Guidelines

- A. All team members on vessel must possess a valid NYS DEC Saltwater Fishing License.
- B. All Vessels must possess a valid NOAA HMS Permit.
- C. All teams must abide by the regulations of NYS DEC and NOAA HMS.
- D. Failure to abide by these regulations will result in disqualification and potential legal consequences.
- E. All-tackle I.G.F.A. rules apply unless otherwise noted. In the event of any conflict between the Scotty's Offshore Shootout Rules and the I.G.F.A. Rules, the Scotty's Offshore Shootout rules apply.
- F. A fish may be hooked by someone other than the angler provided the rod is immediately transferred to the angler after hook-up without advancement. From that time on, the angler must fight the fish alone until boated.
- G. Harpoons, flying gaffs, and greensticks ARE allowed.
- H. Bang sticks, CO2 Stun Guns, and or firearms are NOT allowed to land a fish.
- I. While fishing for Sharks, all teams must use Non-Stainless Steel Non-Offset Circle Hooks.
- J. Federal law mandates that all anglers participating in a tournament which bestows points, prizes, or awards for Atlantic billfish (In this tournament; Swordfish) must deploy only non-offset circle hooks when using natural bait and/or natural/artificial lure combinations. Anglers in these tournaments may use J-hooks only in artificial lures while targeting Atlantic billfish.
- K. Line class shall be limited to the manufacturer's stated rating of no greater than 130 lbs. The Tournament Directors retain sole authority for interpreting and implementing the I.G.F.A.'s rules.
- L. There is no limit on the number of lines or teasers.
- M. Anglers may not switch to another boat nor can anyone from another boat come aboard to assist in fighting or boating a fish.

Current Shark Regulations

ONE SHARK PER VESSEL PER TRIP, EXCEPT ONE ADDITIONAL ATLANTIC SHARPNOSE AND ONE ADDITIONAL BONNETHEAD MAY BE TAKEN AND POSSESSED PER ANGLER PER TRIP, ANY NUMBER OF SMOOTH AND SPINY DOGFISH MAY BE RETAINED.

ALLOWED SHARKS - MINIMUM SIZE 54" FORK LENGTH

TIGER, BLACKTIP, BULL, LEMON, NURSE, SPINNER, BLUE, OCEANIC WHITE TIP, PORBEAGLE, COMMON THRESHER

GREAT HAMMERHEAD, SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD, SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD – 78" FORK LENGTH

FORK LENGTH MEANS THE STRAIGHT-LINE MEASUREMENT OF A FISH FROM THE TIP OF THE SNOUT TO THE FORK OF THE TAIL. THE MEASUREMENT IS NOT MADE ALONG THE CURVE OF THE BODY

PROHIBITED SHARKS

ATLANTIC ANGEL, BASKING, BLACKNOSE, BIGEYE SAND TIGER, BIGEYE SIXGILL, BIGEYE THRESHER, BIGNOSE, BLUNTNOSE, SIXGILL, CARIBBEAN REEF, CARIBBEAN SHARPNOSE, DUSKY, GALAPAGOS, LONGFIN MAKO, **SHORTFIN MAKO**, NARROWTOOTH, NIGHT, SAND TIGER, SANDBAR, SHARPNOSE SEVENGILL, SILKY, SMALLTAIL, WHALE, WHITE.

*Hammerhead & Oceanic Whitetip sharks cannot be retained if a swordfish, tuna or billfish is on board. Porbeagle Sharks alive at haul back must be released unharmed if a swordfish, tuna or billfish is on board.

Current Tuna Regulations

BLUEFIN TUNA LESS THAN 27" - NOT ALLOWED.

BLUEFIN TUNA 27" TO LESS THAN 73" – 1 PER VESSEL DAY OR TRIP.

BLUEFIN TUNA 73" OR GREATER – 1 PER VESSEL PER YEAR.

BIGEYE TUNA – 27" MINIMUM SIZE – NO LIMIT

YELLOWFIN TUNA – 27" MINIMUM SIZE – 3 PER PERSON DAY OR TRIP.

Current Swordfish Regulations

47" LOWER-JAW FORK LENGTH OR 25" CLEITHRUM TO CAUDAL KEEL – 1 PER PERSON, UP TO 4 PER VESSEL/TRIP.

3. Weigh In Procedures

- A. Fish weigh ins will be held at Scotty's Fishing Station, 72 Bayside Drive, Point Lookout, NY 11569 (516) 432-4665, from 10:00am TO 6:00pm on Friday June 16th and Saturday June 17th.
- B. People who want to weigh in a fish **must be present at Scotty's with fish by 6:00pm.** There is limited dock space to weigh in, those unable to dock must wait in line to be directed to dock.
- C. Any vessel that is not in line/in sight to weigh a fish in by 6:00pm sharp on Friday June 16th will have to return Saturday June 17th. Any vessel that is not in line/in sight to weigh a fish in by 6:00pm sharp on Saturday June 17th will be disqualified for prizes/Calcutta for any fish not previously weighed in. No exceptions.
- D. In line means physically waiting in line at Scotty's dock waiting to weigh in fish. In Sight means in visual contact in Reynolds channel approaching Scotty's Dock to weigh in a fish.
- E. This rule is in effect until 6:00pm sharp each day. At 6:01pm all opportunity to weigh in a fish will be closed other than those in line or in sight. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- F. **All sharks weighed in must meet the 150lb minimum weight requirement. All Tuna must meet the 40lb minimum weight requirement.**
- G. Teams that are fishing both days are eligible to weigh in the legal retention limit for each species they catch. If a team weighs in the same species both days, the heaviest fish of each respective species will be eligible for prizes.
- H. "Adding up" weight for each species will NOT count. The best single day/trip combination of species will count towards prizes.
- I. Any Fish mutilated without a legitimate excuse will be disqualified.
- J. Shooting a fish is immediate disqualification.
- K. **Any weight alteration will disqualify a fish.**
- L. **All fish weighed in will be returned to the owner.**
- M. **In the event of a tie, the earlier weighed fish will take priority. Under no circumstances can one vessel weigh in a fish caught by anyone not listed on that vessel's registration form, or caught by another vessel, any violation is immediate disqualification. Any suspicion is subject to a lie detector test.**

4. Entry Fee Prize Purse

- A. Entry fee of \$500 will be split 50/50. 50% going to the Entry Prize purse and the other 50% going to Hooks For Heroes charity. This supports Hooks For Heroes and allows us to continue to serve American Heroes.
- B. Entry Prize purse will have a 1st, 2nd, 3rd place prize.

1st place – 70% of purse 2nd place – 20% of purse 3rd place – 10% of purse

- C. In effort to keep a fair tournament, a point base system will be utilized to determine the Entry Prize purse only. Points will be as follows:

Sharks – 1 Point per lbs.

Bluefin Tuna – 2 Points per lbs.

Yellowfin – 1 Point per lbs.

Bigeye Tuna – 1 Point per lbs.

Swordfish – 2 Points per lbs.

These points are based on daily/trip retention limits and give all teams a fair chance at 1st 2nd and 3rd place Entry Prize regardless of which species they target.

- D. Teams are reminded that the daily retention limits following the NYS DEC and NOAA Regulations are allowed to be weighed to count as points. Multiple Species weighed are added up.
- E. Please Refer to Rule 3. G./H. regarding those fishing both days.

5. Calcutta

- A. 90% of Calcutta prize money goes to the winner's prize purse. 10% of Calcutta money will go to Scotty's Fishing Station/Hooks For Heroes charity. Vessel's MUST be registered in a Calcutta to win it.
- B. 75% of the Calcutta prize purse will go to 1st place, 25% of the Calcutta prize purse will go to 2nd place.
- C. If there is no qualifying 2nd place fish caught in that Calcutta, 100% of purse will go to the 1st place, and only winner.
- D. If no qualifying fish is caught in a specific Calcutta Category, 90% of the Calcutta money will be returned to each registered vessel.
- E. Calcutta winners will be determined by respective species weight only. (No Points).
- F. Calcutta Categories are as follows:
 - I. Shark - \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 Shark Pro
 - II. Bluefin Tuna - \$100, \$500, \$1,000 Bluefin Pro
 - III. Yellowfin Tuna - \$100, \$500, \$1,000 Yellowfin Pro
 - IV. Bigeye Tuna - \$100, \$500, \$1,000 Bigeye Pro
 - V. Swordfish - \$100, \$500
 - VI. FIRST ON THE BOARD – \$100 – First team to weigh in a qualifying fish. One winner only.

6. Tournament Postponement, Cancellation and Refunds

- A. The Tournament Dates are Friday June 16th & Saturday June 17th.
- B. On Friday June 16th at 5:00am, In the event of a SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY for the local marine forecast, the tournament will be postponed to Saturday June 17th. If at 5am the local marine forecast is persistent, the tournament will be cancelled.
- C. In the event of an official tournament cancellation due to weather conditions, 100% of all Entry fee and Calcutta fees will be refunded.
- D. Each Captain/Vessel may withdraw from the tournament up to 6:00am the morning of the tournament based on your judgement as a captain/crew. If your crew withdraws BEFORE the Captain's Meeting on Thursday June 15th, you will be entitled to 100% refund of your registration fee and Calcutta. If you withdraw AFTER the Captain's Meeting, you will be entitled to 50% of entry fee and 90% of each Calcutta Entered.

7. Administration

- A. The Tournament Directors and Scotty's Fishing Station/Buoy Bar assume no liability or responsibility for any damage or loss.
- B. Registration is by boat rather than by angler. The Tournament Directors reserve the right to decline the entry of any boat or crew. Tournament Directors also reserve the right to disqualify a team at their discretion.
- C. Allegations of violations of any of the tournament rules may be submitted only by an official tournament registrant and must be submitted in writing on the day of the alleged infraction. In the event of such an allegation, the tournament directors will have the sole and exclusive responsibility to investigate the alleged incident and to rule as to whether any violation materially aided the angler, crew, or vessel, or otherwise affected the outcome of the tournament. Any subsequent penalty will be solely at the discretion of the tournament directors and shall be final. In all cases, registrant and their crews agree to be bound by the ruling of the tournament directors.
- D. The Scotty's Offshore Shootout Rules have been established for the best interest of all concerned. Participants are reminded that this is a charity event with the purpose of supporting American Veterans & First Responders. In the event of necessity or extraordinary circumstances, any rule may be altered at the discretion of the Tournament Directors.
- E. Decisions regarding the interpretation of Rules, violation of Rules, penalties, the suspension of any Rules or penalties, the alteration of any Rules, and the calculation of prize money will be made by the Tournament Directors in their sole and absolute discretion. All decisions by the Tournament Directors are final.

Thank you for your support of Hooks For Heroes and American Veterans & First Responders.