

## 2021 Cape fear Blue Marlin Tournament Rules

**Rules Committee – William Bailey, Bobby Brown, Jackson David, Jon Huff, Jimmy Vass, Jr.  
Weighmasters – Randy Gregory, George Lott  
Official Reporting / Weigh Station – Seapath Marina and Yacht Club**

1. All boats must be registered by 6:00pm Wednesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> and entry fees paid to qualify for prizes. Entry fees may be paid by cash or check, no credit cards accepted. Any boat entered in the CFBMT may not be entered in another tournament simultaneously except for the NC BILLFISH SERIES. The tournament or tournament host reserves the right to deny entry to anyone for any cause. Withdrawal from the tournament; 90% of the entry fees will be refunded 21 days after the tournament and clearing of funds.
2. Polygraph may be administered to top money winners, (captain or mate) and by signing the entry form participants agree to final decision of said test. Refusal to submit to said test will be automatic disqualification from the tournament and winnings.
3. Fishing time GPS will 8:30am to 3:00pm daily Thursday June 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>. This is a fish 2 out of 3 day event, Captains choice. Fishing boundaries will be between North 39550 and South 39000 Loran. An official lay day form must be turned in by 8:30am the day declared as a non-fishing day. Email a picture of the completed lay day form to; [rules@capefearbluemarlin.com](mailto:rules@capefearbluemarlin.com). The form must be signed by a participant. If a lay day form is not turned in, that day will automatically be counted as a fishing day.
4. All Blue Marlin, White Marlin or Sailfish must be reported to the committee boat when hooked, lost or released. Fish hooked after hours are not eligible. All gamefish eligible for prizes must be offloaded at the official weigh station from the boat landing the fish unless authorized by the weighmaster. Scales open at 4:30pm and close at 7:00pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
5. Gamefish – 1<sup>st</sup> place Tuna(Yellowfin Only), Dolphin and Wahoo will be determined by weight. If two or more fish are of same weight, length plus girth shall determine winner. All gamefish must adhere to state and federal regulations.
6. This is a total points release tournament. All billfish must be released to obtain points. Released fish must be attested to by signatures of captain, mate, angler and time of release on form provided by CFBMT. It must be verified by video and/or digital photograph of release showing date, time, crew members hand on leader and assigned tournament marker (to be given out with registration packet) and identifiable species all on a single picture or continuous video clip. Release form, or video and/or digital photos shall be emailed to [rules@capefearbluemarlin.com](mailto:rules@capefearbluemarlin.com). All materials must be received no later than 7:00pm the day of the release. The crew cannot attempt to boat or gaff a fish that is claimed to be released. In the event of a tie, the first boat to achieve winning points will be declared the winner. Release points will be, Blue Marlin 400pts, White Marlin 125pts, and Sailfish 100pts. All fish must adhere to state and federal regulations
7. One person from each entered boat is responsible for knowing rules, including any changes made.
8. Prize money checks will be written to the person/entity on registration form. SSN or TIN must be provided. Prize money will be awarded to participant pending clearance of all checks.

**9.** Disputes must be made in writing to CFBMT rules committee. Protest must be made by 8:30am the following day or 7:00pm the last day of tournament. Weighmaster has the right to hold any fish qualified for prize deemed questionable. If retention refused fish is disqualified. Rules committee may cut open any fish for inspection. Fish with weight alterations are disqualified. IGFA rules apply regarding fish.

**10.** This is a rod and reel, hook and line tournament. Double line and leader may not exceed 40ft, neither of which may exceed 30ft. All participants must adhere to state and federal regulations to qualify for prizes. Each participant(including captain and mate) is required to have a current NC state saltwater fishing license. All boats must have current 2021 HMS permit. Mandatory use of non offset circle hooks with natural bait or natural/artificial combinations is required. J-hooks may be deployed with artificial lures only.

**11.** Any boat breaching above rules will be disqualified. Decisions of the rules committee are final. By signing the CFBMT entry form and paying the entry fees you have agreed and understand the rules for the 2021 CFBMT.

**HMS permits** – All boats must have one of the following valid permits – HMS angling(recreational), HMS Charter/Head boat or Atlantic Tunas General category permit(commercial). Current permits expire annually on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Permits must be on board the vessel when engaged in fishing. The 2021 Cape Fear Blue Marlin Tournament is a registered recreational HMS tournament. For more information on HMS permits call (888) 872-8862.