

CAPTAIN'S HANDBOOK



BIG ROCK[™]
BLUE MARLIN TOURNAMENT
Conservation • Innovation • Charitable Giving

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THE BIG ROCK TOURNAMENT APP

1) **DOWNLOAD** from the App Store / Google Play

2) **LOG IN** using account associated with tournament registration



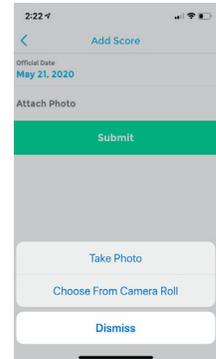
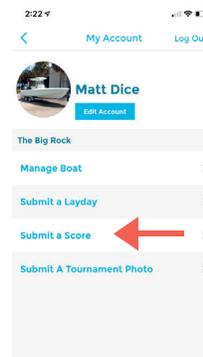
USERNAME:

PASSWORD:

RELEASE FORMS

Completed release forms can be submitted two ways:

1) Upload a photo of release form to the **Big Rock App** using the account associated with boat registration OR 2) Turn in to Big Rock Headquarters or Hatteras Harbor Marina. Release forms must be submitted one of the two ways by 10PM on day of release.

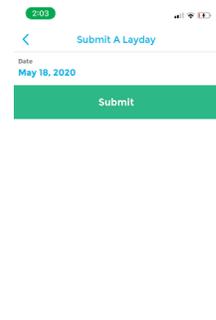
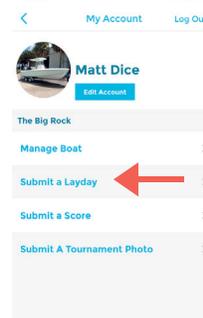


For **BLUE MARLIN releases**, teams must turn in a Release Form in person along with their SD Card, Micro SD Card or Compact Flash Card in order to qualify for the 400 pts.

LAY DAY FORMS

Lay day forms may be submitted two ways:

1) Submit lay day using the **Big Rock App** account associated with boat registration 2) Submit completed form in person at Big Rock Headquarters. *Lay days must be submitted by 9AM on the declared day. Big Rock Headquarters will open at 6AM daily.*



TOURNAMENT-TO-PARTICIPANT COMMUNICATION

Big Rock's newest form of tournament to participant communication- a reliable way to deliver up to date information exclusively to our boat owners, captains, & crew via text message. As a participant, expect to receive important updates & urgent messages from the Big Rock throughout the week of the tournament.

Have a question? You can simply reply to original text message to start a "chat" and we will get back to you ASAP. If you'd like to subscribe a new crew member to the list, text PARTICIPANT to (855) 481-5737 from their mobile device. To unsubscribe, text STOP.

TOURNAMENT RULES

* 2022 CHANGES ARE PRINTED IN RED

1. REGISTRATION - All boats must be registered with the Tournament Committee and entry fee paid to qualify for prizes and trophies. Any boat may be substituted during the week but must be registered with the Tournament Committee prior to fishing. Registration forms will be accepted at the Big Rock Office or the Captain's Meeting. The tournament reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to deny entry to anyone for any reason. No entries or upgrades will be accepted after 9:00 am, Monday morning.

2. RULES MEETING - At least one person from each boat should attend the Captain's Meeting for the Tournament, which will be held on Sunday prior to the first day of fishing. Regardless, all participants in the Tournament are responsible for knowing all Tournament Rules, including any changes to the Rules that may take place at the Captain's Meeting.

3. ROD & REEL RULES - This is a rod and reel, hook and line tournament. Double line and leader combined may not exceed 40 ft; neither of which may exceed 30 ft. The following practices are illegal in this tournament: a) use of handline or rope attached to the line or leader; b) shooting, harpooning, or lancing; and c) the transfer of any participant from one boat to another to aid in the landing of the fish. Bill rope/"snooter" is allowed. Drones are not allowed in this tournament.

4. BOUNDARIES - All boats fishing in Tournament must fish between LORAN coordinates North 40275 and South 39200. All fish must also be hooked within those coordinates.

5. MANDATORY HOOK REQUIREMENTS - Non-offset circle hooks are mandatory when deploying natural bait or natural bait/artificial lures. "J" hooks are allowed on artificial lures only.

6. FISHING TIME AND LAYDAYS - No lines or teasers are permitted in the water before official fishing hours each day. Official time will be GPS time. **The use of omnidirectional sonar technology will not be permitted before official fishing hours each day.** Fishing days for all eligible boats shall be any four out of the available six days, captain's choice. No single boat can fish more than 4 total days during the Tournament. Lay Day forms may be submitted in person at the Big Rock Office, Hatteras Harbor Marina or by using your Big Rock App account. Lay Day forms must be submitted prior to 9 AM on the day declared as a non-fishing day. There will be no exceptions on time. If a boat does not declare a day as non-fishing, the Tournament Committee will automatically count the day to be a fishing day for that boat.

7. REPORTING - All billfish must be reported to the Tournament Headquarters when hooked, lost, boated or released. Radio frequency shall be VHF CHANNEL 71 and alternate channel 78 A. Fish hooked prior to or after fishing hours are not eligible.

8. QUALIFYING BLUE MARLIN - To be eligible for prize money, a blue marlin must weigh at least four hundred pounds or measure at least one hundred and ten inches. In the event of a tie by weight, the marlin having the largest total measurement of girth plus length shall be declared the winner. Length shall be measured from the V-notch in the tail to the tip of the lower jaw. No official weigh slip will be given for any disqualified fish. NC State Law states that you may only boat one blue marlin per day.

IF NO QUALIFYING FISH IS WEIGHED IN LEVEL II, III, OR IV THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF PRIZE MONEY IN EACH LEVEL WILL BE PAID TO THE BOAT ENTERED IN EACH LEVEL WITH THE MOST RELEASE POINTS.

9. DISQUALIFICATION - Boat will be disqualified from the tournament if:

1. The boat, captain and/or crew violates any rules of the tournament unless otherwise specified in these rules.
2. If a billfish has been boated and not presented to the Weigh Master. A fish is considered boated when any portion of the fish breaks the outside vertical plane of the boat.
3. If a fish escapes before gaffing and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules. No free gaffing allowed.
4. Under no circumstances can you gaff the fish in order to measure the fish and then release the fish.

10. 400 POUND PENALTY - Boat will be penalized four hundred pounds from the weight of the largest blue marlin weighed in by the boat during the week by said boat if:

1. Blue Marlin does not meet tournament minimum length and/or minimum weight requirements
2. Fish does not adhere to State and Federal Fisheries regulations
3. If the gaff breaks the vertical plane of the boat, the fish can no longer be counted as a release and no points will be awarded. If the fish is lost, the team will not be penalized 400 points. If the fish is boated, it must meet minimum requirements or a 400 pound penalty will be enforced.

11. LEVEL V FABULOUS FISHERMAN'S - The Winner of Level V will be the first blue marlin reported and boated weighing 500 lbs. or more. Qualifying

TOURNAMENT RULES

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fish must meet all tournament rules. All boats participating in this level must be entered in Levels I, II, III and IV. If no qualifying fish is weighed, **prize money will rollover to the next year's tournament**. A fish may be called in as boated when any portion of the fish breaks the outside vertical plane of the boat.

12. LEVEL VI SUPER 20 WTA - The Winner of Level VI will be the largest qualifying blue marlin. Qualifying fish must weigh 400 lbs or more and meet all tournament rules. Boats must be entered in Levels I, II, III, IV and V to participate in the super category. If no qualifying fish is weighed, prize money will rollover to next year's tournament.

13. RELEASE POINTS - Cash prizes will be awarded to the boats that score the most number of points first. No release points will be awarded if the gaff breaks the outside vertical plane of the boat. In order to qualify as a release, the billfish must remain in the water. (Federal Law).

125 RELEASE POINTS WILL BE AWARDED:

1. For all billfish including blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, hatchet marlin and spearfish
2. When mate touches the leader or the leader touches the rod tip.
3. Team turns in a release form provided by the Tournament Committee attested to by signature of the captain and mate or angler on board the boat at the time of the release. This form may be submitted to the Official Weigh Master at Tournament Headquarters, Hatteras Harbor Marina or submitted electronically with the Big Rock App. Release forms must be turned in no later than 10:00 p.m. on the day the fish is released to qualify. Other than blue marlin, billfish forms may also be photographed and uploaded to the Big Rock App. In the event of ties, the first boat to achieve the winning totals shall be declared the winners

400 RELEASE POINTS WILL BE AWARDED:

1. For Blue Marlin if the team provides indisputable video or photo evidence to the Rules Committee. To qualify for the 400 points, teams must turn in a Release Form in person along with the SD Card, Micro SD Card or Compact Flash Card from their camera. Forms and Media Cards can be turned in at the Official Weigh Station in Morehead City or to the tournament representative at Hatteras Harbor Marina. The Media Card and Release Form must be turned in no later than 10:00 p.m. on the day fish is released to qualify. The Media Card must show continuous video or a clear single photo of the mate touching the leader or

the leader touching the rod tip and clear and indisputable evidence that the fish is a blue marlin. It is the responsibility of the participants to ensure that their camera's Clock/Date is set accurately to reflect the time and date of the Releases to qualify for the 400 points. Date and time stamp must be 100% accurate. All videos will become property of the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament. If the rules committee is unable to see indisputable evidence that the fish is a blue marlin, the release will be scored at 125 points. The tournament will NOT allow photos or video from cell phones.

14. LEVEL IX NON-SONAR RELEASE - Entry in this level is restricted to: A) Boats without omnidirectional sonar technology -OR- B) Boats equipped with, but choose not to use, omnidirectional sonar technology. Prize payouts will be awarded for total weekly release points and the overall daily release winner. Weekly prizes will be divided as follows: 50% first place, 30% second place and 20% third place. If no billfish are released, winners will be determined by the largest game fish, (yellowfin tuna, dolphin, wahoo). If only two boats qualify, prize money will be split 60/40 for two places. Winners may be polygraphed (See Rule #23). Daily prize money will be divided by the number of days that a qualifying fish is released. All other Big Rock rules are enforced for this level. Entrants must enter Level I and may enter additional levels as stated in Big Rock rules

15. OUTBOARD LEVEL \$1000 - Entry in this level is restricted to outboard boats only. No inboards, inboard-outboards, jet powered or airboats permitted. No sailboats permitted. Any hybrid or combination engine boat will not be eligible for prizes in this level. To be eligible for prize money, a blue marlin must weigh at least 400 pounds or measure at least 110". Prize money for the Outboard Level is a guaranteed purse of a minimum of \$10,000. Prizes will be divided as follows: 50%/first place, 30%/second place and 20%/third place. If no blue marlin are caught qualifying for first, second, and/or third place, winners will be determined by release points. If no billfish are caught or released, winners will be determined by the largest gamefish, (yellowfin tuna, dolphin, wahoo). If only two boats qualify for the catch and release prizes, prize money will be split 60/40 for two places. Winners may be polygraphed (See Rule #23). All other Big Rock rules are enforced for this level. Entrants must enter Level I and may enter additional levels as stated in Big Rock rules.

16. LEVEL XI OUTBOARD WTA RELEASE - Boats must be entered in Level X-Outboard 50/30/20 to participate in the Outboard WTA Release category. If

TOURNAMENT RULES

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no billfish are released, the winner will be determined by the boat entered in Level XI Outboard WTA Release with the largest weighed gamefish.

17. FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS - All vessels and participants shall comply with North Carolina and Federal Fisheries laws and regulations regarding fishing licenses, vessel permits, fishing gear, season size limits and bag limits. Participants shall also adhere to all Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament rules as contained herein.

18. GAMEFISH - Winning gamefish will be determined by weight. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by the first fish weighed-in. Fish must be in fresh edible condition and fit for human consumption. All gamefish must be weighed in the day they are caught. Hookup time for gamefish should NOT be reported to Tournament Headquarters. Level VII - "Winner take all - dolphin" prize money will rollover to the next year's tournament if no qualifying fish is weighed. Gamefish are defined as yellowfin tuna, dolphin and wahoo. If no qualifying gamefish are caught in Level I, the tournament will retain the money.

19. WEIGH-IN - All blue marlin and gamefish eligible for prizes must be -loaded and weighed at the official Tournament weigh station from the boat landing the fish unless authorized by the Weigh Master at the weigh station. The fish must be entered on the official entry form by the Tournament Weigh Master. Blue marlin take priority over gamefish at the scales. The same scales and weigh station will be used for all fish including those entered in the NC Billfish Series. Gamefish scales will close at 7:00 p.m. The weigh station is located on the Morehead City Waterfront. All billfish weighed in shall be donated for research. The Weigh Master has the right to refuse any fish in his sole discretion. The weigh station will remain open until the last boated blue marlin of the day is weighed.

20. PRIZE PAYOUT SCHEDULE - Prize money checks will be made payable to the person or entity so indicated on the registration form of the winning boat. Social Security number or Taxpayer I.D. number of the recipient must be provided on the entry form. All undisputed funds will be distributed 10 days after the tournament.

21. PROTEST - Any protest by any participant against the catch of another participant must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Rules Committee. No protests are allowed against the tournament. Any protest must be received by 9:00 a.m. on the day following the catch of the disputed fish and by 7:00 p.m. on the last day of the tournament. Any member

of the Rules Committee or the Weigh Master (in their sole discretion), retains the right to hold and keep any fish deemed questionable by him with respect to being qualified for any prize or cash award. If retention of the fish is refused, the fish is automatically disqualified.

22. DISPUTE RESOLUTION – A protest by one participant against the catch of another must be submitted in accordance with Rule 21. All other disputes, controversies, or claims of any kind arising out of or relating to the Tournament (hereinafter, "dispute" or "disputes"), including, but not limited to, all disputes concerning decisions by Tournament Officials, Boards, or Committees, must be submitted in writing to the Rules Committee no later than 6:00 p.m. on the last fishing day of the Tournament. Failure to submit any such disputes in writing by that date and time shall constitute a waiver and release of any and all such disputes.

In the event of any dispute arising out of or relating to the Tournament in any way, the interested parties shall use their best efforts to settle such dispute by mutual agreement. To this effect, responsible, authorized representatives of the interested parties shall meet, consult, and negotiate with each other in good faith (with or without a third-party mediator, as they may choose) and attempt to reach a mutually satisfactory solution. In the event they do not reach such a solution within a period of five (5) days after the first notice by any party to any other of the existence of the dispute, then without waiving any other provisions in these Rules concerning the absolute discretion and finality of decisions made by the Tournament Officials, Boards, or Committees, the sole and exclusive means for resolution of any dispute shall be the procedures set forth below:

- a) The dispute shall be submitted to arbitration under the North Carolina Revised Uniform Arbitration Act, Chapter 1, Article 45C of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- b) All negotiations, mediations, and arbitration hearings shall take place in Morehead City, North Carolina, or such other places the interested parties may agree upon in writing.
- c) The arbitration shall be conducted by a single arbitrator who is a retired North Carolina state or federal judge or an attorney whose practice experience includes commercial litigation. The arbitrator must be a resident of the State of North Carolina. In the event the interested parties cannot agree upon an arbitrator, the decision shall be made by a Resident Superior Court Judge of Carteret County, North Carolina.
- d) Prior to any arbitration hearing, limited discovery

TOURNAMENT RULES

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shall be permitted for the purpose of obtaining production of documents and taking depositions. All discovery shall be governed by the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. All issues regarding discovery requests shall be decided by the arbitrator. All discovery shall be completed within 90 days after the selection of the arbitrator; provided, however, that the arbitrator shall have the authority to extend or reduce the time for discovery in a manner consistent with a general desire for expedited resolution of the dispute.

- e) All fees and expenses for the arbitration shall be borne by the parties equally. However, each party shall bear the expense of said party's own counsel, experts, witnesses, and preparation and presentation of proofs. Only in the case of extreme abuse of the procedure may the arbitrator reallocate such costs and expenses among the parties.
- f) Any arbitral award may be enforced by an action in the Superior Court of Carteret County.

The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced under the laws and judicial decisions of the State of North Carolina, notwithstanding any principle of conflicts of law. In the event any part of this Agreement shall be declared illegal, invalid, or void, such declaration shall not affect the validity of any of the other terms or provisions of this document.

23. WEIGHT ALTERATION - Attempted weight alteration of any blue marlin or gamefish will be subject to disqualification and automatically disqualify the boat from the tournament. IGFA rules apply regarding mutilated fish. The Rules Committee reserves the right to cut open any fish for inspection of suspected weight altering efforts such as inserted weights, ice, water, etc.

24. POLYGRAPH - Polygraph Tests shall be administered to captains, mates and others as deemed necessary by Tournament Officials. Participants must make themselves available for polygraph testing in Carteret County within 24 hours following notice from Tournament Officials. Individuals that are required to take the polygraph test must not consume alcohol or any controlled substance within eight hours prior to the test. A participant's refusal to take a polygraph test or failure to answer test questions in a manner satisfactory to Tournament Officials, in their sole discretion, may result in disqualification. By entering the Tournament, participants consent to the admissibility of polygraph results in any dispute or proceeding arising out of the Tournament.

25. WITHDRAWAL - No Level I fees will be refunded. 100% of all other levels will be refunded 14 days after the tournament and following collection and clearing of all funds paid. All refund requests must be received in writing by 9:00 am on Monday prior to the tournament at Tournament Headquarters.

26. VIOLATION OF RULES - Any boat violating any of these Tournament Rules or any boat containing a participant violating any of these Tournament Rules is subject to disqualification from the Tournament (unless another sanction for a particular violation is expressly set forth herein). By participating in the Tournament, all participants acknowledge that all Tournament Rules are material and that disqualification is a permitted and appropriate sanction for any violation of any Tournament Rules. Decisions regarding the interpretation of Rules, violation of Rules, penalties, and the suspension of any Rules or penalties will be made by Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors in their sole and absolute discretion. All decisions by Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors are final and are not subject to further challenge by participants.

15% OF FEES RETAINED BY TOURNAMENT EXCEPT FOR LEVEL I. (SEE PRIZE SCHEDULE FOR LEVEL I)

2022 NORTH CAROLINA RECREATIONAL COASTAL WATERS GUIDE FOR SPORTS FISHERMEN – April Version

****IMPORTANT** CHECK WITH DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES FOR MOST CURRENT MINIMUM LENGTHS AND CREEL LIMITS.**

252-726-7021 OR 800-682-2632 OR www.ncmarinefisheries.net

You can also download the Fish Rules Mobile App at <https://fishrulesapp.com/>

Persons engaged in recreational fishing in North Carolina coastal waters are required to possess a Coastal Recreational Fishing License in accordance with G.S. 113-174.1

FINFISH SPECIES (note symbols)	STATE COASTAL WATERS (Internal and 0-3 miles)		FEDERAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
	Minimum Length	Bag Limits (per person)	
Bluefish (M)	None	3/day (M)	https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/bluefish
Cobia	See the most recent Cobia DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net		http://www.asafc.org/species/cobia
Wahoo	None	2/Day	http://safmc.net/regulations/
Dolphin (B)	None	10/Day	
King Mackerel (H)	24" FL	3/Day	
Spanish Mackerel (H)	12" FL	15/Day	
Tuna: Bluefin, Bigeye and Yellowfin (G)	Bigeye and Yellowfin tuna 27" Curved FL	Yellowfin tuna 3/Day	https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/atlantic-highly-migratory-species
Spiny Dogfish	None	None	https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/atlantic-spiny-dogfish
Sharks (G)	See most recent DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net		https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/atlantic-highly-migratory-species
Blue Marlin (G)	99" LJFL	1 per vessel per trip, either blue marlin or white marlin	
White Marlin (G)	66" LJFL		
Sailfish (G)	63" LJFL	1/Day	
Red Drum (Channel Bass, Puppy Drum) (C) ▲	18" – 27" TL	1/Day	https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2017-title50-vol13/pdf/CFR-2017-title50-vol13-sec697-7.pdf
Flounder ▲	SEASON CLOSED UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS		https://deq.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2021/03/04/2021-recreational-flounder-season-announced
Spotted Seatrout (Speckled Trout) ▲	14" TL	4/Day	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Weakfish (Gray Trout) ▲	12" TL	1/Day	https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2017-title50-vol13/pdf/CFR-2017-title50-vol13-sec697-7.pdf
Sheepshead	10" FL	10/Day	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Black Drum (C)	14" – 25" TL	10/Day	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Tarpon	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS		<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Striped Bass	(A)	(A)	https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2017-title50-vol13/pdf/CFR-2017-title50-vol13-sec697-7.pdf
American Shad (D)	None	(D)	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Hickory Shad (D)	None	(D)	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Alewife and Blueback Herring	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS		<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
American Eel (E)	9" TL	25/Day	<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Scup (North of Cape Hatteras only)	9" TL	50/Day	https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html
Black Sea Bass (North of Cape Hatteras)	SEASON CLOSED UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS		https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/recfishing/regs/index.html
Black Sea Bass (South of Cape Hatteras)	13" TL	7/Day	http://safmc.net/regulations/
Snappers, Groupers, Porgys, Triggerfish, Jacks, Tilefish, Grunts, Spadefishes, Wrasses and Sea Basses (H)	See the most recent Snapper/Grouper Complex recreational DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net		http://safmc.net/regulations/
Mullet (striped and white)	200/Day (species combined)		<i>No Federal Regulations</i>
Spot	None	50/Day	http://www.asafc.org/species/spot
Atlantic Croaker	None	50/Day	http://www.asafc.org/species/atlantic-croaker

PROHIBITED FINFISH SPECIES

COASTAL WATERS (Internal waters and Atlantic Ocean out to 3 miles)

Sharks: whale, basking, white, sand tiger, bigeye sand tiger, Atlantic angel shark, bigeye sixgill, bigeye thresher, bignose, Caribbean reef, Caribbean sharpnose, dusky, Galapagos, longfin mako, narrowtooth, night, sandbar, silky, sevengill, sixgill, and smalltail. Other finfish: river herring, Atlantic sturgeon, shortnose sturgeon, Nassau grouper, Goliath grouper, Warsaw grouper, speckled hind and red snapper.

STATE COASTAL AND EEZ WATERS (Internal and 0-200 miles)		
SHELLFISH and CRUSTACEANS	Minimum Size	Bag Limits (per person)
BLUE CRAB (F)	5" Carapace Width	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS from January 1-31 North of Highway 58 bridge UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS from March 1-15 South of the Highway 58 bridge 50 Crabs/Day not to exceed 100 Crabs/Vessel/Day
STONE CRAB CLAWS (J)	2 ¾" Propodus Length	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS from June 15 – August 15 (no possession limit during open season)
SPINY LOBSTER (K)	3" Carapace Length (L)	2/Day
HARD CLAM (I)	1" Thick	100 Clams/Day not to exceed 200 Clams/Vessel/Day
OYSTER (I)	SEASON CLOSED	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS
BAY SCALLOP	SEASON CLOSED	UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS
CONCHS and WHELKS	None	10/Day not to exceed 20/Vessel/Day
MUSSELS	None	100/Day not to exceed 200/Vessel/Day
SHRIMP (N)	Closed Shrimping Area	None
	Open Shrimping Area	None
		4 quarts (heads on) or 2 ½ quarts (heads off) of shrimp per person per day (Cast Net Only)
		48 quarts (heads on) or 30 quarts (heads off) of shrimp per person per day or if vessel is used, per vessel per day (RCGL max. limit of 2/Vessel)

SYMBOLS TO LOOK FOR:

- (A) Albemarle Sound Management Area: **see the most recent DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net** Atlantic Ocean year-round: 1 per person per day and a harvest slot limit of 28 inches to less than 35 inches TL; Central Southern Management Area: Unlawful to possess striped bass (including hybrid bass).
- (B) Limit of 10 per person per day or 60 per trip, whichever is less. On head boats, limit is 10 per person per day. No sale of recreational bag limit on vessels operating as charter or head boats.
- (C) Unlawful to possess red drum greater than 27" TL. Unlawful to gig, spear, or gaff red drum. One **black drum** per person per day over 25" TL is allowed.
- (D) For aggregate creel limits for American shad and hickory shad, **see the most recent DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net**. Unlawful to take or possess American shad from the Atlantic Ocean.
- (E) Season open January 1 – August 31, except year-round when taken by baited pots.
- (F) It is illegal to possess immature female crabs at any time and it is illegal to possess dark sponge crabs from April 1 – April 30.
- (G) In state or federal waters, federal permit required for Highly Migratory Species, tunas, billfishes, swordfish and sharks (excluding Atlantic bonito, little tunny (false albacore), and blackfin tuna): <https://hmspermits.noaa.gov/> 978-281-9370. Prior to removal from vessel, all billfishes, swordfish and bluefin tuna must be reported at NC HMS reporting stations. See the DMF website for more details. For seasons, bag limits, size limits or closures for tunas, billfishes, and sharks contact NMFS Highly Migratory Species Division 800-894-5528.
- (H) For seasons, bag limits and size limits on snapper, grouper, and mackerels contact the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council 843-571-4366 or www.safmc.net, and **see the most recent Snapper Grouper or Mackerel recreational DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net**
- (I) Contact DMF or visit www.ncmarinefisheries.net to **see the most recent DMF shellfish and polluted area proclamations** for seasons, areas, or other restrictions. An interactive map of areas closed to the harvest of shellfish due to water quality monitoring by DMF's Shellfish Sanitation section can be viewed at, <https://ncdenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5759aa19d7484a3b82a8e440fa643aa>. Oyster season is October 15 – March 31 unless closed earlier by proclamation.
- (J) Propodus (forearm) length is measured by a straight line from elbow to the tip of the lower immovable finger. The propodus (forearm) is defined as the largest section of the claw assembly that has both a moveable and immovable finger and is located farthest from the body of the crab. Unlawful to possess stone crab bodies or fail to immediately return to the waters from which taken. Unlawful to use a device to take stone crabs that can puncture, crush, or injure the crab body, such as gigs, spears, grabs, hooks, or similar devices. Unlawful to remove, take or possess stone crab claws from June 15 through August 15 (no possession limit during open season).
- (K) In accordance with N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Rule 15A NCAC 03L .0302 it is unlawful to possess an egg bearing spiny lobster or a spiny lobster which eggs have been scrubbed or removed. It is unlawful to possess aboard a vessel or land detached spiny lobster tails, or to use a gaff hook, spear, or similar device to take spiny lobsters.
- (L) The carapace is measured beginning at the forward edge between the rostral horns and eyes, excluding any soft tissue, and proceeding along the middle to the rear edge of the carapace.
- (M) Creel limit for bluefish is set by proclamation **see the most recent DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net**. The recreational creel limit for bluefish is 3 fish per person per day in all private (non for-hire) recreational fisheries. Recreational anglers engaged on a for-hire vessel can possess up to 5 bluefish per person per day.
- (N) Areas open to the taking of shrimp are set by proclamation, **see the most recent DMF proclamation at www.ncmarinefisheries.net**.
- ▲ Size and creel limits for spotted seatrout, flounder, red drum and weakfish taken in inland waters are the same as the recreational limits for those species in adjacent joint and coastal waters.

Total length (TL) is measured from tip of snout with mouth closed to top of compressed tail. Fork length (FL) is measured from tip of snout to middle of fork in tail. Lower jaw fork length (LJFL) is measured from lower jaw to middle of fork in tail. Curved fork length (CFL) is the measurement of the length taken in a line tracing the contour of the body from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail. **Anglers cannot catch both a federal and state bag limit for the same species on the same trip.**

Ocean boundary is defined as water seaward of the COLREGS Demarcation Lines as indicated on National Ocean Service navigations charts.

No one may possess aboard a vessel or while engaged in fishing any fish subject to limits without head and tail attached, except for mullet when used for bait and hickory shad when used for bait provided not more than two fish per boat/operation may be cut at any one time – Reference 15A NCAC 3M .0101

Morehead City Office (24 hours) 800-682-2632 or 252-726-7021	Elizabeth City Office 800-338-7805 or 252-381-6000	Manteo Office 252-473-5734	Washington Office 800-338-7804 or 252-946-6481	Wilmington Office 800-248-4536 or 910-796-7215	NMFS (Fed. Reg.) 301-427-8505
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THIS FLYER IS EFFECTIVE April 1, 2022 AND IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES AND HAS NO LEGAL FORCE OR EFFECT. **FISHERY RULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.** THESE RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO FISH TAKEN FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AND INCLUDE HOOK AND LINE. Updated State regulations can be found at <https://deq.nc.gov/recreational-size-bag-limits> and updated Recreational Commercial Gear License information can be found at <https://deq.nc.gov/recreational-commercial-gear-license>. FOR INLAND WATER FISHING REGULATIONS, CALL WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION 919-707-0220 OR WWW.NCWILDLIFE.ORG

STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT www.FishRulesApp.com

FISHING DAYS

Available fishing days and hours (EDT)

June 13, 2022	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
June 14, 2022	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
June 15, 2022	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
June 16, 2022	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
June 17, 2022	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
<u>June 18, 2022</u>	<u>9:00 AM - 3:00 PM</u>

*Scales close at 7:00 PM daily for gamefish.
Boats may fish four out of the six available fishing days.*

RULES COMMITTEE

Howard Basnight, Dale Britt, Dew Forbes,
Randy Gregory, Randy Ramsey, Casey Wagner

COMMITTEE BOAT: To Be Announced

WEIGH MASTER: Randy Gregory

TOURNAMENT PRESIDENT: Emery Ivey

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Madison Struyk

TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

(opens 6:00AM on fishing days)

710 Evans Street, Morehead City, NC 28557

ENTRY FEES

You must enter Level I before you can enter any other level.

THE OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT CHANNEL IS 71

TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS RADIO - The Tournament Headquarters will monitor VHF Channel 71 (alternate 78a) from 9AM to 3PM Daily. Alternate COMMITTEE Boats will be announced at the Captain's meeting June 12th, 6:30 PM Jaycee Park, Downtown Morehead City. All billfish hook-ups must be reported at the time of hook-up to qualify. You will NOT need to report gamefish hook-ups. However, we ask that you call the weigh-station to announce that you'll be weighing in a gamefish at least 30 minutes prior to arrival.

FISHING BOUNDARIES

BOUNDARIES - All boats fishing in Tournament must fish between LORAN coordinates North 40275 and South 39200. All fish must also be hooked within those coordinates.

DAILY RADIO SCHEDULE

VHF-CHANNEL #71
ALTERNATE CHANNEL #78a

8:30 am	Announce leaderboard and days radio schedule
8:45 am	Notify 15 minutes to fishing time
9:00 am	Call fishing time - LINES IN THE WATER
<u>AFTER</u> 10 am	Report number of boats fishing that day
11:30 am	Midday Update, the day's catch & releases
<i>DURING DAY</i>	Report any marlin boated & weighed in
1:30 pm	Afternoon Update, the day's catch & releases
2:45 pm	Notify 15 minutes to quitting time
3:00 pm	Call time - ALL LINES OUT OF THE WATER
3:15 pm	Announce leaderboard and day's catch & releases
<u>AFTER</u> 3 PM	Report blue marlin weighed in, as occurs

-OFFICIAL TIME IS GPS TIME -

POLYGRAPH REQUIREMENTS

All prize winners are subject to be polygraphed at the
Law Office of Mr. Roger Crowe
402 Turner St. on Hwy. 70 in Beaufort, NC.

Participants must make themselves available for polygraph testing in Carteret County within 24 hours following notice from Tournament Officials. Individuals that are required to take the polygraph test must not consume alcohol or any controlled substance within eight hours prior to the test. A participant's refusal to take a polygraph test or failure to answer test questions in a manner satisfactory to Tournament Officials, in their sole discretion, may result in disqualification. By entering the tournament, participants consent to the admissibility of polygraph results in any dispute or proceeding arising out of the tournament. If discrepancies are found, an additional appointment will be made before any prize money can be awarded.

**Please allow for schedule changes based on fish caught.



CAPTAIN'S MEETING

**SUNDAY,
JUNE 12, 2022**

6:30 PM, JAYCEE PARK

MOREHEAD CITY WATERFRONT

**ONE BLOCK FROM TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS
DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM BASK HOTEL**

EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JUNE 10



5:30 - 6:00 PM

KWLA CAPTAIN'S MEETING

Big Rock Landing

(Meeting will take place underneath large white tent)

6:00 - 9:00 PM

KWLA EVENT

Big Rock Landing

Sponsored by:



Best Dressed Contest Sponsored by:



CONTACT: Carlee Sharpe (919) 801-8346

carlee@thebigrock.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

8:00 AM-2:00 PM

25th Annual Keli Wagner Lady Angler Tournament



Gamefish weigh-ins will begin at 3:30 PM.
Scales close at 6:00 PM.

Sponsored by:



8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Stream **LIVE audio** from the app or website for
live KWLA action.



2:00 PM-6:00 PM

Tune in to **Big Rock TV** for the LIVE broadcast of KWLA
Weigh-Ins via Facebook, Youtube or our website.



SATURDAY, JUNE 11

5:30 - 7:00 PM

SPONSORS RECEPTION

Carteret Community College, Student Center
(By Invitation Only)

7:00 - 11:00 PM

CAPTAIN'S PARTY

Crystal Coast Civic Center

Sponsored by:



MERCURY
GO BOLDLY.®

Entertainment by:



SUNDAY, JUNE 12

9:00 AM
PRAYER BREAKFAST
Big Rock Landing

Co-Sponsored by:

TOWNE BANK

TOWNE INSURANCE
A Towne Family Company



SUNDAY, JUNE 12

6:30 - 7:00 PM

BIG ROCK CAPTAIN'S MEETING

Jaycee Park, Morehead City Waterfront
(Directly in front of BASK Hotel)

6:00 - 9:00 PM

PIG PICKIN'

Big Rock Landing

Co-Sponsored by:

Gregory Poole
Marine Power



Bluewater
YACHT SALES

viking yachts **FARRETT BAY**
BOATWORKS

valhalla **Everglades**
DISTRIBUTION

MONDAY, JUNE 13-18

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

6 Days of Fishing

2 Lay Days Required – Captain's Choice

Daily Weigh-Ins

Monday thru Saturday

710 Evans Street

Downtown Morehead City
at approximately 4 PM daily

Daily LIVE Broadcast

2:00 PM-7:00 PM

Facebook and Youtube



JARRETT BAY
BOATWORKS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

6:00 PM-8:00 PM
PORK CHOP DINNER

Big Rock Landing

Co-Sponsored by:



**Sales and
Service**



TOWN CREEK

MARINA
BEAUFORT NC

Pork chops provided by:

Smithfield

Good food. Responsibly®

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

11 AM-2:00 PM

AWARDS BRUNCH

Big Rock Landing

LIVE Broadcast Coverage
Facebook and Youtube



Co-Sponsored by:

Hatteras[®]

BIG ROCK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emery Ivey, President
Les Collins, Vice President
Richard Crowe, Secretary
Mike Thompson, Treasurer
Jim Bailey
Howard Basnight
Joy Bell
Tommy Bennett
Dale Britt
Roger Crowe
Dew Forbes
Jack Jordan
Billy Kornegay
Caroline Petrilli
Randy Ramsey
Curtis Strange
Casey Wagner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Madison Struyk
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(252) 725-1568

KWLA / BIG ROCK KIDS TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

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MEDIA COORDINATOR

Bailey Page
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ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE & BOOKKEEPER

Phil Collins
phil@thebigrock.com

NC Billfish Series Weigh Station Protocol

2022 Tournaments

- Weigh station area will be roped off and this area will be limited to weigh station staff and designated tournament staff recording weigh-in data.
- Weigh station and designated tournament staff will stay six feet apart and wash/sanitize hands frequently, anyone not feeling well or showing symptoms will be asked to leave the weigh station area.
- Weigh station staff and designated tournament staff will provide their own face coverings, necessary PPE and hand sanitizers; scales, tables and other surfaces will be frequently disinfected.
- Only one angler/team representative, with their fish to be weighed, will be allowed in the weigh station area at a time; the angler/team representative must remain in a marked designated angler area at least six feet away from weigh station staff and designated tournament staff.
- Vessels in weigh-slip – the crew will remain on the vessel until the Weigh Master directs the angler/team representative to the marked designated angler area.
- Chase boats - only one angler/team representative at a time will be allowed on the chase boat with their fish to be weighed; angler/team representatives will have spaced (6 foot apart) and marked designated areas to wait until directed by the Weigh Master to enter the weigh station area.
- Weigh-in photographs – after the fish has been weighed and data recorded the angler may be photographed beside the fish at the direction of the Weigh Master and only after weigh station and designated tournament staff have left the area; in the event of a weighed blue marlin (or other significant catch), after the area is cleared of staff - only the Weigh Master may invite the boat crew inside the weigh station area for photographs; anglers/crew shall not touch any weigh station equipment.
- Videographers, researchers, and other tournament staff will have their own designated areas and will remain outside of the weigh station area unless directed by the Weigh Master
- Anyone not obeying these protocols will be asked to leave the weigh station area immediately
- Everyone is encouraged to wear face coverings, stay six feet apart and wash/sanitize hands