

# RÈGLEMENT / TOURNAMENT RULES



**31 MAI  
05 JUIN**  
Quai Front de Mer  
SAINT MARTIN

The « Saint Martin Billfish Tournament » will take place on Marigot Waterfront from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Participating Boats are requested to report at the waterfront (next to gare maritime) on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 between 10am and 5pm, where they will be assigned a docking space by a Committee member.

## - 1: Registration

- To be eligible to participate in the « Saint Martin Billfish Tournament », each Captain should register his Boat before May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 at 7pm
- All participating Boats should be equipped with the necessary safety equipment as required by the maritime authorities of their Country of origin.
- Registrations will not be accepted without proof of these safety requirements.
- The registration fee will be 800 € or US\$ 1100 per boat, 60€ or US\$ 85 for the site with quay and 25 € or US\$ 35 for water (**TOTAL: 885€ or US\$ 1220**).
- Registrations are only valid after receipt of the required fee.
- With each Boat Registration, 5 Access Cards will be included giving right to complimentary:
  - Breakfast at "Sarafina's"
  - VIP Bar
  - Award Giving Cocktail
- It is understood that all participants in this Tournament are participating on their own responsibility. The « Association Marlin Blue », the Tournament Committee, it's Sponsors and Associates are not liable for any accidents or mishaps of any participants, crew, family, equipment and or Boats before during or after the Tournament.
- Upon inscription, you will also receive 5 « RELEASE CARDS » numbered 1 to 5

## - 2: Fishing Times

**Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011**

**06:00 am** Breakfast at SARAFINA'S  
**07:00 am** Bimini Start in Marigot  
**08:30 am** Lines in the Water  
**04:30 pm** Lines out of the water  
**07:30 pm** Weighmaster Closing Time

**Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011**

**06:00 am** Breakfast at SARAFINA'S  
**07:00 am** Bimini Start in Marigot  
**08:30 am** Lines in the water  
**04:30 pm** Lines out of the water  
**07:30 pm** Weighmaster Closing Time

**Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

Lay day

**Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**06:00 am** Breakfast at SARAFINA'S  
**07:00 am** Bimini Start in Marigot  
**08:30 am** Lines in the water  
**04:30 pm** Lines out of the water  
**07:30 pm** Weighmaster Closing Time

**Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**06:00 am** Breakfast at SARAFINA'S  
**07:00 am** Bimini Start in Marigot  
**08:30 am** Lines in the water  
**03:30 pm** Lines out of the water  
**06:30 pm** Weighmaster Closing Time  
**07:30 pm** «Saint Martin Billfish Tournament» Awards and Cocktail Party at Marina Fort Louis

Any Boat fighting a fish at the time at which the lines are supposed to be out of the water will be entitled to one (1) supplementary hour to end the fight.

Boats leaving before 7 am will be disqualified, however a derogation might be granted by the Committee to the Boats considered as slow.

## - 3: Prizes

All Prizes will be handed to the Captain of the Boat and or to a person assigned by the Captain of the Boat. The crew must be present at the Awards to receive their prize, if not price will be given to the next Winning Boat.

## - 4: Fishing Rules

The Tournament is organized inspired by the I.G.F.A Rules & Regulations

### - 4-1: Boat & Gear

- The minimum length of a participating Boat is 24 Feet.
- The minimum crew on board is two (2) persons.
- The maximum line test allowed is 80 lbs mono I.G.F.A Class.
- No extra points will be given for catching a fish on lighter line.
- A maximum of 5 rods is allowed.
- Handlines and wirelines are not allowed.
- Only dead baits and artificial lures should be used.

### - 4-2: Fishing Zone

The designated fishing Area is the drop off running in the North /East of Saint Martin called the Marlin Boulevard. The fishing area is comprised between the :

18N25-62W40/18N25-62W20  
&  
17N50-62W50/17N50-62W20.

To ensure a fair fishing practise it is forbidden to fish around any FADs (Fish Attracting Devices). All fish caught around a FAD (1/2 miles) will be disqualified.

### - 4-3 Qualifying Fish / Weight

Only Billfish will qualify.  
The minimum weight is set at 300 lbs.  
All White Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish must be released.

### - 4-4: Catches, Strikes and Releases

All strikes and releases must be reported to the FISH CONTROL station on VHF Chanel 06.



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The report must contain the name of Boat, the position and the possible type of fish.

## - 4-5: Releases :

A fish is released according to the IGFA rules as well as to our Tournament « RELEASE PROCEDURES ».

### RELEASE PROCEDURES 3 STAGES

After the strike : Captain must report to the FISH CONTROL on VHF 06 who will attribute a card number to be used.

- 1) Take a picture of your GPS stating your position and the time
- 2) Take pictures of the fish to identify the species (dorsal fin, pectoral fin, the bill & size)
- 3) Take a picture of the fish with the « RELEASE CARD NUMBER» attributed by the FISH CONTROL

If one of these 3 stages is not respected, release will not be valid.

If pictures cannot determinate the Billfish species then only 150 pts will be accorded to the release.

If pictures cannot determine if it's a Billfish then no points will be accorded to the release.

We suggest to use only one camera for the releases, please use another camera for your personal shots.

## - 4-6: During the fight:

Only one Angler is allowed to handle the rod after the strike.

## - 4-7: The Committee Observer

The committee of the tournament reserves the right to place an official observer on each participating boat, each day of fishing of the tournament. Each crew must have a camera.

## - 4-8: Fishing Equipment

The Committee reserves the right to inspect the fishing equipment of each participating Boat. In case the equipment is not conforming the Tournament Rules, the Committee has the right to disqualify the Boat.

## - 4-9 : Protests

Any protest should be filed in writing by the Captain of the protesting Boat within one hour after

The Weighmaster Closing Time accompanied by a protest fee of USD 500 payable to the Committee. The sum of USD 500 will not be re-imbursed in the case that the protest is deemed unfunded.

## - 4-10 : Calculation of Points

Only the points of the best three days will be considered.

- Participation in the first day Bimini Start 100 Points. These points are obligatory taken into account in the total count.

- The weight of each fish Boated above the minimum weight (300 lbs) will be allotted the same amount of points (ex: fish weighted 456lbs brings 456 points).

- Fish Boated under the minimum weight will be penalized with the weight of the fish minus the minimum weight (300 lbs) (ex : fish weighted 220 lbs minus 300 lbs equalizes minus 80).

### RELEASES

Blue Marlin : 250 points  
Other Billfish : 150 points

- A mutilated fish (upon IGFA rules) will not be weighed and consequently will not bring any points to the competitor.

### - TIES

In case one or more Boats end up with the same amount of points, the best place will be attributed to the Boat having realised the most points on the 4th day. If the Boats are still on a tie, the best place will be attributed to the Boat who reached the total points as first during the (4 days) Tournament.

### -Prize for the Heaviest fish.

Will be awarded to the Boat that caught the heaviest fish during the Tournament excluding the fish that breaks the Tournament record. In this case the second largest fish of the Tournament will be awarded the prize for the Heaviest fish.

### -Prize for the Record Fish

Will be awarded to the Boat that caught the biggest fish weighting at least one (1) lbs more than the current record of 809 lbs.

The number of points of the Heaviest and Record fish will be deducted from the total points over the best 3 fishing days .

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In all cases the decision of the Committee is Irrevocable & Final !

