



ORGANIZED BY
AHPESCAR
THE HONDURAN ASSOCIATION
OF RESPONSIBLE FISHING

SEPTEMBER
15 TH - 18 TH 2022

***RULES &
REGULATIONS***

WEST END, ROATÁN





FISHING TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE 2022

- Kyle McNab
- Chris Rosales
- Devin McNab
- Denny Cooper
- Gary McLaughlin
- Enrick Bush

Event Coordinator:

- Oniel Nixon

JUDGES

Leo Anderson tel.: 9805-8176

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEP. 15, 2022

2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Registration
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Captains' Meeting

FRIDAY, SEP. 16, 2022

6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	First day of fishing
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SATURDAY, SEP. 17, 2022

Open – 5:00 p.m.	Second day of fishing
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SUNDAY, SEP. 18, 2022

Open – 3:00 p.m.	Third day of fishing
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Award Ceremony

REGISTRATION

- All boats must be registered with the Tournament Committee and entry fee paid to qualify for prizes and trophies.
- Any boat entered in The Roatan International Fishing Tournament shall not be entered in another tournament simultaneously.
- Proper identification must be presented for all registered anglers and Captains.
- The Tournament Committee reserves the right to deny entry to anyone. There will be a late fee of \$100 (U.S Dollar) assessed to any boat registering after the **captains meeting on Thursday, 16th**; however, no new entries are allowed after **12:00 p.m. on Friday the 17th**.

**All participating boats are responsible of having their permits, licenses and registration in order with the local authorities.*



CATEGORY

BILLFISH CATEGORY

Blue and White Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish are the only species that qualify in this category.

Blue Marlin	500 Points
White Marlin	300 Points
Sailfish & Spearfish	200 Points

* Bonus Points

50 bonus points will be awarded for a clean hook removal from any billfish with video evidence.

- 1st Place** Awarded to the team with most overall billfish points.
- 2nd Place** Awarded to the team with second most overall billfish points.
- 3rd Place** Awarded to the team with third most overall billfish points.

RODEO CATEGORY

The Rodeo Category will be point based. One point per pound will be awarded to each qualifying fish. Wahoo, Dolphin, Tuna and Kingfish are the qualifying species in this category. Minimum qualifying weight is 20 lbs. A short on deck video including the day's flag is required and must be recorded immediately after a qualifying fish has been caught.

- 1st Place** Awarded to the team with most overall Rodeo points.
- 2nd Place** Awarded to the team with second most overall Rodeo points.
- 3rd Place** Awarded to the team with third most overall Rodeo points.

JUNIOR CATEGORY

Junior anglers should be 15 years old or younger. Qualifying species include: Barracuda, Mackerel, Kingfish, Wahoo, Dolphin and Tuna.

Qualifying fish need to be at least 15 lbs with the exception of Barracuda and Mackerel which require a minimum weight of 10 lbs to qualify.

- 1st Place** Awarded to the heaviest qualifying fish
- 2nd Place** Awarded to the second heaviest qualifying fish.
- 3rd Place** Awarded to the third heaviest qualifying fish.

* To register kids under the age of 12, please ask for info at the Registration Table at The Captain's Meeting.

RULES

Unless otherwise stated, IGFA/OWC rules will apply throughout this Tournament.

1. RULES ACCEPTANCE & CAPTAINS' MEETING

- A.** It is the sole responsibility of the participating anglers, captains and crews to know and abide by The Roatan Fishing Tournament rules. By entering the event they acknowledge this and agree to such.
- B.** Anglers and boat Captains should attend the scheduled Captain's Meeting. If they don't attend, they automatically accept and agree to be bound by instructions given at the meeting.
- C.** By entering The Roatan International Fishing Tournament, all participants agree to accept the rules of the tournament and accept all decisions made by the Rules and Tournament Committee as final. The Tournament Committee is not liable for any type of accidents, damages and/or loss of life, boats and equipment during the event.

2. TOURNAMENT START

- A.** The official tournament starts the first fishing day with a shot-gun flare start at 6:00 a.m. in front of Half Moon Bay, West End.
- B.** All boats must be in Half Moon Bay area and report to the tournament base by radio through Channel 16 (Tournament Official Channel) before the tournament start time.
- C.** In case of an emergency that disables any participating boat to comply with the tournament start rules, the boat and its crew must present itself with the Tournament Committee at its base in Half Moon Bay to discuss the reason of its noncompliance. The Tournament Committee will discuss the captain's reason for non compliance and decide if the boat is eligible for reentry.
- D.** Any boat that does not comply with these instructions will be immediately disqualified from the entire event.

3. WEIGH STATION

Weight station will open at 10:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. on the first two days of competition and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday the 18th. If there is a need to extend weigh in time due to a late hook up, this can be granted by the Tournament Committee only if the caught fish

was reported being hooked before 5:00 p.m. The extension is not possible on the final day of fishing.

The only exception to this rule is if mechanical failure is reported and the Tournament Committee agrees to extend the 7:00 p.m. deadline.

Any person guilty of tampering with the weight of their fish may be disqualified from participation in future Roatan International Fishing Tournaments.

4. FISHING RULES

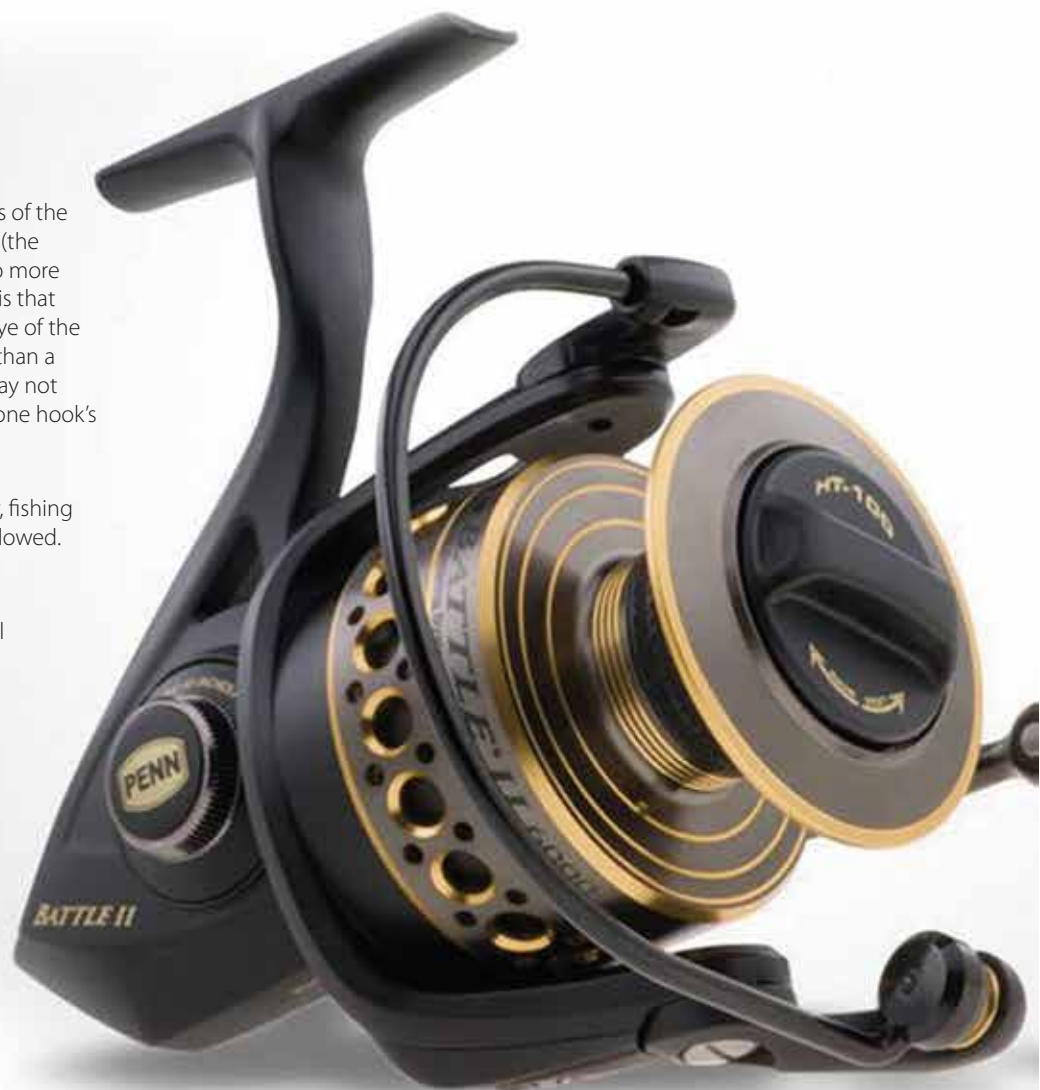
- A.** Only fish caught on rod and reel, trolling or drifting, will qualify. Anchoring will not be permitted.
- B.** Artificial and natural baits are allowed. Non-offset circle hooks are mandatory when using live or dead bait for billfish with the exemption of dead bait being trolled under a lure.
- C.** When using an artificial lure with a skirt or trailing material, no more than two single hooks may be attached to the line, leader, or trace.



The hooks need not be attached separately. The eyes of the hooks must be no less than an overall hook's length (the overall length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 12 inches (30.48 cm) apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook. The trailing hook may not extend more than a hook's length beyond the skirt of the lure. A hook may not precede bait, lure or bait/lure combo by more than one hook's length. A photograph or sketch showing the hook arrangement must accompany a record application.

- D. No specific brand of fishing line is required, however, fishing lines may not exceed 80Lbs. test. No wire lines are allowed. All boats are subject to equipment inspection if any doubts arise.
- E. Fire arms, explosives, spear guns or electric reels will not be permitted. A gaff should only be used in the Rodeo Category or in the event of Record Breaking Blue Marlin over 708 lbs.
- F. Half Mile common courtesy rule during hook up is in effect. If a boat is in fight other boats must respect that boats boundaries and give way if needed. If the common courtesy rule is broken the offending vessel is subject to penalty and/or disqualification by the judges.
- G. No Hand-offs between boats is permitted. The Tournament Committee may choose to grant special permission to waive this rule if someone's personal safety or health is at risk.

**** Sportsman like conduct ashore and afloat is expected of all participants and their guests.**



5. BILLFISH RELEASE

The Roatan International Fishing Tournament Prides itself in having been the **First established Catch and Release Tournament in Honduras**. Any boat bringing in a marlin or sailfish **will be disqualified** from the event thus losing all entries. The only exception is a Record Breaking Blue Marlin.

A. Catch and Release

A billfish is considered officially caught when the leader connection is wound to the tip of the rod, or the mate or other crew member touches the leader. Billfish points are awarded for properly released fish. To be counted as a properly released fish, mates should swim the fish in the correct manner to revive it and the fish must be alive and capable of survival when released

B. Clean Hook Removal.

All teams must provide video evidence of hook removal for additional 50 bonus points.

C. Release and Filming Instructions

1. All participating boats should have a Video Camera with the proper date and time adjusted in order to participate in the Billfish and Rodeo Category. Camera photos will not be accepted.

2. The day before each fishing day, the Tournament Committee will give out a specific banner that should be shown in the video at the moment of each release. All banners (one for each fishing day) will have different colors and icons to ensure that the fish shown in the video was in fact caught and released during the tournament dates.
3. All boats must report name of boat, name of angler at the time of hook up. The catch or release time must be reported; time of the catch or release will determine the winner in the case of a tie.
4. Mates can help angler place rod in fighting chair or get strapped in at the beginning of the fight and grab the leader at the end of the fight. At no point can a crew member and or mate help fight the fish. Any additional help will result in disqualification of that fish.
5. In order to confirm the release, the videos have to clearly show, in one single and continuous film, the following aspects:
 - The angler and or crew registered under the boat that is fighting and releasing the fish.

- The billfish species clearly identified. If the species cannot be positively identified, the team will be given the points based on the criteria of The Tournament Committee. If the film shows the touch of the leader but cannot identify that the fish is actually a billfish, there will be no points awarded for the release.
- The colored banner given out for that specific day of fishing. It is imperative that this banner is clearly shown. The banner and the billfish must appear in the same continuous shot.
- The billfish swimming away freely from the boat. Failure to comply with all these aspects above will result in the failure of granting the respective billfish points to the registered team.

All billfish release videos must be presented to the Tournament Committee before the end of the closing of the scale on each fishing day.

PROTEST

Any protest must be presented to the Tournament Committee before the official closing of the weigh station on the day of the alleged infraction. The Tournament Committee will rule as soon as is feasibly possible.

DEAD OR WOUNDED FISH

Any billfish deemed by the crew as dead or injured enough to cause death, must be carefully filmed during the battle and release attempts in order to verify crew's assumptions. The boat is obligated to leave fish at sea. Any boat that brings ashore a dead billfish will be immediately disqualified. No clean hook removal points can be awarded in this case only species points for the dead fish or wounded billfish left at sea.

RECORD BREAKING BLUE MARLIN

The only exception to the rule above is if the catch is a Blue Marlin that exceeds the Roatan Record at 708 lbs. Tournament Committee will provide a minimum measurement for this fish. The vessel that makes the catch must report to officials via radio or cell phone in sufficient time, so that the fish can be properly measured and inspected before brought ashore.

SAFETY

Emergencies, questions and problems should be relayed to Tournament Control. Tournament boats should abide by all rules of the road and safety should be kept foremost in all operations of vessels.

WEATHER CONDITION

In the event of unsafe weather conditions, the Tournament Committee may choose to postpone the tournament until a later date. Captains are ultimately responsible for their crew and should make the decision as to safe sea conditions.



WWW.LETSFISH *Roatan*.COM

24 HOURS FUELING SERVICE

CONTACT NUMBERS:

BIP STATION

Fredy: **9485-1878**

David: **9485-1872**

Emergency: **9991-2957**

The Roatan International Fishing Tournament

General info: **9962-7130**

Fishing info only: **9891-4227**



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