

Islamorada Junior Sailfish Tournament Rules



1. Tournament entry fee is \$150 per angler and includes angler gifts and social tickets for each night. The entry fee is nonrefundable unless written request is received 7 days prior to the start of the tournament. After that you may be refunded if your part of the tournament is filled by another angler. There can be no substitution of anglers unless granted by the tournament committee. The tournament director reserves the right to refuse any applicant, Captain or mate from entering without cause and at their sole discretion.

2. The Islamorada Junior Sailfish Tournament rules should be strictly adhered to and all decisions of the committee are absolute and final. Any Captain, mate or angler found in violation of tournament rules will be disqualified from the tournament.

3. All boats must depart and return to the same dock each day.

4. This is a "BOAT" tournament with a release format of 100 points for each release. Although point scoring shall be on both cumulative and individual basis for trophy purpose, the "BOAT" accumulating the most release points shall be judged the winner. No sailfish boated, harmed or brought back to the dock.

5. All IGFA rules will apply unless otherwise stated below.

6. Lines in other than bait catching at 8 am and out at 3 pm both Saturday and Sunday. Only manufactured stated 20lb test line may be used. No more than 6 lines be fished from a boat at any time. This does not include a teaser line. A fish may be fought after lines out provided it has been reported to the committee boat prior to lines out. All boats must return to the dock by 5 pm on both days.

7. Only non-off set circle hooks may be used on live or dead bait.

8. In the event of multiple hook ups on separate lines by a single angler, all released fish can be scored and single anglers may fight multiple fish utilizing the rod holders.

9. ALL sailfish hook ups and releases must be reported immediately to the committee boat by VHF radio CHANNEL 78 only, and must be acknowledged by the committee boat to be scored. The exact number of hook ups must be reported, for example: Single, double, triple etc. The term multiple is not acceptable for calling in more than one sailfish. In addition, the Capt. must report the final disposition of each hook up to the committee boat. Reports may be relayed by another boat OR called into the tournament director via text (970-901-3272) if the reporting boat cannot reach the committee boat.

10. In order to qualify a fish having been caught and released, the following conditions must be met: The mate, Capt. or angler touches the leader close to the fish as possible. Touching the double lines does qualify as a release.

11. The double line shall be limited to 15 feet and the leader shall be limited to 15 feet; however, the combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 20 feet.

12. Live bait chumming is prohibited throughout the course of this tournament. Any bait that is replaced on a line or teaser for any reason shall be retained in the boat. Any boat participating in the tournament shall not permit any other boat to chum in their behalf. This does prohibit trolling with a chum bag in the water to attract baitfish. Anchoring with a chum bag in the water to attract baitfish is allowed for catching bait.

13. No one except the registered angler may hook up a fish. No one except the registered angler may touch the rod, reel and line while the fish is being fought. Crew members are permitted to cast baits however the rod and reel must be placed in the neutral position (most commonly the rod holder) and the reel must be placed in free spool. NOT PASSED DIRECTLY TO THE ANGLER. If the fish is even hooked accidentally by a crew member it will be disqualified.

14. If the fish should become hooked to more than one line or become entangled, the fouled line must be cut immediately. It is the intent that the fish be fought the majority of the time on a single line. If it is not then the fish will not be recorded.

15. Fishing boundaries are as follows: The northerly boundary is the shoreline and the southerly boundary is the 100-fathom curve. The easterly boundary is 80.17.85W and the westerly boundary is 80.51.30W. All fishing must take place within these boundaries.

16. **SPA Rule:** Other than bait catching with proper permits no vessel will be allowed to engage in any fishing activity inside of a Special Preservation Area of the National Marine Sanctuary (SPA marked by four yellow balls). If you hook up a sailfish and in the course of the fight, the fish enters the SPA, you may not pursue it into the SPA with your vessel or your fish will be disqualified. The fish can be in the SPA and you may reel it out of the SPA. Your vessel may not go in the SPA.

17. Any protest concerning the tournament must be made in writing by 6 pm for day one and 6 pm for day two.

18. This is a Junior Angler tournament! Fish fair and let's leave out the polygraph rule!

19. Participants of this tournament enter at their own risk. Officials, committee members, sponsors, and ALL persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Islamorada Junior Sailfish Tournament shall be exempt from any liability for loss, damage, negligence, harm or injury suffered by any participant, entrant, sportfishing vessel, their companions, captain, crew members, vessels and equipment which may occur during this tournament.

20. ALL anglers MUST have a parent's signature on the entry to be qualified as a registered angler. All anglers must sign the entry. By signing this entry, you adhere to rule 19.

Parent signature_____

Angler signature_____

ALL ANGLERS MUST HAVE INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES AND BE SIGNED BY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN