

1. Boats may leave any Gulf Coast pass. Boats may clear the pass after the Captain's meeting (Friday, September 15) is over. All boats must be registered AND signed out prior to departure. Monitor channel 72 departing and returning to tournament headquarters.
2. The weigh station will be at Tacky Jacks Orange Beach. On Saturday, September 16 the scales will open at 5 p.m. and boats with fish to weigh must clear Perdido Pass by 7 p.m. Monitor channel 72 for docking instructions. Video confirmation may be brought to the dock by means other than boat.
3. Minimum 20 pounds for tuna, dolphin, and wahoo. Swordfish must be minimum legal length.
4. All anglers weighing fish must have a current Alabama saltwater fishing license. To purchase a license please call 1(888)872-8862 visit [www.outdooralabama.com/fishing/saltwater/license](http://www.outdooralabama.com/fishing/saltwater/license).
5. IGFA rules will apply. NMFS regulations on hooks for tournaments will apply. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.** A 130-pound test is the maximum allowed. The angler must hook, fight, and bring the fish to the boat, unaided by any other person. No one other than the angler may touch the rod. The tournament committee may inspect all equipment. All anglers and crew members are expected to be familiar with IGFA rules. Non-compliance with IGFA rules is grounds for disqualification. NMFS tuna permits are required for all tuna entries. No tuna will be accepted without presentation of the NMFS tuna permit. To apply for a permit call (888)872-8862.
6. Line bonus points do not apply. In case of a tie the winner will be determined by time of confirmation from video verification. Billfish points are awarded as follows: **Blue Marlin-300 points; White Marlin, Sailfish, Spearfish- 100 points. A color video must be presented to confirm all Catch & Release** submissions and must clearly show the species of the fish, the angler fighting the fish, date and time, the tackle used, leader, rod tip, splice or swivel through the rod tip, and the tournament designator presented at registration. All videos will be reviewed by the tournament committee and returned to the boat. **ALL** of these conditions must be met to receive billfish points.
7. Frozen fish will not be accepted.
8. In case of a tie on weight in meat fish categories, first fish to the dock wins.
9. Fish brought to the dock must be aboard the boat that landed the fish. There may not be any pooling of catch, or transfer or catch, from one boat to another. Substitution of boats prior to the start of the tournament must have clearance from the tournament committee.
10. All boats are responsible for their fish, the proper reporting documentation, confirmation in the Release category, and the submission of state record applications.

11. In the event of inclement weather on Saturday, September 16, the tournament will be rescheduled for Sunday, September 17, weather permitting.
12. The Kenny Vines Memorial Tournament is conducted on the **HONOR** system and each entrant will be responsible for his team and crew. Should anyone have a complaint, it must be submitted in writing to the tournament committee 30 minutes prior to the close of the tournament.
13. Disputes to be resolved by the tournament committee. All decisions are final.
14. All boats must be in compliance with fishing rules and regulations as stipulated by the National Marine Fisheries Services and the state of Alabama.
15. All fish must be in good condition. Weighmaster reserves the right to refuse any fish due to poor condition.
16. Anglers aged 16 years or younger as of Saturday, September 16, 2023, are eligible for Junior Angler awards.

## **IGFA RULES**

Wire lines are prohibited.

A double line must consist of the actual line used to catch the fish. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot, braid, roll, or splice making the double to the farthest end of the know, splice, swivel, snap or other device used for securing the trace, leader, lure, or hook to the double line. In all line classes up to and including 20lb shall be limited to 15 feet. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 20 feet. The double line on all classes of tackle over 20lb shall be limited to 30 feet. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 40 feet.

The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications: The length of the leader is the overall length including any lure, hook, arrangement or other device. The leader must be connected to the line with a snap, swivel, knot, splice or other device. Holding devices are prohibited. There are no regulations regarding the material or strength of the leader.

Gaffs and nets used to boats or land a fish must not exceed 8 ft in overall length. If a flying or detachable gaff is used, the rope may not exceed 30 feet.

From the time a fish strikes, or takes the bait or lure, the angler must hook, fight, and land or boat the fish without the aid of any other person, except as provided in these regulations. If a rod holder is used and a fish strikes, the angler must remove the rod from the holder as quickly as possible. The intent of this rule is that the angler shall strike and hook the fish with the rod in hand. In the event of a multiple strike on separate lines being fished by a single angler, only the first fish fought by the angler will be considered for a world record.

If a double line is used, the intent of the regulations is the fish will be fought on the single line most of the time it takes to land the fish.

A harness may be attached to the reel or rod, but not the fighting chair. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler. Use of a rod belt or waist gimbal is permitted.

When angling from a boat, once the leader is brought within the grasp of the mate, or the end of the leader is wound to the rod tip, more than one person is permitted to hold the leader. One or more gaffers may be used in addition to persons holding the leader. The gaff handle must be in hand when the fish is gaffed.

The angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is weighed.

The following acts or situations will disqualify a catch:

- Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
- The act of persons other than the angler touching any part of the rod, reel, or line (including the double line) either bodily or with any device, from the time a fish strikes or takes the bait or lure, until the fish is either landed or released, or in giving aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle (whether chum, float line, rubber band, or other material) shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
- Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat, or any other object while playing the fish.
- Hand lining or using a hand line or rope attached in any manner to the angler line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
- Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish, including sharks and halibuts at any stage of the catch.
- Chumming with or using as bait the flesh, blood, skin, or any part of a mammal other than hair or pork rind used in lures designed for trolling or casting.
- Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
- Changing the rod or reel while the fish is being played.
- Splicing, removing, or adding to the line while the fish is being played.
- Intentionally foul-hooking a fish.
- Catching a fish in a manner that the double line never leaves the rod tip.
- Using a size or kind of bait that is illegal to possess.
- Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of a boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
- If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any other method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
- While the fish is being played if a rod breaks in a manner that reduces the length of the tip below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
- Prior to boating or landing, mutilation to the fish caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old

healed scars, or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries. Any mutilation to the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying a record application

- When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.