

2025 FWB Sailfish Club Offshore Tournament

Tournament Rules

Captain's Meeting

- Mandatory meeting @ 6:00pm on September 17th, 2025 to be attended by boat Captain or at least one member of the crew unless previously arranged with the Tournament Director (Mark Gootee – 214-500-6800).
- Location: FWB Sailfish Club Clubhouse - 23 Meigs Drive, Shalimar, FL 32579.
- Tournament open to members of the FWBSC as well as non-members on an invitation basis. A current member must “sponsor” any non-member in the tournament and vouch for their integrity. Invitations can also be given by Tournament Director after vetting.
- No professional anglers or for hire guides allowed unless approved by Tournament Director.

Tournament Dates & Times

- September 19th – October 18th, 2025
- Up to a maximum of 4 days of fishing:
 - All 4 of the days are “Captain’s Choice” and can be any 4 days the captain chooses between September 19th and October 18th.
 - Final weigh-in is 5:00pm on October 18th. All anglers with fish to be weighed in must be in line by 5:00pm.
 - “Captain’s Choice” days can be consecutive but do not have to be consecutive.
- Fishing time and area:
 - A day of fishing starts at 12:00am and ends at 11:59pm (except on October 18th).
 - Any fish hooked prior to 11:59pm can be fought into the following day. Photo evidence with time / date stamp and location services turned on must prove fish was hooked prior to 11:59pm.
 - Anglers are allowed to prep for their fishing day by leaving their departure dock no earlier than 2:00pm the day before to catch bait, travel to fishing location, etc.
 - No fish caught before 12:00am on the day of fishing will count in the tournament.
 - Pictures must be taken of all fish to be weighed in as soon as possible after catching with time stamp and location services turned on.
 - All boats must enter the gulf and return from the gulf through the Destin East Pass.

- For safety and accountability reasons, boats must check out / check in on each trip to sea. Captains must send a group text to the following people each fishing day / trip to sea:
 - Mark Gootee – 214-500-6800
 - Bryan Callahan – 850-758-1399
 - Brad Gable – 850-582-2773
 - Before leaving the pass on each trip to sea, send a group text containing the following information:
 - Name of vessel
 - Names of Captain and crew members
 - Expected departure time
 - Dates of days you will be fishing
 - When returning through the pass send a group text containing the following information (regardless if any fish need to be weighed or not):
 - Name of vessel
 - Name of Captain
 - If fish need to be weighed in or not. (If weigh in is needed you will be directed on where to meet).
- If needing to weigh in after 9pm, keep fish on ice and schedule weigh in for next morning.
- Fish must be caught within 150 NM of the Destin CB Buoy (30.22.245N 86.30.900W). No fishing allowed outside of this area.

Tournament Fee Schedule

- \$500 entry fee per boat for a Captain and a maximum crew of 4.
- Captain must stay the same for all fishing days but crew members and boat are interchangeable.
- Captain will receive a complementary tournament shirt of his / her choice and 5 tickets to the October 19th Fundraiser Dinner.

Targeted Species and Awards

- Targeted Species
 - Tuna (Yellowfin, Blackfin, and Bigeye only)
 - Dolphinfin
 - Wahoo
 - King Mackerel
 - Swordfish
- Catch & Release
 - Eligible Billfish
 - Sailfish
 - Blue Marlin
 - White Marlin

- Roundscale Spearfish
 - Swordfish
- Line leader must be touched to be considered a catch.
- A photo of caught billfish with time / date stamp and location services turned on must be submitted to Tournament Director (Mark Gootee) and Weigh Master (Bryan Callahan).
- Swordfish can qualify for catch & and release trophy only if released and not brought to weigh in. A single swordfish can't qualify for both monetary award and catch & release trophy. Captain must pick only one of the categories per fish. If 2 swordfish are caught by a team, one can qualify for the catch & release and the other can be brought in for weigh in.
- The trophy will be given to the Captain with the most Catch and Release points. Each Sailfish, White Marlin, Roundscale Spearfish, and Swordfish that are properly caught and released will receive 200 points. Blue Marlin will receive 400 points. If there is a tie, the trophy will go to the Captain that caught the first legal Catch & Release fish.
- Payouts
 - FWBSC will retain 10% of all entry fees and calcutta fees.
 - 90% of all entry fees collected will go into the Award Pot.
 - 1st place will be determined as the heaviest fish caught and weighed in of each species. 2nd place will be determined as the 2nd heaviest fish caught and weighed in of each species.
 - Smallest fish award will be given to the lightest LEGAL fish caught in each species.
 - If there are no legal fish weighed in for a certain species or place, the award allotment for that species will be added to the Award Pot and distributed evenly among the other species weighed in.
 - A single fish can only win one place. One prize per fish.
 - Award Pot will be distributed as follows:

Species	1st Place	2 nd Place	Smallest
Tuna	14% of Award Pot (\$1,000 minimum)	6% of Award Pot (\$350 minimum)	\$250
Dolphinfish	14% of Award Pot (\$1,000 minimum)	6% of Award Pot (\$350 minimum)	\$250
Wahoo	14% of Award Pot (\$1,000 minimum)	6% of Award Pot (\$350 minimum)	\$250
King Mackerel	14% of Award Pot (\$1,000 minimum)	6% of Award Pot (\$350 minimum)	\$250

Swordfish	14% of Award Pot (\$1,000 minimum)	6% of Award Pot (\$350 minimum)	\$250
Catch & Release Billfish	Trophy given to the Captain with the most billfish Catch & Release points – Tie breaker is awarded to the 1 st Catch & Release fish caught. No monetary awards		

Overriding Tournament Rules

- All Captains and Crew must have a valid Florida fishing license.
- All fish must be caught by rod and reel.
- All state, FWC, and federal rules must be followed.
- FWBSC “board minimums” do not apply. Any fish only has to be legal as determined by state and federal rules.
- All FWBSC general fishing rules must be followed. Available upon request. (https://www.fwsailfishclub.com/files/ugd/c2993f_911c3591ac2c4a5f88f9d808368306dd.pdf)
- All fish must be weighed in whole condition.
- No foreign objects can be added to fish before weigh in.
- Weigh Master may request to cut open any fish for inspection at his discretion.
- Registration is per Captain. Captain can swap out boats and crew as necessary.
- Only one Captain per boat and fishing trip. Two Captains can NOT be on the same boat at the same time. If two registered Captains are on the same boat, it has to be established before the trip which one is the Captain and which one is the Crew.

Protests & Violations

- Any rules violations will result in disqualification of the fish in question.
- Any protests will be ruled upon by the Tournament Director.

Questions

- Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Tournament Director (Mark Gootee @ 214-500-6800).