

The Charleston Angler Sailfish Slam

OFFICIAL RULES- OCTOBER 1-4, 2008

Revised August 15, 2008 (subject to change at Captains' Meeting)

1. **REGISTRATION:** All boats must be registered with the Tournament Committee and entry fee paid to qualify for prizes and trophies. Any boat may be substituted during the week but must be registered with the Tournament Committee prior to fishing. Any boat entered in the Sailfish Slam shall not be entered in another tournament simultaneously. The tournament reserves the right to deny entry to anyone. All registered boats and anglers must be in compliance with Federal and State Regulations regarding recreational and/or charter fishing.

2. **RULES MEETING:** At least one person from each boat should be represented and is responsible for knowing the rules including any changes that may take place at the Captain's Meeting on Wednesday evening prior to the tournament.

3. **FISHING TIME AND LAYDAYS:** No lines or teasers in the water before official fishing hours each day. Official time will be GPS time. Fishing days for all eligible boats shall be any two out of the available three days, captain's choice. Non-fishing days must be reported on a layday form and submitted before 9:00 a.m. on the day declared as a non-fishing day. If a boat does not declare a day as non-fishing, the Tournament Committee will automatically count the day to be a fishing day for the boat. Forms may be faxed to 843-577-7704, emailed to mestes@megadock.us or they may be delivered by hand to the tournament office or City Marina Dock Office at 17 Lockwood Drive.

4. **ROD AND REEL RULES:** This is a rod and reel, hook and line tournament. Double line and leader may not exceed 40ft; neither of which may exceed 30ft. The following practices are illegal in this tournament: a) use of hand line or rope attached to the line or leader, b) shooting, harpooning, or lancing and c) no participant may transfer from one boat to another during a fishing day.

5. **REPORTING:** All blue marlin, white marlin and sailfish must be reported to committee boats/tournament headquarters when hooked, lost, boated or released. Radio frequency shall be VHF CHANNEL 78. Fish hooked prior to or after fishing hours are not eligible. All releases must be reported on the Official Release Form provided by the tournament. These forms must be presented to the tournament trailer at The City Marina by _____ p.m. (time announced at Captains' Meeting) on the day the fish was caught. In the event of mechanical failure a boat may request another tournament vessel deliver the Release Form on their behalf. No call-ins or faxes will be accepted.

6. **BOUNDARIES:** All boats fishing in The Sailfish Slam must be in the coastal waters of South Carolina.

7. **MANDATORY HOOK REQUIREMENTS:** Non-offset circle hooks are mandatory when deploying natural bait or natural bait/artificial lures. Circle hooks are defined as any hook regarded as a circle hook designated by the manufacturer and originally designed and manufactured so that the point is turned perpendicularly back to the shank to form a generally circular or oval shape.

“J” hooks are allowed on artificial lures only.

8. **RELEASE POINTS:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the boats that score the most number of points first. The Sailfish Slam is a release tournament. Landing a billfish will result in automatic disqualification from the tournament. To be considered a release, the crew cannot have attempted to boat or gaff the fish. In order for a billfish to be counted as a release, a member of the fishing team, crewmember, or rod tip must touch the leader. A fish is boated when any portion of the fish breaks the plane of the boat. In the event of a tie, the first boats to achieve the winning totals shall be declared the winners.

RELEASE POINTS: 200 Sailfish, 200 White Marlin, 200 Blue Marlin

SAILFISH SLAM: Catching and releasing a sailfish, white marlin, and blue marlin during a fishing day or combination of fishing days constitutes a Sailfish Slam. In the event of a Slam, all billfish points for that vessel will become 300 per billfish released, including the releases prior to the Slam.

EXAMPLE: A blue and a sail on Thursday, and a white on Friday equal 900 points with the Sailfish Slam. However, a blue and a sail on Thursday, and two sails on Friday equal 800 points because a white marlin was not released to complete the Slam.

9. **PRIZE PAYOUT:** All prize money will be distributed within 15 days of the tournament's conclusion provided there are no outstanding appeals or disputes.

10. **PROTEST:** Any dispute must be submitted in writing to the tournament director by 9:00 a.m. on the day following the dispute. The Tournament Committee will make every effort, but will not be required to rule on the matter by 7:00 p.m. on the day the dispute is submitted. All appeals require a \$300 deposit. The deposit is refunded if the dispute results in a change of judgment.

11. **WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TOURNAMENT:** No base Entry Fees will be refunded. 100% of all optional levels will be refunded 15 days after the tournament and following the clearing of all funds paid. All refund requests must be received in writing by 12:00 noon the day of the Captains' Meeting.

12. **RULES COMMITTEE:** Any boat breaking any of the above Tournament Rules may be disqualified. Decisions of the Rules Committee are final.