

TIFT Rules &

• General Information:

Each angler 13 years or older is restricted to weighing in the single heaviest fish per eligible species in their division per day. Angler must select the heaviest fish to be weighed. Trophies are awarded on the basis of total accumulated eligible points for two days of fishing. Angler must accompany his or her fish to the weigh station and initial weigh card to ensure accuracy. All anglers are restricted to weighing in once per day. No one may fish from any tournament boat that is not a TIFT registered angler. All captains/or boat operators must be registered in TIFT for the angler's fish to be eligible for TIFT awards. **CAPTAIN'S MEETING: THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M SOUTH PADRE ISLAND CONVENTION CENTRE. ATTENDANCE IS STRONGLY ADVISED IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOU ADHERE AND COMPLY WITH ALL TIFT RULES.**

LADIES AND JUNIORS MAY ONLY WIN THEIR RESPECTIVE DIVISIONS IN THE BAY, OFFSHORE/NO BILLFISH AND HIGHEST OFFSHORE POINTS. THEY WILL STILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR GRAND CHAMPION AND HEAVIEST OF SPECIES AWARDS. The contest shall begin at 7 a.m. August 3, 2007. No contestant shall be eligible for awards unless registered in advance of that date. Angler must be a registered contestant of TIFT in order for fish to be weighed. All fish will be measured and weighed once only and decisions of the weigh master are final.

• **Receiving Station:** All fish must be brought in edible condition to the receiving station at Southpoint Marina in Port Isabel to be weighed, measured and recorded by the official weighmaster or deputy. All fish are subject to further inspection if deemed necessary by the weighmaster. The station hours will be from 2-8 p.m. on the first day of fishing and 2-7 p.m. on the final day.

• **Offshore Division:** Fishing Hours: Contestants may start fishing at 7 a.m. on both days. Offshore boats may not leave the dock before 12:01 a.m. on each day of fishing. They must stop fishing by 5 p.m. the first day and 4 p.m. the final day. Dock time for the first day is 8 p.m., final day, 7 p.m. Scoring:

a) Blue marlin, swordfish, mako shark shall be scored, regardless of line size, as follows: the weight of the fish, multiplied by two (2). Minimum length for blue marlin to qualify for points is 101".

b) White marlin and sailfish shall be scored as follows: the weight of the fish multiplied by four (4) plus 100. Minimum length to qualify for points is 67" for White Marlin and 64" for Sailfish.

c) Other offshore fish--blackfin tuna, yellowfin tuna, bonito, boni-

to, ling, wahoo, barracuda, dolphin, king mackerel and jack crevalle will be scored one (1) point per pound. **AMBERJACK ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR POINTS.** Catch is limited to the single heaviest fish per eligible species per day of fishing.

d) **Catch and Release Class:** Any offshore fisherman may elect to Catch and Release his catch. Points for Catch and Release trophies will be awarded for the following only:

BLUE MARLIN 800 POINTS

WHITE MARLIN . . 300 POINTS

SAILFISH 300 POINTS

TO QUALIFY FOR CATCH AND RELEASE POINTS, A POLAROID PICTURE OR COLOR PRINTED PHOTO FROM A DIGITAL CAMERA OF THE CATCH CLEARLY SHOWING THE FISH AND THE TIFT OBJECT OF THE TOURNAMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE WEIGH STATION ON THE SAME DAY OF THE CATCH. All photos must be signed with the date and time of the catch and signatures of the fishing party and the crew. All billfish, whether boated or released, must be reported or relayed to a committee boat by stop fishing time each day and the landing time must be verified with a verification number by a committee boat to qualify for the earned points. The time reported and verified by a committee boat will be the official time. In the event of a tie, the first angler to accumulate the highest release points by time will be declared the winner. In order for a fish to be scored as a blue marlin, the picture must clearly show it is a blue marlin. Otherwise it will be scored as a white marlin.

All billfish to be released must remain in the water. Photos showing said fish in or on the boat WILL NOT be eligible for points.

Catch and Release points will count toward Texas Grand Championship.

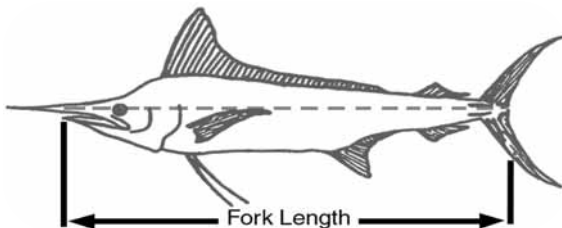
e) The Junior Offshore Class will consist of children through the age of 16. Juniors may qualify for Texas Grand Championship. The same scoring rules apply as in the Senior Class. Please Note: In order to qualify for Texas Grand Champion, the angler must have weighed in or tagged a billfish or tarpon or weighed in a mako shark.

• **Tarpon Division, Junior and Senior Class:** Fishing hours: Contestants may start fishing 30 minutes before official sunrise (6:57 a.m.). They must stop fishing on the first day by one hour after official sunset (8:15 p.m.). Dock time is 8 p.m. first day and 7 p.m. final day. **SCORING: ANGLERS MAY WEIGH IN ONE (1) TARPON PER DAY. MINIMUM LENGTH IS 82". EACH FISH WILL BE SCORED ON THE FOLLOWING: THE WEIGHT OF THE FISH X 4 PLUS 100 POINTS. TARPON DIVISION CATCH AND RELEASE MUST BE VERIFIED WITH PICTURE CLEARLY SHOWING THE FISH AND THE TIFT OBJECT OF THE TOURNAMENT, DATED WITH TIME AND SIGNED BY MEMBERS OF THE FISHING PARTY AND CREW. SCORING WILL BE 125 POINTS PER TARPON, REGARDLESS OF SIZE. TARPON RELEASES MAY BE REPORTED TO THE WEIGH DOCK BY PHONE AT (956) 561-1052.**

Please Note: Outdoor Resorts Swing Barge, as a rule, opens only on the hour. Please plan accordingly.

MINIMUM LENGTH REQUIREMENT

All billfish must be measured as shown below: To insure uniform measurements TIFT requires all billfish to be measured across the side from tip of lower jaw to fork of tail. To be eligible for competition: Blue Marlin - 101"; White Marlin - 67"; Sailfish - 64"



& Regulations

• **Bay Division, Junior and Senior Classes:** All bay anglers, including Juniors, are restricted to one fishing line per angler in the water at any given time. **FISHING HOURS: CONTESTANTS MAY START FISHING AFTER 6:30 A.M. BOTH DAYS. ALL BAY BOATS MUST BE ON THEIR TRAILERS OR TIED UP AT THE DOCK BY 8 P.M. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 2 & FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 AND MAY NOT LEAVE THE DOCK BEFORE 5 A.M. EACH DAY OF FISHING.** Final dock time both Friday and Saturday is 5 p.m. for both Juniors and Seniors. Scoring: Daily bags may include the single heaviest fish of each of the following species: redfish, trout and flounder, scored at one (1) point per pound. Any fish that does not meet state limits at weigh station will be disqualified without substitution for that species. No redfish longer than 28" will be weighed.

Special Notes: THE BOAT NAME OR TX NUMBERS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL BAY BOATS. ANGLERS MUST SPECIFY THEIR TX NUMBERS TO BE REGISTERED IN THE BAY CHALLENGE POTS. TIFT FLAGS MUST BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON ALL BAY BOATS FISHING IN THE TOURNAMENT. GRAND CHAMPION: BAY ANGLERS MUST HAVE WEIGHED IN AT LEAST ONE REDFISH, ONE TROUT AND ONE FLOUNDER DURING THE TWO DAYS OF FISHING TO QUALIFY FOR GRAND CHAMPION.

Juniors: AGES 12 AND UNDER MAY ENTER STRINGERS OF NO MORE THAN ONE (1) TROUT, REDFISH, FLOUNDER, DRUM, JACK CREVALLE AND SNOOK IN ADDITION TO FIVE (5) FISH EACH OF ALL OTHER SPECIES COMMON TO THE BAY AREA (EXCLUDING SHARKS AND STINGRAYS) PER DAY. WHOLE STRINGERS WILL BE WEIGHED AND AWARDED ONE (1) POINT PER POUND. AGES 13-16 WILL BE SCORED THE SAME AS SENIORS.

Special Note: ALL JUNIOR BAY DIVISION CONTESTANTS MUST HOOK AND PLAY THEIR OWN FISH. A FISHING POLE WITH A FISH ALREADY HOOKED AND HANDED TO A JUNIOR TO REEL IN IS NOT A LEGAL CATCH. PLEASE RESTRICT HELP TO SAVING LIVES AND LIMBS.

• **Fly Fishing** Bay fishing rules will prevail. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. Anglers will be eligible for Grand Champion Bay prize and heaviest of species awards.

• **Heaviest Fish Awards:** Any registered angler is eligible for the award for the heaviest of a species regardless of division fished, but fish will not count for points unless angler is registered in that fish division.

• **All Fish of All Species Must Meet** State & Federal Requirements, except for billfish. See chart on opposite page.

• **Tackle:** The tournament will be conducted according to the International Game Fish Association rules, except that the angler may receive assistance in moving rod from holder to chair.

• **Team Trophy:** To be eligible to win the trophy, the contestant must give the boat name or number at registration. Two to six persons on the same boat constitute a team.

• **Dock Times, Bay (all divisions):** Final dock time for both days of fishing is 5 p.m. Anglers must be in sight of weigh master in front of weigh station no later than 5 p.m. to qualify. Offshore (all divisions): Dock time for offshore boats is 8 p.m. the first day and 7 p.m. the second day. Offshore boats must be past the red marker inside the jetties in the Brownsville Ship Channel by final dock time to qualify. A committee boat will be standing by on VHF Ch 68 or single sideband 2638 to verify. The only exceptions are

as follows:

a) Helping a boat in distress. Report to the committee boat. A reasonable time will be allowed for return.

b) Tarpon catches (first day only). Fish hooked after 8 p.m. and before 9:15 p.m. may be reported on second day. DOCK TIME ON FINAL DAY IS 5 P.M. FOR BAY DIVISION & 7 P.M. FOR OFFSHORE AND TARPON, REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

• **All Fish Caught are the Property of the Angler:** The tournament will not be responsible for refrigeration or of catch.

• **Transfer of Fish: NO TRANSFER OF FISH FROM ONE OFFSHORE BOAT TO ANOTHER IS ALLOWED.**

• **Changing Divisions:** If, after registration, the angler wishes to change divisions, he should report to the weighmaster or tournament director before days fishing begins. Points will not count in previous divisions fished.

• **2007 TOURNAMENT THERE WILL BE TWO DAYS OF FISHING: FRIDAY, AUGUST 3 AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 4. THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, IS PLAYDAY.** All junior contestants and their families are urged to join in the activities at the South Padre Island Convention Centre.

• **Bad Weather:** One day of fishing will constitute a tournament. Parties will be held as scheduled.

• **Night Fishing** Night fishing is NOT allowed. All boats are to return to their berth Friday night and must weigh in their catch each day. (Exception: If a boat is assisting a disabled vessel which prevents the boat rendering assistance from making weigh in on the first day only.)

• **Protests: ANY PROTESTS MUST BE FILED IN WRITING AND HAND DELIVERED TO A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OR THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR NOT LATER THAN 10 P.M., SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2007.**

Please be advised that any boat fishing in Mexican waters is subject to the Lacy Act enforcement by both U.S. and Mexican law enforcement agencies.

Polygraph Test: All contestants, including minors, agree to take a polygraph test if required by a TIFT Executive Board member or the TIFT Weighmaster. Such test shall be taken at the time and place requested by the TIFT Executive Board. Failure to take or pass a polygraph test will result in disqualification from this tournament and all future TIFT events. (If a contestant is a minor, a parent or legal guardian shall agree for the minor to submit to such polygraph testing.)

COMMITTEE BOATS & WEIGH STATION

Channel 68 VHF or Single Side Band 2638

OFFSHORE • Mechanical Man

• Wet N Wild • Queen B • Tula

• La Fiesta • Master Plan

BAY • Poppp' Rodd--Vere Wells

• Scooby Scooter--Chuck Fultz

• One Down--Steve Stiers

All billfish, whether boated or released, must be reported or relayed to a committee boat by stop fishing time each day to qualify for earned points. The time reported and verified with a verification number by a committee boat will be the official time. Tarpon releases only may be reported to the weigh dock by phone at:

(956) 561-1052.