



GENERAL

- The boat captain and crew are responsible for their own safety and the boat.
- The Utila Billfish Tournament committee is not responsible for any accidents, damages and/or lost of life, boats or equipment.
- By registering to the Utila Billfish Tournament you automatically agree and comply to the tournament rules and regulations and accept the tournament committee decisions as final.
- All boats are responsible to comply with local rules and laws

DATES & TIMES

- All boats registered by 7:00pm on Thursday May 1st at Utila Lodge
- Day One 02/05/25
5:00 am flag number
- The tournament starts on Friday, May 2nd at 6:00 am.
- All boats have to be at the Utila harbour before 6:00 am for a shotgun start.
- Lines out at 5:00 pm
- All videos and weighed fish have to be presented before 7:00 pm at the Utila Lodge
- Weigh station closes at 7:00pm
- Day 2 03/05/25
4:45 am flag number
- Lines in at 5:00 am
- Lines out 4:00pm
- All videos and weighed fish have to be presented before 6:00pm at the Utila Lodge
- Weigh station closes at 6:00pm
- No videos or fish will be accepted after closing hour



FISHING RULES

- Only fish caught with rod and reel, trolling or drifting will qualify. Hand-line, electric reels, explosives, spearguns and firearms are not permitted.
- Gaffs can only be used on Rodeo Category.
- Fishing line may not exceed 80lb test. Wire lines are not permitted.
- Only non offset circle hooks may be used for live bait.
- Mates can help the angler set up at the chair or strapped to the harness at the beginning of the fight. The angler cannot be assisted or helped during the fight. Only for security reasons can the angler be touched. Rod, reel and/or line cannot be touched by any mate during the fight. Touching the rod, reel and/or line during a fight will disqualify the fish.
- The rod and reel has to be taken out of the gunnel. Fish can be fought at the chair or in standup position. Fish fought with the rod in the gunnel will be disqualified.
- When using skirted lures, no more than two single hooks can be attached to the line, leader or lure. The trailer hook may not extend more than a hook's length beyond the skirt of the lure.
- Treble hooks can only be used in artificial plugs.
- Any boat bringing in a marlin or sailfish will be disqualified from the tournament with no refund.
- Wounded or injured fish in a way that prevents them to fight will not qualify.
- Flippy-floppies may only be used as teasers.
- Double line & leader to lure must not exceed 30ft.

BILLFISH CATEGORY

- Blue marlin - 500 points.
- White marlin - 300 points.
- Sailfish and spearfish - 200 points.
- 1st place - boat with the most billfish release points.
- 2nd place - boat with the second most release points.
- 3rd place - boat with the third most release points.
- If two or more boats have the same amount of points the winner will be who made the points first.



Top Lady Angler Award:
The lady angler who makes the most points adding up billfish and rodeo category wins the price

FILMING

- A clear and continuous video has to be presented to the judges for the fish to qualify for rodeo or billfish category.
- > The video should include:
- The angler, the flag showing the flag number and the fish being reeled in.
 - For the billfish category the video has to include the leader touching the tip of the rod or a mate touching the leader. A clear view of the fish so the species can be identified. If the species of billfish cannot be identified in the video, then the team will be granted the least amount of points for billfish category (200). Video has to include the release of the fish. We encourage the fish to be swam along side the boat so it can recuperate its strength and swim away healthy. Releasing the fish properly will help preserve the fisheries health and catch more fish in the future.
 - For the rodeo category the fish has to be shown alive inside the boat. Dead or wounded fish will not qualify for points.

PROTESTS

- To file a protest, a \$500 deposit is required. If upheld, the deposit will be refunded; if denied, it will be kept by the tournament committee.
- All protests must be submitted before the weigh station closes and will be reviewed and decided the same day.

RODEO CATEGORY

- Wahoo, tuna, mahi-mahi and king fish qualify for the rodeo category.
 - Only fish over 20lb qualify for points.
 - There will be 1 point per pound for every qualifying fish.
 - 1st place - boat with the most rodeo points.
 - 2nd place - boat with the second most rodeo points.
 - 3rd place - boat with the third most rodeo points.
 - If two or more boats have the same amount of points, the winner will be who made the points first.
- > JUNIOR CATEGORY
- 14 years or younger
 - The Junior that catches the biggest rodeo fish or barracuda wins the price.

