



Note: These Rules May be Subject to Further
Revision Prior to Tournament Start



FIRECRACKER OPEN 2023 HAWAII MARLIN TOURNAMENT SERIES

JULY 1ST & 2ND

TOURNAMENT RULES

Aloha and Welcome to the Firecracker Open, the third tournament in the 2023 Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series. This is a “Most Points” tournament with points being awarded for blue and black marlin and for ahi, only. The base purse will be divided among the top three teams with the most points. There are optional categories for largest marlin and largest ahi of the tournament and per day. There is also an optional category of most points per day. There are also optional most points categories for teams whose boats *do not have* Omni Sonar.

As an angler you are automatically entered in the HMT Series just by fishing in the Firecracker Open. Please see the 2023 HMTS General Rules for more information. Please feel free to contact us for any reason. Mahalo and tight lines!

Fishing Days and Times

July 1st

7:00 AM til 4:00PM Green Buoy Start

July 2nd

7:00 AM til 4:00 PM Green Buoy Start

Eligible Species, Points & Payout

| Species | Min. Weight | Points |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Blue & Black Marlin | 400 lbs | 1 Point per LB or 165 Points per T&R |
| Ahi | 100 lbs | 1 Point per LB for each LB over 100 |

| Base Entry Division | Base Purse Payout | Based on: |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| First | 50% | Most total points |
| Second | 30% | Second most total points |
| Third | 20% | Third most total points |

Team Entry Fee

\$200.00 prior to June 15 for up to 4 Anglers and 2 Crew. \$300.00 from June 16 onward.

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Base Purse Entry Fee

\$800 per team/boat. 100% of each team/boat's \$800.00 will be paid out towards the total base purse. If there are no qualifying weighed or tagged fish caught in the tournament, entrants shall be entitled to receive a refund in the amount of \$800.00 from their Base Purse Entry Fee.

Base Purse Scoring

The total base purse will be split and awarded to the top three teams amassing the most total points. Points are scored on the basis of the following system.

Ahi 1 point per lb for each pound over 100 lbs. After the first whole pound, fractions of pounds as displayed by the scale will count.
Example – a 151.5 lb Ahi will be awarded 51.5 points.

Tagged Marlin

Each Blue or Black Marlin will receive 165 points per tag and release, regardless of size.

Weighed Marlin Blue or Black Marlin brought to the scales 400 lbs and larger shall score 1 point per pound. EXAMPLE: A 410 lb blue marlin will score 410 points. A 290 pound blue marlin will score ZERO points. Striped Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish do not qualify.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Base Purse Payout | First Place | 50% of Base Purse |
| | Second Place | 30% of Base Purse |
| | Third Place | 20% of Base Purse |

There will never be more than 3 places paid from the Base Purse. In the event of tie(s) in the Base Purse division, the purse will be awarded in percentages as outlined above, relative to the time each team arrived at the tie position, as recorded on the Radio Control Log.

If there are 3 teams tied for 1st place, they will split the purse 50/30/20 based on the times each team arrive at the tie position, as recorded in the radio log. If there are 3 teams with points and there are 2 teams tied for 1st place, the team arriving at the tie first will get 50% and the team arriving second will get 30% and the next highest scoring team will earn 20%. If 1st place is a clear winner, but teams are tied for 2nd place the first to the tie position will win 30% and the second to the tie will win 20%, If 1st and 2nd place are clear winners and there is a tie for 3rd place, the first team to the tie position will win because there will never be more than 3 places paid from the Base Purse.

NOTE: The determination as to what time a fish is Boated or Tagged & Released is based upon the time reflected on the Radio Log, as recorded by Tournament Control Radio. The time a team calls in and reports the qualifying fish is when it is recorded, not the time it was gaffed or tagged.

Tag and Release Verification

See: HMT Series General Rules *Section 2.08 Tagging and/or Gaffing* - and - *Section 3 Tag and Release Requirements*

Optional Categories

Once a Team has paid their Team Base Entry Fee and the Base Purse Entry Fee, they are entitled to enter the additional Optional Entry Levels.

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The Specific Optional Categories and Entry Levels are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Biggest Marlin of Tournament: | \$100, \$300, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000 |
| Biggest Marlin per Day: | \$100, \$300, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000 |
| Biggest Ahi of Tournament: | \$100, \$300, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000 |
| Biggest Ahi per Day: | \$100, \$300, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000 |
| Most Points per Day: | \$100, \$300, \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$5,000 |

Pay Out Percentage

All Optional Category levels shall return 90% of the total entry fees collected per Category. For example, if there are 10 participants in the \$100 optional category for Biggest Marlin of Tournament, the winner of that optional category will receive \$900.00.

Rules to Win Optional Categories

As identified above, there are a variety of dollar value entry levels into which a team may choose to enter. Teams compete only against the other teams entered in the same specific category and dollar level. Teams entered in the \$100 daily compete only against other teams in the \$100 daily, etc. etc.

You cannot win an optional entry category if you are not entered into that category. Likewise, you can't win a specific dollar level if you are not entered in that dollar level.

Dailies: You must enter both days of any daily category, you may not enter just one or the other.

There shall be only one place paid per category, unless there is a tie, in which case, the optional category purse will be split as outlined below.

Refunds - If there is no winner in a particular dollar value entry level, then the participants in that level shall have the option of receiving a refund equivalent to 90% of the entry fee they paid for the category with no qualifier - or - apply the refund amount to another HMTS tournament.

Biggest Marlin of Tournament

To win this optional category, a team must weigh the biggest Marlin of the tournament that meets or exceeds 400 lbs. The various entry levels for the Biggest Marlin of the Tournament categories shall pay the team entered in each level that catches the single largest marlin 400 lbs or better, after both days of fishing.

Should there be a tie with 2 teams catching marlin that weigh the exact amount, the tie shall be split with 60% going to the team catching the first marlin, and 40% going to the team catching the second fish, as recorded in the Tournament Control Radio Log.

Should there be no marlin weighed after both days of fishing, Biggest Marlin of the Tournament shall NOT revert to tag and release points. The teams shall receive the option of a refund or a roll forward, as outlined on Page 3 of these Firecracker Open Rules.

Biggest Marlin per Day

The purse allotted for each day, in each entry level, is awarded to the single largest marlin caught that day that meets or exceeds 400 lbs

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Should a marlin weighing 400 pounds or more be weighed on day one, but not on day two, the money shall roll back and be awarded to the largest marlin of day one.

Should a marlin weighing 400 pounds or more be weighed on day two, but not on day one, the money shall roll forward and be awarded to the largest marlin of day two.

Should there be a tie with 2 teams catching marlin that weigh the exact amount on the same day, the tie shall be split with 60% going to the team catching the first marlin, and 40% going to the team catching the second fish, as recorded in the Tournament Control Radio Log.

Should there be no marlin weighed after both days of fishing, Biggest Marlin of the Tournament shall NOT revert to tag and release points. The teams shall receive the option of a refund or a roll forward, as outlined on Page 3 of these Firecracker Open Rules.

Biggest Ahi of Tournament

To win this optional category, a team must weigh the biggest Ahi of the tournament that exceeds 100 lbs.

Should there be a tie with 2 teams catching ahi that weigh the exact amount, the tie shall be split with 60% going to the team catching the first ahi and 40% going to the team catching the second ahi, as recorded in the Tournament Control Radio Log.

Biggest Ahi per Day

The purse allotted for each day is awarded to the single largest Ahi caught that day that exceeds 100 lbs.

If no ahi are weighed on Day One, the purse shall “roll forward” and be added to the second day’s purse. If a qualifier is weighed on Day Two, that fish will win the entire purse. If no ahi are weighed on Day Two, but a qualifying fish was weighed on Day One, the purse shall “roll backward” to the previous day’s winner.

Should there be a tie with 2 teams catching ahi that weigh the exact amount on the same day, the tie shall be split with 60% going to the team catching the first ahi, and 40% going to the team catching the second ahi, as recorded in the Tournament Control Radio Log.

If no qualifying Ahi are weighed in any of the individual Ahi categories during the tournament, these optional categories WILL NOT revert to total points in the absence of a qualifying weighed fish. The teams shall receive the option of a refund or a roll forward, as outlined on Page 3 of these Firecracker Open Rules..

Most Points of the Tournament

To win this optional category, a team must have the most total points of the tournament.

Points shall be calculated in the same manner as for the Base Purse

If no points are scored in any of the individual Most Points categories by any team during the tournament, the teams shall receive the option of a refund or a roll forward in that category, as outlined on Page 3 of these Firecracker Open Rules.

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Most Points per Day

This scoring shall be calculated in the same manner as for the base purse.

If no points are earned on Day One, the purse shall “roll forward” and be added to the second day’s purse. If points are earned on Day Two, that team will win the entire purse. If no points are earned on Day Two, but points are earned on Day One, the purse shall “roll backward” to the previous day’s winner.

If no points are scored in any of the individual Most Points per Day categories by any team during the tournament, the teams shall receive the option of a refund or a roll forward, as outlined on Page 3 of these Firecracker Open Rules.

Even More Tiebreaker Scenarios in Points Categories

Tie With a Scaled Marlin

A marlin shall always take precedence over an ahi at the scales.

In the case of a tie in total points, and among the tied teams there is one or more marlin that has been qualified at the scales, the tie shall first go to the team with the largest marlin, in pounds. If the marlin tie in weight, then the particular purse shall be split 60% to the team arriving at the tie position first and 40% to the team arriving at the tie position second.

Tie With No Scaled Marlin With Tags and With Ahi Scaled

In the case of a tie where there are no marlin scaled, and there is a team with tag and release points, 60% shall go to the team with the tag and release points before going to a team with the same amount of points including ahi, but with no marlin scaled and/or tagged. Should there be two teams in this position, the tie will be split 60% to the team arriving at the tie position first and 40% to the team arriving at the tie position second.

Tie With Tag Points Only in Optional “Most Points” Categories

In the case of a tie with tag points only, and there are no fish scaled, the tie will be split among those in the tie position with 60% going to the first team to arrive at the tie position, and 40% going to the team that arrived at the tie position second.

Tie with Tag Points Only in Base Purse Category

The tie breaker(s) in this instance are outlined on Page Two under Base Purse Payout.

Tie With Ahi Only

In the case of a tie where there are no marlin scaled or tagged, and the tie position is between teams with only ahi points, the decision will go to the team with the greatest number of ahi. Should there still be a tie in points and number of ahi caught by each team is the same, the tie shall be split 60% to the team arriving at the tie position first and 40% to the team arriving at the tie position second.

Box Checks

All boats must comply with random fish box checks, if requested by Tournament Control. You could be asked to allow inspection from either the fuel dock or from the Tournament Control Security Vessel. If your box is checked, you must still report “On the Line” to Tournament Control, and cannot fish until Control calls “Start Fishing.”

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Rules

The rules for this tournament are contained within these specific tournament rules, the 2023 Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series – General Tournament Rules, and the IGFA International Angling Rules.

Should a team find that there are rules in the tournament that they do not find acceptable, they may withdraw from the tournament prior to the call of “start fishing” on Day One of the tournament. A team withdrawing will forfeit their Team Base Entry but Base Purse and Optional Entry Fees shall be refunded.

Once the tournament has started, the teams are bound by the rules identified above. Violation of one or more rules is grounds for disqualification and/or ejection from the tournament. A team may withdraw after commencement of the tournament, but all entry fees, base and optional, shall be forfeited and remain in the purse as per normal.

In the event of any discrepancies between these rules and any information found on the konatournaments.com website or any other tournament documents, the rules handed out to tournament teams shall be final & control.

Mahalo for fishing in the 2023 Firecracker Open of the Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series!