



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

COCA-COLA/BUSCH LIGHT  
**KONA KICK OFF**  
2023 HAWAII MARLIN TOURNAMENT SERIES  
JUNE 24TH AND 25TH, 2023



**Coca-Cola HAWAII**  
BOTTLED BY THE DOOM CORPORATION



## TOURNAMENT RULES

Aloha and Welcome to the Kona Kick Off, the tournament kicking off our Summer Season in the 2023 Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series. As an angler you are automatically entered in the HMT Series just by fishing in the Kona Kick Off. Please see the 2023 HMTS General Rules for more information. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Mahalo and tight lines!

### Fishing Days and Times

June 24th

7:00 AM til 4:00 PM

Green Buoy Start

June 25th

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 T&R
Striped Marlin	400 lbs	1 Point per LB or 50 Points T&R (fifty)
Ahi	50 lbs	
Ono	10 lbs	
Mahi	10 lbs	

Base Entry Division	Payout	Based on:
Blue & Black Marlin	40%	Biggest Marlin of the Tournament
Ahi	20%	Biggest Ahi of the Tournament
Ono	20%	Biggest Ono of the Tournament
Mahi	20%	Biggest Mahi of the Tournament

## 2023 KONA KICK OFF - TOURNAMENT RULES

### Base Entry Fee(s)

The Team Base Entry Fee is \$150.00 per Team, as a Team is identified in the HMTS General Rules. The Team Base Entry Fee covers event operational costs, food and drink. Due to inflation, T-shirts are available for sale.

A Team must first pay the Team Base Entry Fee in order to be eligible to enter the Base Purse category.

The Base Purse entry fee is \$600.00 and 100% of these funds will be paid out as the base purse. 40 teams will generate a total base purse of \$24,000.00.

A Team must first pay the Team Base Entry Fee AND the Base Purse Entry Fee in order to be eligible to enter any/all Optional Entry Categories.

### Base Purse and Payout

The total base purse will be split and paid out to the biggest Marlin, Ahi, Ono & Mahi of the tournament. The biggest Marlin of the tournament will receive 40% of the base purse. If no one weighs a marlin of at least minimum weight during the course of the tournament, the marlin portion of the base purse will revert to the team with the most tagged and released points for marlin. If no one weighs a marlin of at least minimum weight and there are no tagged and released marlin, the marlin portion of the base purse will be divided equally among the *winners* of the other base purse divisions.

The biggest Ahi of the tournament will receive 20% of the base purse. The biggest Ono of the tournament will receive 20% of the base purse. The biggest Mahi of the tournament will receive 20% of the base purse.

If no one catches a qualifying fish in the Ahi, Ono or Mahi base purse divisions, then the applicable base purse for that division shall be divided equally among the winners of the other base purse divisions, with qualifying catches.

### 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

You cannot win an optional entry category if you are not entered into that category. Likewise, you can't win a specific entry level if you are not entered in that entry level. You must enter both days of a daily category, you may not enter just one or the other day.

The Specific Optional Categories and Entry Levels are as follows:

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

### **Pay Out Percentage**

All Optional Category levels shall return 90% of the total entries received per each category.

### **Rules to Win Optional Categories**

As identified above, there are a number of optional entry categories, with a range of entry fees, from which a team may choose to enter. Teams compete only against the other teams entered in the same specific category and entry fee format. Teams entered in the \$100 daily compete only against other teams in the \$100 daily. There shall be only one place paid per category, unless there is a tie, in which case the first two teams to arrive at the tie position shall split the applicable purse 60/40%. (see pages 3 & 4 for specifics) If there's no winner in a particular dollar value entry level, then the participants in that level will be entitled to a refund as set forth herein.

### **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 to a future tourney.

### **Biggest Marlin per Day**

The purse allotted for each day is awarded to the single largest marlin caught that day, 400 pounds or better.

If there is no marlin weighed on Day One, the purse shall "roll forward" and be added to that of the second day. If a qualifier is weighed on Day Two, that fish will win the entire purse.

Should there be qualifying marlin weighed on Day One but not on Day Two, the purse for the unclaimed day shall "roll back" and be awarded to the team with the largest marlin on the previous day.

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

### **Most Points per Day**

This is a marlin only category and there are a variety of entry dollar levels for the "Most Points per Day." To win, the team must have the most points for that day. The points can be earned by weight, or by tag & release, or by weight and tag and release combined.

### **Most Points of The Tournament**

This is a marlin only category and there are a variety of entry dollar levels for the "Most Points of The Tournament." To win, the team must have the most cumulative points at the end of the tournament, scored over both days. The points can be earned by weight, or by tag & release, or by weight and tag and release combined.

### **Biggest Ahi, Ono and Mahi per Day**

There are a variety of entry dollar levels for these optional categories. To win, the team must weigh the biggest qualifying fish for the specific category and specific dollar value entry in which they are participating.

### **Roll Forward/Backward in Optional Dailies for a 2 day Tournament**

Should there be a winner on any one day, but not on the other day of a specific daily category, the entire purse from the remaining day of that specific daily category shall roll forward or backward and be awarded to the only winner for that specific daily category.

### **Tiebreakers, Box Checks and Refunds**

#### **Tiebreaker in Base Purse Category**

In case of a tie in a base purse category, the base purse for that category will be split, with 60% going to the team that arrived at the position first, and 40% to the team that arrived at the position second. There will only be two places paid, regardless of the number of teams tied.

#### **Tiebreaker in Optional “Biggest” Category**

In case of a tie in an optional “Biggest” purse category, the optional purse for that category will be split, with 60% going to the team that arrived at that position first, and 40% going to the team that arrived at the position second. There will only be two places paid, regardless of the number of teams tied.

#### **Tiebreaker in Most Points per Day**

In case of a tie in the “Most Points Per Day” (optional category for marlin only), the purse will be split with 60% going to the team that arrived at the position first, and 40% going to the team that arrived at the position second. There will only be two places paid, regardless of the number of teams tied.

#### **Tiebreaker in Most Points of the Tournament**

In case of a tie in the “Most Points of the Tournament” (optional category for marlin only), the purse will be split with 60% going to the team that arrived at the position first, and 40% going to the team that arrived at the position second. There will only be two places paid, regardless of the number of teams tied.

**The determination as to who arrived at the position first will be determined according to the time reflected on the radio log when the reporting team called in and reported the qualifying fish as being boated or tagged and released. Note that it is the time of the radio call and not the time of the boating or tagging that shall control. With boats at sea and tournament control on land, we can’t eye witness catches.**

### **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.”

### **Team Base Entry Fee Refund**

There shall be no refunds for Team Base Entry Fees paid.



## **2023 KONA KICK OFF - TOURNAMENT RULES**

### **Base Purse Entry Refund**

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 the Base Purse entry fee paid.

### **Optional Category Purse Refund**

If there are no qualifying marlin, weighed or tagged, caught in the tournament, participants in the optional marlin categories shall be entitled to receive a refund in the amount of 90% of their optional entry fees paid for the marlin optional categories.

Should there be no qualifying ahi, ono or mahi weighed either day in an optional category, the teams entered in the categories with no fish shall have the option to get a refund of the jackpot portion (90%) of their entry, or apply the jackpot portion towards entry fees in a future HMTS Tournament.

If a team in a specific optional category, or specific dollar entry level, has no matching competitors, 100% of their specific optional category entry fee will be refunded. Refunds can be applied towards entry fees in a future HMTS Tournament.

### **Protests**

Section 4.03 of the 2023 Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series General Rules applies to any and all protests in the Kona Kick Off.

### **Rules**

There are three sets of rules documents that apply for this tournament: (1) Those contained herein these specific tournament rules, (2) the 2023 Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series – General Tournament Rules, and (3) the IGFA International Angling Rules – Rules For Fishing In Freshwater and Saltwater. 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. See our cancellation and refund policy for refund structures.

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 tournament entry forms, these rules shall control.

*Mahalo for fishing in the 2023 Kona Kick Off Tournament of the Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series!*