



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



# FIRECRACKER OPEN 2020 HAWAII MARLIN TOURNAMENT SERIES

## AUGUST 8th & 9th

### TOURNAMENT RULES

Aloha and Welcome to the Firecracker Open, the fourth tournament in the 2020 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. As an angler you are automatically entered in the HMTS series just by fishing in the Firecracker Open. Please see the 2020 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

##### August 8th

7:00 AM til 4:00PM Lines in anywhere

##### August 9th

7:00 AM til 4:00 PM Lines in anywhere

#### Eligible Species, Points & Payout

Species	Min. Weight	Points
Blue & Black Marlin	400 lbs	1 Point per LB or 200 Points 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.

**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  
Example – a 150 lb Ahi will be awarded 50 points.

**Tagged Marlin**

Each Blue or Black Marlin will receive 200 points per tag and release, regardless of size. Verification of species must be clear through photos taken by cameras provided by tournament control ONLY. Refer to HMTS General Rules for specifics.

**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

In the event of tie(s) in the Base Purse division among teams scoring only with tag points, there will never be more than 3 places paid, in percentages as outlined above, relative to the time each team reported their final fish, as recorded on the Radio Control Log.

**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.

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 Optional Category Purse money. For example, if there are two participants in the \$100 optional category for Biggest Marlin of Tournament, the winner of that optional category will receive \$180.

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

As identified above, there are a variety of dollar value entry levels from 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.

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. 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. 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 optional category entry fees paid, 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, weighing 400 pounds 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 boating the first marlin, and 40% going to the team boating the second fish.

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, of 90% of their entry in that daily category.

### **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

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 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, of 90% of their entry in that daily category.

### **Biggest Ahi of Tournament**

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

### **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.

If no qualifying Ahi are weighed during the tournament, the entrants in the optional categories of Biggest Ahi of Tournament and Biggest Ahi per Day shall have the option of receiving a refund equivalent to 90% of the optional category entry fees paid, or apply the refund amount to another HMTS tournament. These optional categories WILL NOT revert to total points in the absence of a qualifying weighed fish.

### **Most Points per Day**

This scoring shall be calculated in the same manner as for the base purse – 1 point per pound for each pound above 100 lbs for ahi. EXAMPLE: 132 lb. ahi earns 32 points.

1 point per pound for marlin - 400 lb minimum. EXAMPLE: 465 lb. marlin gets 465 pts.

In addition, Blue or Black Marlin tagged and released are worth 200 points each.

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 earned by any team during the tournament, the entrants in the optional category of Most Points per day shall have the option of receiving a refund equivalent to 90% of the optional category entry fees paid, or apply the refund amount to another HMTS tournament.

### **Tiebreaker in Base Purse and Most Points Per Day**

#### *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 shall be split 60% to the team arriving at the tie position first and 40% to the team arriving at the tie position second.

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### *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.

### **Most Points of the Tournament**

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

Points are scored on the basis of the following system.

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

#### **Ahi -**

1 point per pound for each pound above 100 lbs for ahi. EXAMPLE: 132 lb. ahi earns 32 points.

#### **Marlin -**

1 point per pound for marlin - 400 lb minimum. EXAMPLE: 465 lb. marlin gets 465 pts.

#### **Tagged Marlin -**

Each Blue or Black Marlin will receive 200 points per tag and release, regardless of size. Verification of species must be clear through video taken by cameras provided by tournament control ONLY. Refer to HMTS General Rules for specifics.

Striped Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish do not qualify.

#### **Tiebreaker**

##### *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 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 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.

## **2020 FIRECRACKER OPEN - TOURNAMENT RULES**

### *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.

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

In case of a tie in an optional purse category, the optional purse for that category will be split 60% to the team that arrived at that 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.

**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.**

### **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.”

### **Rules**

The rules for this tournament are contained within these specific tournament rules, the 2019 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 tournament entry forms, these rules shall control.

*Mahalo for fishing in the 2020 Firecracker Open of the Hawaii Marlin Tournament Series!*