

Crushin' & Fishin' Ladies Tournament 2020

1. **Registration:** All boats must be registered and have paid their entry fees in full by Friday, August 14 at 7:30pm. Boats may register to fish both days so long as they enter under two different team names (i.e. Backlash 1 and Backlash 2). The boats that enter two days are **not** allowed to combine points or pick their best day. They are considered independent teams. This was created so that boat owners and charters could participate both days for clients and friends. Although unlikely, anglers can fish both days on different teams.
2. **Rules Meeting:** At least one person from each team should attend the Captain's Meeting. The meeting will be held Friday, August 14 at 7:00pm at the Virginia Beach Fishing Center, 200 Winston Salem Avenue. Regardless, all participants are responsible for obtaining, reading, and understanding the tournament rules which includes any changes that may be made at the captain's meeting.
3. **Permits & Licenses:** Registered boats and anglers are expected to comply with all Federal and State laws regarding fishing licenses, size limits, bag limits, and any other regulations that may apply.
4. **Fishing Guidelines:** This is a ladies only billfish tournament. A fish may be hooked by anyone other than the angler (Captain, mate, or other registered angler) however, the fishing rod must be transferred immediately to the angler after hookup. The female angler, must then fight the fish alone until released. Two rod passes from the bridge are allowed.
5. **Hook Requirements:** Federal law mandates that all anglers participating in a tournament must deploy only non-offset circle hooks when using natural bait and/or natural/artificial lure combinations. "J" hooks are allowed on artificial lures only.
6. **Fishing Dates & Times:** Official time will be continued GPS time and recorded to the full minute. Fishing days for boats registered to fish ONE day, shall be one of the two available days, captain's choice. Fishing days for boats registered to fish both days will be both Saturday, August 15 and Sunday, August 16. Fishing hours are 8:00am to 3:00pm both Saturday and Sunday. No lines or teasers may be in the water before the official start or after the official end of tournament fishing. Billfish hooked and reported to the Committee Boat prior to lines out may be fought until caught or released, as long as catch reports are received prior to 6:30pm via tournament email or in person.
7. **Lay Days:** Lay day forms are to be submitted in person at the Virginia Beach Fishing Center or electronically by taking a photograph of the form and emailing it to vbfccharters@gmail.com. Lay Day forms must be submitted prior to 8:00am on the day declared as a non-fishing day. There will be no exceptions on time. If a boat is registered to fish both days, a separate lay day form is required for both teams.
8. **Tournament Communications:** Tournament officials and committee boats monitor VHF channel 74. All billfish releases must be called in to appointed committee boat at the time of release. If no committee boat can be reached- a verifiable report must be made to another tournament boat and said boat must be noted on scorecard.

9. **Boundaries:** All boats must fish into Virginia Beach. Boundaries are 100 nautical miles from the Rudee Inlet Sea Buoy. Fish must be hooked within these boundaries but may be fought outside of the boundaries once hooked.
10. **Mechanical Failures:** If a boat is unable to make it back by the deadline, the fish, angler, and scorecards may be transferred to another tournament boat. If a boat becomes completely disabled, another boat may be substituted; however, this must be registered with the Virginia Beach Fishing Center prior to fishing.
11. **Points:** Points will only be awarded to boats for fish that are released.

100 release points will be awarded:

1. For all billfish including white marlin, sailfish, hatchet marlin, spearfish, and swordfish and
2. When mate touches the leader before the fish is released and
3. Team turns in a release form provided by the tournament attested to by signature of the captain on board at the time of release.

200 Release points will be awarded to:

1. Blue marlin when mate touches the leader before the fish is released and
2. Team turns in a release form provided by the tournament attested to by signature of the captain on board at the time of release and
3. Team submits indisputable video or photo evidence to the Virginia Beach Fishing Center at vbfccharters@gmail.com to be reviewed by Steve Richardson and/or Skip Feller and/or David Bailey. If indisputable evidence is not confirmed, fish will be awarded 100 release points. Evidence must be submitted with the catch report on the day the Blue Marlin is caught. Any evidence submitted past 6:30pm will not be considered.

12. **Trolling Rules:** This is strictly a trolling tournament- no live baiting and/or slow trolling. No use of Tinker/Chub Mackerel or Atlantic/Boston Mackerel.
13. **Catch Forms:** All catch forms are to be brought to the Virginia Beach Fishing Center by 6:30pm on day of fishing. If you are unable to bring physical form- it must be emailed to vbfccharters@gmail.com and YOU MUST RECEIVE A RESPONSE FOR IT TO COUNT. If we do not have a time stamp that it has been received by 6:30pm then it will not count. Response will be given as soon as it is received; however, if you do not receive a response shortly thereafter sending it, we recommend calling to verify. Prior to turning in scorecard, the captain must sign the scorecard.
14. **Gamefish:** Gamefish (Tuna/Dolphin/Wahoo) are awarded to the angler with a sponsored prize from Madison Jeweler's. Winning gamefish will be determined by weight. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by the first fish weighed in.
15. **Weigh-In:** The official weigh station for gamefish is at the Virginia Beach Fishing Center. Scales will open at 3:00pm and will close daily at 6:30pm. If you are verified to be in the inlet by 6:30 then your fish will be weighed.

16. **Prize Payout Schedule:** Prize money will be paid out to the top 3 boats scoring the most billfish points in a 50-30-20 breakdown and will be given to winning boats at the tournament party located at The Shack, 712 Atlantic Avenue.
17. **Ties:** In the event of a tie, the winning boat/team will be determined by the time of their final release. The boat/team with the earliest release time on their day of fishing would take the lead.
18. **Protests:** Anyone who feels the need to protest will owe all tournament participants a round of crushes at The Shack.

Questions/comments/concerns please contact:

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