

October 10th-12th

BOCA GRANDE



2024

BOTTOM BLAST

Rules and Regulations

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

#1 RULES ACCEPTANCE AND REGULATIONS RESPONSIBILITY

It is the sole responsibility of the Captain, crew and anglers to read, understand and abide by the Tournament rules; including any and all special instructions and/or modifications announced during Captain's meeting. The Boca Grande Bottom Blast expects the highest level of integrity and sportsmanship from its participants. All entrants and guests of the tournament are participating at their own risk. The participants hereby indemnify and agree to be held harmless the Tournament, Venice Touchdown Club, The Boca Grande Bottom Blast and all Directors, Volunteers, agents, partners, members, sponsors, attorneys, or any other person associated with this tournament from and against all claims that arise from or in connection with any negligent act or omission of the Tournament Indemnified Parties.

All persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Boca Grande Bottom Blast at Eagle Grille and Miller's Dockside, whether individual or corporation, shall have no liability whatsoever for any special, incidental, consequential, punitive, exemplary and/or any other damage including without limitation, any damages arising from libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, injury, and death. Participants specifically consent to the use of any photography in which they appear, or audio recording by the tournament for any reason whatsoever including, but not limited to resale, advertising and promotional material without compensation or restriction of any kind. This Liability Release shall be binding upon the participants and their heirs, representatives, successors, and assigners. By entering the above stated tournament and paying entry fee, participants acknowledge that they have read and are bound by same.

#2 ELIGIBILITY

All sports fishermen (male and female) are eligible to participate. Determination of eligibility is left to the complete discretion of the committee. Any person convicted of a fishing violation is ineligible to

***Rules Subject to Change until Captain's Meetings on 10/09/2024**

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

participate for five (5) years from the date of the fishing violation. All requests for pre-tournament determination of eligibility should be submitted, in writing, to the committee prior to the Captain's Meeting. All offshore vessels intending to target "highly migratory species" are required to obtain the federal stamp prior to commencement of fishing.

#3 CAPTAIN'S MEETING

Registration will be available via email leading up to the virtual Captain's Meeting.

In person registration will be available up till October 9th, at our office in Venice.

Captain's meeting will begin at 6:00pm on Wednesday, October 9th. One representative per team must attend. We will send out a zoom link before hand.

#4 HOURS OF COMPETITION

Tournament participants may begin fishing immediately after the shotgun release from Eagles Grille and Miller's Dockside on Thursday, October 10th at 10:00am. A committee boat will be checking you in all boats and distributing boat markers beforehand.

All species will be weighed on Saturday, October 12th, 2024, from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Official time will be kept by Weighmaster and will correspond with time displayed on Weighmaster's cellphone.

#5 BOATS/REGISTRATION

\$1000.00 per boat/team.

Entry numbers will be assigned in order of registrations received and paid in full. There will be no deviation from the numbering system. Each tournament vessel will receive their entry number at registration and

***Rules Subject to Change until Captain's Meetings on 10/09/2024**

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

shall be required to display that number in a manner easily visible to tournament officials at Weigh-in.

#6 TEAMS

This is a “Team Event”. Only the Captain and registered Anglers are eligible to fish. Team substitutes will be allowed provided they have received prior approval from the Tournament Director. Each Fishing Team is limited to a maximum of six (6) anglers (including the Captain). The team you leave the Shotgun start with is the team you return to the Weigh In with, no substitution of team members allowed.

#7 FISHING AREAS/RULES

The team boat may not leave the water and be trailered.

Angling gear and methods should comply with the spirit of the International Game Fish Association (IGFA), with the exception of bent butts. Bent Butts with manual hand crank reels are permitted for the entire duration of the fight with the fish. All fish must be caught on rod and reel. Deep Trolling devices are acceptable only if attached to a rod and reel. **No electric reel use allowed during the tournament, DO NOT HAVE ANY ONBOARD EVEN IF THEY HAVE A HAND CRANK OPTION. Electric Reel use will result in disqualification.**

If you are fishing for Warsaw, you can only catch one species. No floaters allowed, due to Warsaw not being able to be vented. Goliath Grouper, Shark and Tarpon are excluded from the Boca Grande Bottom Blast. Wading permitted. Vessel must always remain moored any angler is not in the boat. Live baiting is allowed.

#8 PERMITS & LICENSES

Registered boats and anglers must comply with all Federal and Florida State Laws regarding fishing licenses, size limits, bag limits and any other applicable regulations. For information regarding Florida

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

Saltwater Fishing Licenses refer to www.FloridaConservation.org or call 850-487-0554. For information regarding NMFS permits refer to www.nmfs.noaa.gov or call 888-872-8862. A citation or written warning of any local, state or federal regulation during the tournament will result in disqualification.

#9 OFF-LOADING CATCH

All fish must be weighed-in off the boat from which they were caught. No trucking, trailering, or over land transportation of fish. Fish must be off-loaded only at the designated dock at the marina in order as called by Weighmaster.

#10 SPECIES AND SCORING

There are two main divisions competing for cash prizes. Grouper and Snapper. In the Grouper division it will be the largest 2 weights of any Grouper (other than Warsaw). In the Snapper division it will be the largest 2 weights of any Snapper (other than Cubera). Anglers may weigh up to 2 fish in each division.

There will also be a Calcutta Division, \$500 buy in for each division winner takes all. Wahoo, Dolphin, Tuna, Wildcard (any species not listed excluding Marlin and Sharks), Warsaw.

#11 BOAT SUBSTITUTION & PROCEDURES

Boat substitutions are permitted for mechanical failure only. Any substitutions must be reported to tournament officials PRIOR to the start of fishing. Boats are not permitted to have any physical contact with other boats during the fishing hours of the tournament except for emergency or safety reasons and must be reported to a tournament official as soon as possible.

#12 PROTEST

All protests concerning the determination of the tournament winners shall be made in writing to the tournament rules committee and shall

***Rules Subject to Change until Captain's Meetings on 10/09/2024**

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

be accompanied by \$1000 cash. All protests shall be made prior to closing of the scales October 12th, 2024. In the event, that a protest is made and upheld by the rules committee, the \$1000 cash deposit shall be returned. Otherwise, the \$1000 cash deposit becomes the property of the tournament. Any protest resolutions are based on committee decisions, which are final.

#13 INSPECTION OF BOATS AND FISH

All boats will be subject to inspection prior to release from the Marina and upon weigh in. This includes gear, fish boxes and GPS locations. One fish will be randomly picked to be gutted at the Weigh In from each team.

#14 PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF TIES

If two or more entries in any category are the exact weight or weights, the winner shall be determined by earliest check in time.

#15 RAIN DATE

To be determined only under Small Craft Advisory. There shall be no refunds.

#16 PAY OUTS

100% of the entry fees paid out to fisherman. Pay out for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place overall in both divisions.

#17 CONDITION OF FISH

Fish shall not be mutilated in any way other than hook/gaff marks and must be in edible condition.

#18 RULES VIOLATION

The penalty for any violation of any of the rules is disqualification, with tournament fees not refundable.

***Rules Subject to Change until Captain's Meetings on 10/09/2024**

2024 Boca Grande Bottom Blast Rules and Regulations

#19 DISCARDING FISH

The captain will be responsible for properly disposing of fish. **NO DEAD FISH OR FISH PARTS WILL BE TOSSED INTO THE WATER AT THE MARINA!** Unwanted fish will be collected by charity at the top of the fuel dock.