

2017 F. Wayne McLeskey, Jr. Memorial Marlin Open Rules:

This is a **release only** billfish tournament. Points will be awarded only for billfish that are properly hooked and released. Released White Marlin, Sailfish, Spearfish, and Swordfish will all be counted as 100 points, a released Blue Marlin will be counted as 125 points. IGFA rules will apply except the following amendments:

1. Boats may fish both days, as long as all anglers are different
2. Lines in are at 8:00 A.M. and lines out are 3:00 P.M. daily.
3. Anyone may hook a fish; however, the rod must be transferred immediately to the angler after hookup. The angler shall then fight the fish, unassisted, until released.
4. This is strictly a trolling tournament-no live baiting allowed.
5. 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.
6. All billfish releases must be called in to an appointed committee boat at the time of release.
7. If a fish is hooked up before lines out, it may be played until released, although all catch reports must be turned in no later than 7:00 P.M. daily.
8. The official weigh station for meat fish is at The Virginia Beach Fishing Center. Scales will open at 3:00 P.M. and will close at 7:00 P.M.
9. The meat fish category winners will be determined by the largest fish caught of each species (Wahoo/ Dolphin/Tuna).
10. In the event that a meat fish Calcutta (Wahoo/Dolphin/Tuna) is not won, the prize money will be distributed between the remaining winning categories. In the event that no meat fish are caught, the winner will be chosen based off of a raffle system.
11. This will be a captain's choice event. A weather committee will not be appointed. Boats may fish both days, but all anglers must be different. Team Lay Day Forms are to be turned into the Virginia Beach Fishing Center by 8:00 A.M. on the day in which they choose to lay or they will forfeit their day of fishing. No exceptions!
12. In the event of a tie, the winning boat will be determined by the time of their final release. The boat with the earliest release time on their day of fishing would take the lead.
13. 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. Anglers in these tournaments may use J-hooks only in artificial lures.



*** Please Contact Ryan Benzel or John Crowling with any questions at (757) 491-8000 ***