

# 2019

## KEY WEST

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# MARLIN

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## TOURNAMENT



THE OFFICIAL 2019  
GUIDE & YEARBOOK

  
Stock Island  
Marina Village

KEY WEST  
**MARLIN**  
TOURNAMENT

The  
Florida Keys  
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# The Norman B. Wood

## Key West Marlin Tournament Perpetual Trophy



Capt. Norman Wood searched the waters off of Key West to find the blue marlin that were so abundant in the neighboring waters of Cuba, the Dry Tortugas, and the Bahamas. Capt. Wood believed that the mighty blue marlins were migrating between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Mapping out the most likely route he determined that the best big game fishing should be just 20 miles off Key West. After days of exploration and offshore fishing, he found the big blues! Now known as "Woods Wall", depth soundings provided Capt. Wood with the reason for great fishing - a sharp drop off in the ocean floor, where the depths plummet from 900 to over 2,000 feet, a "hot spot" for blue marlins.

Capt. Norman Wood has been instrumental in establishing Key West as a world class sport fishing center for decades. Whether in his role as a founding member of the Key West Marlin Tournament or as a Retired Director of First State Bank of the Florida Keys, Capt. Wood is loved, respected, and admired for his community leadership and commitment to the Florida Keys.

The Norman B. Wood Trophy can be viewed at First State Bank of the Florida Keys' Main Office at 1201 Simonton Street, Key West.



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Stock Island  
Marina Village  
KEY WEST  
**MARLIN**  
TOURNAMENT

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# Stock Island Marina Village





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N 24° 42.410' / W 081° 06.180'  
1996 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, Florida  
305-743-9018 | VHF Channel 9



## WELCOME

I would like to welcome you to the 2019 Stock Island Marina Village Key West Marlin Tournament. We are delighted to have you join us for another exciting and challenging tournament, along with great fishing, fun and food, seeing old friends and making new.

This year starts a new era for the 37th anniversary tournament, the 21st for me as your chairman. As you can see, I didn't retire; with the help of Tyler, Tammy and Scott, we start with a new venue and what we always desired—a location to hold our fleet with the ability to accommodate all of the tournament functions.

We also welcome a new title sponsor, Stock Island Marina Village— their businesses include the Perry Hotel, and the A&B Marina and Restaurant. Please thank them for all their help to make their properties our home.

Our award-winning television show was once again produced under the direction of Fernando Barta and his team of videographers. We encourage you to take video of all your catches and other exciting and fun moments that can enhance our Fox Sports show.

Each year the tournament takes place during the Hemingway Days Festival; there is something to entertain everyone, whether it's the world-famous look-alike contest, or the street fair, or one of the many literary events.

Thank you for your participation in our tournament this year. And, please join me in thanking our fine sponsors, without them this tournament would not be possible: Stock Island Marina Village, Perry Hotel, Monroe County Tourist Development Council, Papa's Pilar Rum, Hilton's Offshore, Misty Wells, Seakeeper, First State Bank and more.



To good fishing and great friends,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Greene". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "T" and a cursive "Greene".

Tim Greene, Tournament Chairman

## WELCOME

It is with great pleasure and honor I welcome you to the Stock Island Marina Village Key West Marlin Tournament! We are excited for you to join us in our 37th annual world class premier fishing tournament, full of excitement, food, entertainment, and great competition amongst friends.

I would like to welcome our new Title Sponsor – Stock Island Marina Village and Perry Hotel. This property's easy, laid-back atmosphere has been thoughtfully cultivated to stay true to the seafaring roots of “Old Key West”. Stock Island Marina Village and Perry Hotel will provide our anglers and guests with an excellent experience while staying true to the values that created tournament 37 years ago.

Again, welcome, and thank you for your commitment to be with us this year, and please join me to give a thank you to our fine sponsors – Good luck and Tight Lines!!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Hopf".

Tyler Hopf  
Tournament Director

It's with great honor and pleasure that I welcome you to the 2019 Stock Island Marina Village Key West Marlin Tournament. I am excited with the new location and new sponsors and glad to have you joining us for the 37th annual world class fishing tournament. We are very thankful for the donations for the raffle and auction and we hope you will join us in thanking them for there gift to the tournament. We have some great items in the raffle and hope you have the lucky winning tickets.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers, who help make the tournament run on a very smooth and professional manner, without them we could not have this outstanding tournament.



Good Luck to all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy L. Frailey".

Tammy Lynn Frailey  
Marketing Specialist, Woman Angler





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# 2019 TOURNAMENT

## WEDNESDAY | JULY 17TH

### 4-6 PM

Tournament Registration  
Stock Island Marina Village –  
at the Tournament Tent

### 6-7 PM

Captain's Meeting  
Stock Island Marina Village –  
at the Tournament Tent

### 7-8 PM

Auction & Raffle  
Stock Island Marina Village –  
at the Tournament Tent

## THURSDAY | JULY 18TH

### 7:20 AM

Boats assemble for  
traditional Bimini Start

### 7:30 AM

Bimini Start

### 8:30 AM

Lines in the water

### 4 PM

Lines out of the water

### 4-6 PM

Weigh In  
Stock Island Marina Village

### 6:30-8 PM

Island Pig Roast and Cocktails  
Stock Island Marina Village –  
at the Tournament Tent

## FRIDAY | JULY 19TH

### 7:30 AM

Boats leave control area  
for day two of fishing

### 8:30 AM

Lines in the water

### 4 PM

Lines out of the water

### 4-6 PM

Weigh In  
Stock Island Marina Village

### 6:30-8 PM

Dockside Cocktails and Fish Fry  
Stock Island Marina Village –  
at the Tournament Tent

## SATURDAY | JULY 20TH

### 7:30 AM

Boats leave control area  
for day three of fishing

### 8:30 AM

Lines in the water

### 3 PM

Lines out of the water

### 3-5 PM

Weigh In  
Stock Island Marina Village

### 6:30-7:30 PM

Awards Banquet Cocktails  
Margaritaville Key West Resort  
& Marina (formerly the Westin)  
at 245 Front Street

### 6:30-8:30 PM

Silent Auction  
Margaritaville Key West Resort  
& Marina (formerly the Westin)  
at 245 Front Street

### 7:30 PM

Awards Banquet Dinner  
and Awards  
Margaritaville Key West Resort  
& Marina (formerly the Westin)  
at 245 Front Street



## PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

|                     | MARLIN   | DOLPHIN | TUNA  | WAHOO |
|---------------------|----------|---------|-------|-------|
| <b>FIRST PLACE</b>  | \$25,000 | \$5,000 | \$750 | \$750 |
| <b>SECOND PLACE</b> | \$10,000 | \$1,500 | \$350 | \$350 |
| <b>THIRD PLACE</b>  | \$5,000  | \$1,000 | \$150 | \$150 |





# 2019 KEY WEST MARLIN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final

## TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES, DATES & TIMES

Fishing will be on Thursday, July 18; Friday, July 19, and Saturday July 20, 2019. There are geographical boundary limits as follows; External boundary limits: E81° 0"; N25° 0"; W82° 40"; S23° 40". The controlled daily departure location will be in the Lower Keys Area. Boats must assemble each morning inside the reef line between Looe Key Reef off Big Pine Key and Sand Key Light off Key West. The Committee Boat will broadcast over VHF Channel 78 at 7:30 a.m. a signal authorizing all boats to depart the assembly area. Boats must pass through the controlled assembly area after 7:30 a.m. and before they begin fishing. Boats must remain in the water i.e. NOT transported in any manner to another location. Dates and times are final. There is no weather day. On Thursday July 18, boats are requested to assemble at 7:20 a.m. in the area of the airport marker for a traditional Bimini start.

8:30 a.m. — Lines in the Water on a Radio Signal  
from the Committee Boat

4:00 p.m. — Lines out of the Water on a Radio Signal  
from the Committee Boat

On Saturday July 20, lines out of the water will be at 3:00pm.

Bait — Bait may be obtained by any means before commencement of fishing hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During fishing hours boats may catch their own bait but may not obtain bait from any other boat.

## GENERAL RULES:

1. Fishing must be performed in accordance with principles of good sportsmanship, and in compliance with these and IGFA rules as published in the '2017 Edition' of the IGFA World Record Game Fishes' book under 'International Angling Rules'.
2. This is a boat event. Each boat participating must pay an entry fee of \$2100 which allows two anglers to fish in the tournament and provides two additional social privileges. There is no maximum number of anglers per boat but each additional angler must pay \$200 to enter. Angler substitutions may be made but must be called in to the Committee Boat before 'Lines in the Water' each day. Boats may only be changed as a result of mechanical breakdown and the change must receive prior approval of the Rules Committee. There is no maximum number of lines in the water.

## 2019 KEY WEST MARLIN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final

**3. ENTRIES:** Entries must be postmarked or received by June 15, 2019 to be eligible for the early entry fee of \$1,800. After June 15, 2019, the entry fee will be \$2,100. Entries will be accepted up until the start of the Captains' Meeting at Stock Island Marina Village, on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

**Entry Refusal:** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse tournament applications or entry from any prospective entrant with or without cause in its sole discretion. Entrants and/or entrants proposing to fish on boats that have been barred from other fishing tournaments can expect to have their entry rejected. Any applicant refused entry shall be entitled to a refund of entry fee.

**4. THIS IS AN OPEN EVENT:** Professional Guides, Captains, and Mates are eligible to participate as anglers.

**5.** All tackle must meet specifications for each category.

**6.** Angler must hook and play fish without help. Rod, reel and line must not be touched by anyone until the leader is brought within the grasp of the angler, other angler, captain or mate at which time more than one person is permitted to hold the leader.

**7.** Fish injured or mutilated are not eligible.

**8.** Double line, if used, must leave rod tip during the fight and fish must be fought most of the time on specified class line.

**9.** Line Test Limits: It is the responsibility of the angler to insure that the proper test line is used. Line test limits must be adhered to. Manufacturer's stated test line is a maximum of 130#. Lower test line may be used, but no bonus is awarded for using lower test line.

**10.** Beginning January 1, 2008, anglers fishing from HMS permitted vessels and participating in billfish tournaments must use only non-offset circle hooks when deploying natural bait or natural bait artificial lure combinations. Tournament anglers may deploy "J" hooks with artificial lures.

### VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS

**1. VIDEO**—Each boat will provide their own video camera in order to record the fish during the fight and before the release showing the mate's hand on the leader. The tournament will provide each boat with a series of validation sheets that each morning will be instructed by the committee

## 2019 KEY WEST MARLIN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final

boat a photo of the designed sheet which will precede all other photos of that day. The boat must provide to the weigh master a means to download the camera to the official records of the tournament; this can be achieved by either having a removable sim card or having a cord to download to a computer. All fish caught and released should be photographed several times during the fight and at the time of release. Failure to photograph a fish may result in disqualification of that particular fish. In the event that a camera malfunctions or some other unusual circumstance results in no photographs, the angler may petition the Rules Committee to have his catch allowed. The Rules Committee may request special polygraph tests or other corroborating evidence that would help validate the catch. The decision of the Rules Committee is final.

**2. LINE / LURE**—Boats which have caught and released a target species must turn in the camera, along with the leader, or a portion thereof, the double line, and at least 10' (ten feet) of the single line closest to the double line after each day's fishing. Cameras and line must be turned in at the weigh station, Stock Island Marina Village, within two and one-half (2 ½) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the water' but no later than 5pm on the final day of fishing.

**3. POLYGRAPH**— All winning teams may be subject to and must pass polygraph testing. Refusal to take the test will result in disqualification. Any person aboard the boat may also be subject to and must pass Polygraph tests will include questions on angling and release procedures and species of fish. Polygraph tests are final and winners are not official until all test results are completed.

**4. RELEASE**—Proper release techniques must be used. Release is official only if the following conditions are met:

**A.** For blue marlin, white marlin, spearfish, and sailfish—ALL billfish **MUST** be released.

**B.** Fish must be fought on the specified class line (i.e. the double line and the leader must leave the reel) for the majority of the time the fish is hooked-up.

**C.** The fish must be brought close enough to the boat for the mate, angler, or captain to touch the leader (and photo should be taken of the fish at this time) to qualify as a catch and release. After the leader has been touched, the angler may continue to fight the fish in an effort to tag it. If possible, multiple photos of the fish, angler, and tag should be taken. There are no additional points for tagged fish.

## 2019 KEY WEST MARLIN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final

### COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTING

1. The Committee Boat will monitor VHF Channel 78.
2. All boats must report 'Hook-ups' and 'Releases' to the Committee Boat at the time of the occurrence, identifying the species and the Anglers name. Reports may be relayed by another boat or may be by telephone if the reporting boat cannot reach the Committee Boat.
3. If any boat is 'Hooked-up' at the time the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water', the boat must reaffirm the 'Hook-up' with the Committee Boat.
4. Cameras and line must be submitted within two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water'. An exception to this rule will be allowed in the event that a 'Hook-up' was reaffirmed with the Committee Boat at the time of 'Lines out of the Water' in which case the camera and line may be submitted up to two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the Release time reported to the Committee Boat but no later than 5:00 p.m. on the final day of fishing.

### ACTS OR SITUATIONS THAT WILL DISQUALIFY A RELEASE:

Any violation of these Rules or violation of the guidelines as published in the '2017 Edition' of the 'IGFA World Record Game Fishes' book under 'Angling Regulations' will disqualify a fish. If an angler has a fish disqualified he/she may attempt to catch another fish of that species during the tournament timetable. All decisions of the Rules Committee are final.

### PROTEST

All protests must be in writing and submitted to the Rules Committee on the day of the alleged violation with a deposit of \$500.00. If the alleged violation is upheld, the deposit will be refunded. If not upheld, the deposit will not be refunded. The decision of the Rules Committee will be final.

### SCORING SYSTEM

1. Blue marlin score 400 points for a release. Any blue marlin killed for record consideration will also receive 400 points provided it weighs a minimum of 600 pounds. If a blue marlin is killed for record consideration and weighs less than 600 pounds it scores zero points.
2. All white marlin releases score 400 points.
3. All spearfish releases score 400 points.



## 2019 KEY WEST MARLIN OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

All Decisions By Rules Committee Will Be Final

4. One fun fish per day can be entered for additional points as follows:

**SAILFISH**— release 50 points (must turn in camera).

**DOLPHIN**— 1 point per pound. i.e. 38.5 pounds scores 38.5 points.

**WAHOO**— 1 point per pound.

**TUNA, YELLOWFIN, BLACKFIN, and SKIPJACK**— 1 point per pound.

Minimum weight on dolphin, wahoo and tuna is 15 pounds.

5. In the event of a tie on points, the boat with the earliest catch or release time on their last scored fish will be the higher placed boat.

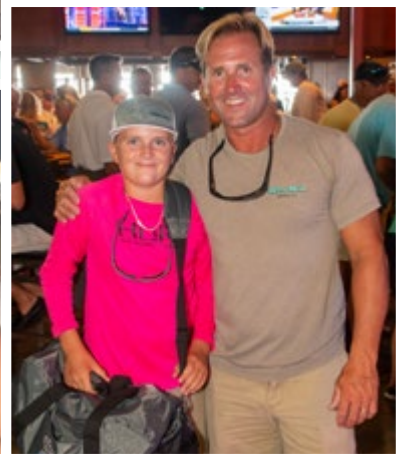
6. Boats entered in the Marlin Division of the Key West Marlin Tournament may pay an additional \$450 entry fee to compete for a total of \$10,000 in cash prizes for the three heaviest dolphin, wahoo, and tuna (yellowfin, blackfin, and skipjack), in the Fun Fish Division. Minimum weight for these species is 15 pounds. All dolphin, wahoo, and tuna, must be weighed at the Stock Island Marina Village in the Historic Seaport within two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the Committee Boat calls for 'Lines out of the Water'. An exception to this rule will be allowed in the event that a 'Hook-up' was reaffirmed with the Committee Boat at the time of 'Lines out of the Water' in which case the fish may be weighed in up to two and one-half (2 1/2) hours after the fish boated time reported to the Committee Boat but no later than 5:00 p.m. on the final day of fishing. Boats wishing to weigh-in dolphin, wahoo, or tuna should notify the Committee Boat that they are bringing in a fish to weigh. Wahoo, dolphin, and tuna may be transported to the weigh station by land or by sea, thus allowing boats fishing out of Big Pine and the Lower Keys to return to their home dock and bring their fish to to the Stock Island Marina Village by car or truck. The Weighmaster's announced weight at the time of weigh-in will be entered into the record as the official weight and the Captain and/or Angler will be asked to witness the weight. In the event of a tie, the boat with the earliest fish weighed in will be the higher placed boat. It is not necessary to turn in camera, line, and leader for these fish except for sailfish release where the video must be turned in.

### TOURNAMENT WINNERS

1. Cash prizes totaling \$40,000 will be awarded to the three boats with the highest points in accordance with the Tournament Scoring System.

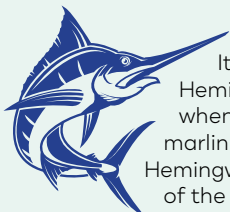
2. Cash prizes totaling \$10,000 will be awarded for the three heaviest dolphin, tuna and wahoo weighed in by the boats entered in the Fun Fish Division.







## TOURNAMENT HISTORY



It is interesting to me that when people think of Ernest Hemingway, Key West immediately comes to mind, but when thinking about Hemingway fishing for giant blue marlin they usually don't connect marlin fishing and Hemingway with the gulf stream south of Key West. Founders of the Key West Marlin tournament Capt. Norman Wood and Wayne Hunt believed that marlin fishing in Key West could rival marlin fishing in many other spots in the world. Did Hemingway know about the great marlin fishing off Key West 40 years before? You bet he did! It wasn't to prove the point but in 1981 Norman Wood invited Miami herald writer Jim Hardie to Key West for a trip aboard the Petticoat III. Little did they know this trip would make history. After that fishing trip the Miami Herald headline read; "Hemingway Never Had It So Good". When the Petticoat III returned to Oceanside marina in Key West, four marlin flags flew from the outrigger; three release flags and a fourth a silhouette of the captured blue marlin weighing 285 pounds. The released marlin were estimated at 150, 275 and 400 pounds. As exciting as that trip was, the full story was even more unbelievable. Seven blue marlin were hooked on that day, setting the stage for one of the greatest fishing tournaments in history. Shortly after that historical day of fishing aboard the Petticoat III, another Key West sportfishing boat recorded nine blue marlin hook-ups in one day. News of the red-hot marlin fishing on the Key West Wall spread through the sport fishing community like wild fire.

### THE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT IS BORN

In 1982 the inaugural Key West Marlin Tournament took place October 23-October 25 with 92 boats and 400 anglers testing the waters south of Key West on the Wall. It was a rousing success.

**1982** was the year of the 400 pounders with first prize going to Key West attorney Jack Spottswood with a 462 pounder, aboard the Chelsea. Micky Rupp aboard his boat Rupp Rigger was the winner of the tag and release division with two marlin.

**1983** was the year of the 300 pounders. Only 4 ounces separated the first and second place marlin winners and only 23 pounds separated the first through eighth-place marlin. Aboard Captain Dick Myers Fair Star angler Harold Shappel landed a 328.12 pound blue marlin to claim first place. Navy Captain Red Best commanding officer of the NAS Key West Base won the marlin tag and release division fishing with Captain Junior Rendueles.

**1984** was the year of the 500 pounders. Mary Jo Spence landed a 500-pound blue marlin to claim first place fishing aboard the Mary Jo with captain Matt Borkowski. A second 500-pound blue was weighed in on the last day of the tournament to take second place based on time of



## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

catch. Angler Kent Smith aboard Capt. Frank Smith's Renegade was the tag and release champ with two marlin releases.

**1985** was the year of excitement and variety of catches. Angler Charles Lewis fishing aboard the Amours with Captain Jr. Rendueles captured the winning blue marlin with a 466.8 pounder. Shirley Wood fishing aboard the Petticoat III with her husband Norman took top honors for most releases.

**1986** was the year of the small boats with two marlin in excess of 300 pounds being caught in 25-foot boats. Angler Findlay Sinclair's 348.75 pound blue marlin took first place, he was fishing aboard the Katherine Louise with Capt. Tom Walker and Ed Allie. The second place weight marlin went to angler Ramón Rodríguez and Capt. Pat Tuper. Bill Voegeli's two tag and releases were tops overall. First tag, Sonny Boy, Sonny Tilman. Second Tag, Sea Boots, Capt. Jim Sharpe and angler Todd Badd.

**1987** was the year of the 500- pound blue marlin, as predicted in the welcoming letter prior to the tournament. A new tournament record was set by angler Rosie Morrison fishing aboard the Sea Boots with Captain Jim Sharpe, Rosie's marlin weighed in at 520 pounds. Angler Gene Stone took top honors in the release division.

**1988** returned to the year of the 400-pounder. Angler Walter Milo fishing with Captain Jay Weed aboard the Lucky Two landed a 422.25-pound blue marlin to make the winners circle.

**1989** was once again the year of the 300-pounder. Angler Roy Spear fishing with Capt. Patrick Sheppard aboard the Dream made the winners circle with a 300-pound blue. Angler Tim Greene fishing aboard the Beachcomber with Capt. Mike Cyr took top honors in the release division.

**1990** was back to the 500-pounders and a new tournament record. The brother team of Captain Bryan Bennett and Glenn Bennett fishing on the Thunnus captured a blue that weighed in at 570-pounds. The release honors went to the Sea Boots 34 angler Chuck Stitzel and Capt. Todd Badd.

**1991** featured all releases; first marlin release was angler Tom Daniels and Capt. Larry White fishing on the Chief, second marlin release went to angler Scott Ricket on the Serenity and the third marlin released went to Warren Worlin Sr., fishing with his son Warren Worlin Jr. on the Go Gether.

**1992** Angler Steven Lewis and Capt. Lindsay Forde on Freebee won first place, angler Phil Eaton and Capt. Ky Lewis on the Dazie Mae came in second and angler Dennis Captik and Capt. Bill Wickers aboard the Linda D IV took home third place.

# TOURNAMENT HISTORY

## THE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT IS REBORN

### 1999 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The tournament is reborn with a new and exciting scoring format that keeps every boat in the tournament until lines out on the final day. In 1999 the first place boat in the marlin division was the Talisman with angler Jim Sharpe Jr. and Captain Mike Friday with 470 points. Second place boat was the CC Rider with 461 points. Third place boat was the Sweet Deal also scoring 461 points but losing second on time of catch.

### 2000 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The first-place boat in the marlin division was the Summertime Lady II, with anglers Mike Sullivan and Capt. Marco Gaona and Mike Weinhofer. Second- place boat was Molly Good Heads with angler Jason Gilbert. Third- place boat was Leprechaun with angler Joe Richardson and Capt. Andy Fortin.

In the dolphin division the top dolphin were separated by only three pounds. The Do Fish with angler Kevin Firestone weighed in a 43.05-pound bull to take first place. In second place was Talisman with angler Jim Sharpe Jr.'s 42.65-pound bull. Third place was the Super Equity with angler Pete Rutskin with a 38.05-pound bull.

### 2001 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The first-place boat in the marlin division was the Finesse with angler Clay Harris and Captain Ken Harris. The second-place boat was Rampagous crewed with angler John Crockett and Captain Brett Taporowski. Third-place went to the boat Looney Tunes with angler Bob Scerrato and Ed Steinmetz fishing with Captain Carl Rees.

In the dolphin division the top prize went to angler Tom Payne on the boat Relentless with Captain Paul Ross. In the wahoo division the top boat was Lucky Charm with angler Rick Bodett and Captain Jay Weed. The top tuna was caught on the boat Peg Leg with angler Alan Finnieston.

### 2002 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Marking the 20th anniversary of the tournament, the first-place winner was Mar-Joe with Captain Scott Henley, George Castro, and Frank Bolin releasing three blue marlin to add their names to the Norman Wood trophy. The second-place trophy went to the Bull Gator team, with Bob Sullivan and Bill Caulfield releasing two blue marlin. Third-place went to Summertime Lady with one blue marlin release based on time.

The Fun Fish Division first-place dolphin was caught on the Erica by Jimmy Butters weighing 35.35-pounds, second-place went to Sweet Deal with Scott Fricke with a 32.2-pound dolphin and third-place was Super Grouper with Chip Veach weighing 29.95-pounds. The top wahoo was caught on the Lucky Charm by Rick Cresse.

## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2003 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The first-place boat in the 2003 tournament in the marlin division was the Beachcomber, with captain Daryl Simeon and anglers Rick Kirvan, Matt Polumbo and Tim Greene, releasing two blue marlin for the win. Second place went to the Game Hunter, skippered by Alex Alder with anglers Brian Baugher, Chris Claypool and Anthony Delduca. Get Lit captured third place with Captain Ray Roshier and anglers Chris Toomey and Peter Miller. In the Fun Fish Division top dolphin prize went to angler David Lively on the Y2k with a 50.5-pound dolphin. The Kilcare caught the largest tuna with angler Ned Dickman. The largest wahoo was captured by the Triple Time with angler Rob Camis.

### 2004 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Miami Beach angler Bob Cristoph, Sr., caught and released a sailfish Saturday, adding points to his team's tally that included a released blue marlin and a 17.2-pound dolphin to win the 2004 tournament.

Cristoph's son Bob Cristoph, Jr., Ryan Flannery and Bill Mosher fished on the Hook, skippered by Rick Morrell of Miami.

Randy Reynolds released a blue marlin to give Business Calls' team second place with Captain Bill Rohde.

Third place was garnered by the team of Sir Veza III. In the Fun Fish Division top dolphin prize went to angler Kevin Speidel on the Triple Time. The Ambitious took first place in the tuna division with a 66.3-pound yellowfin. Tim Trivett was the angler with Mark Baumgarten on the Cowboy which took first place in the wahoo division with a 33.4-pound.











## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2005 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Julie Jean captained by Jimmy Robertson of Boca Grande, Fla., won the top prize in the 2005 edition of the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament.

Finishing second was Dreamin' On, skippered by Randy Hodgekis with a marlin release and two dolphin weighing 21.1 and 28 pounds, with Steve Keinath and Bob Strewé of Rifle, Colorado.

Business Calls was third, with a blue marlin release and a 46.8- pound wahoo. The boat was skippered by Bill Rohde with Darren Doop and Mark Staats.

The largest marlin of the tournament was estimated at over 550 pounds, and released by Bruce Wood fishing on the Petticoat III with Capt. Norman Wood.

Bradley Wells, age 10, of Naples, Florida caught a 31.6- pound dolphin to win the dolphin division.

### 2006 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to Roy Miller of Clearwater and John Burket of St. Petersburg. The Serenity team caught and released a blue marlin to win the 2006 tournament. The second-place trophy was awarded to The Finesse, captained by Kenny Harris with angler Andy Glyn of Marshfield, Mass.

Third place was garnered by The Janice 43, skippered by Ed Wilson of Fort Myers, Florida, with angler Loren Farinelli of Lighthouse Pointe, Florida. In the Fun Fish Division, The Key West Fire Department, captained by Ed Gates of Key West won the dolphin category. The wahoo category went to The Lucky Charm with a 53.1-pound wahoo reeled in by Richard McGinley of Ocala, FL.



## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2007 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Jeff Strack released a white marlin and caught a 22.6-pound dolphin Friday, and released a blue marlin Saturday to give the Giggling Marlin team a total of 822.6 points and the \$25,000 top cash prize in the tournament's marlin division.

On Course, skippered by Bill Currie, took second place with releases of a blue marlin and a spearfish by Mike Zalewski of Tampa and Dan Harrington of Terra Verde, Fla., respectively.

In third place was Easy Rider skippered by Rob Harris of Cudjoe Key, Fla. Harris' team combined a blue marlin release and catches of a 25.3-pound dolphin and a 39.65-pound wahoo, the largest wahoo of the tournament.

Captain Billy Wickers III, on the charter boat Linda D V, won the tournament's inaugural Jim Hardie Memorial Trophy for the largest marlin released during the tournament. Hardie, a former "Miami Herald" outdoors writer who died in 2006, was the first journalist to write about the blue marlin fishery off Key West. In 1981, Captain Norman Wood invited Hardie to Key West for a trip aboard the Petticoat III. When they returned, four marlin flags flew from the outriggers. Three were released and one boated.

Clay Harris of Key West, fishing with his father Captain Ken Harris on the Finesse, caught the largest dolphin at 48.95-pounds.

### 2008 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Risky Business with Danny Coll and Bernard Davis released two marlin on Saturday and added a dolphin to win the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament and the \$25,000 first-place prize. "I have no words to describe this. It is amazing," said Coll of Cudjoe Key, Florida.

The Cajun Queen, made up of Greg Eklund and Mike Nichols, both of Islamorada, Fla., plus Brad Whitlock, Bob Whitlock, and Trey Myers, all of Fort Myers, Fla., finished second.

In third place was BFB with Jody Briard of Key West, and Paul Barret, Paulette Barret, Donna Barret and Steve Tucker of Gulfport, Fla.

In the Fun Fish Division, Robert Beck of Plant City, Fla., won with a 73.3-pound wahoo. Randy Sterling Sr., of Key West, was second with a 42.2-pound dolphin, and Robert Collins of Miramar, Fla., was third with a 20.45-pound tuna.

### 2009 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Rene Cruz, of the Dock Cruiser II, fishing with Rick Sheriff, won the tournament's top prize of \$25,000 and their name added to the Norman Wood trophy. They released a blue marlin on Thursday and weighed a dolphin weighing 23.05-pounds Friday to clinch the win with 423.05 points.

In second place was the Shockwave fishing team with Captain Marco Gano leading his angler Jim O'Malley to release a blue marlin estimated

## TOURNAMENT HISTORY



to weigh 550 pounds. That, paired with a dolphin weighing 21.45 pounds caught on Friday, gave them 421.45 points to garner second place; less than two points out of first.

Third place went to Cracker, skippered by Mark Schultz with angler Maurice Gibson for a total of 417.8 points. Bill Currie of the On Course was awarded the Jim Hardie Memorial Trophy.

### 2010 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Contingent Sea with angler Clayton Syfrett caught and released the winning marlin in the last hours of the tournament to capture the tournament win.

Second place went to Whiskey Tango with Steve Doss and in third place was Dream Catcher with angler Brian Wenrick. The first-place dolphin was caught by Rob Gothier, Jr., fishing on the Bar South. The first-place tuna was caught by Play Time with angler Michael Cioffi and the first-place wahoo was brought in by Steve Doss on the Whiskey Tango.

The Jim Hardie trophy was awarded to Dave Claffy for his many contributions to the tournament.

### 2011 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Two Fort Myers, Florida, anglers each caught their first blue marlin to elevate the Moppy Dick II team to the top position and the first-place prize.

Dan Richards released his fish, estimated to weigh 125-pounds, on Saturday and his teammate Harry Cameron had reeled in his approximately 150-pound marlin on Friday. On Course, captained by Bill Currie of Tampa, Florida, took second place with a blue marlin release and two weighed dolphin.

Blue Heaven, with Tampa angler Steve Swindle, was third with a released blue marlin and a wahoo.

### 2012 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Risky Business with Danny Coll and Bernard Davis released a white marlin to gain first place and win the \$25,000.

The second-place team was the Reel Darlins with Cyd Tuskowski of St. Petersburg, Fla. and Laura Russell, also from St. Petersburg.

Third place was the Cajun Queen with Captain Greg Eklund and angler Jordan Wolk of Tavernier, Fla.

## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2013 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Mark Truett made the most of his first saltwater fishing trip, catching and releasing a 500-pound blue marlin to win the tournament.

Truett, of Duncan, Okla., needed about 2.5 hours to land the blue. Later that day Bobby Shannon caught a 17.9-pound dolphin to add to the boat's point total and give High Stakes the \$25,000 first-place prize.

Perry Brown, of Jacksonville, released a blue marlin Friday on High Class Hooker, skippered by Gene Chrzanowski, of Key West.

Troy Martin, of Key West, released a blue marlin Saturday on Mr. Z with Key West captain Phil "Curly" McGinn to finish third in the 31-boat fleet.

### 2014 DRAMBUIE KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Gary Eng's white marlin release, coupled with several dolphin catches, helped team Ruckus win the Drambuie Key West Marlin Tournament.

The excited team ended the tournament with 496.75 points, providing Ruckus the edge to capture the \$25,000 first place prize.

Team Ruckus also caught the largest dolphin of the tournament weighing in at 48.75 pounds.

Second place went to OCD releasing a white marlin on the final day of fishing, by team member John Harris, and releasing a sailfish by angler Cece Imbrie for a point total of 450.

Third place was captured by High Class Hooker, with angler Jeb Teirney releasing a white marlin and receiving 400 points. This would become the last tournament to bear the Drambuie name, and a new era would begin with the addition of the Bacardi Oakheart sponsorship.





## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2015 BACARDI OAKHEART KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Cowgirl, skippered by Phil McGinn of Key West, garnered top honors and a \$25,000 first-place prize at the 2015 tournament.

Angler Marty Crews of Mound City, Kansas, released a white marlin on Friday, and Ben Giefer of Leawood, Kansas, released a sailfish on Saturday that proved to be the winning fish.

Blue Heron, skippered by Shannon Fountain of Big Pine Key, Fla., finished in second with a blue marlin released Friday by Mark Knowles of Key Largo, Fla. The team added to its score with a weight dolphin caught Saturday.

In third place for 2015 was Cracker with a blue marlin released Saturday by Mark Schultz of Fort Myers Beach, Fla. Jason Johnston of Johnson City, Tenn., skippered Cracker.

### 2016 BACARDI OAKHEART KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The Indigenous, skippered by Travis Dickens of Islamorada, Fla., garnered top honors and a \$25,000 first-place prize at the 2016 Bacardi Oakheart Key West Marlin tournament.

Dickens' team combined a blue marlin release Friday, by angler Mike Melhado of Indialantic, Fla, with a 110.5-pound yellowfin tuna that Kevin Schoolfield of Melbourne Beach, Fla., caught Saturday, to best 31 other boats.



Flying Fish Charters of Key West, with Jamie Connell at the helm, released a white marlin and sailfish for second place. Angler Jim Connell of Key West caught and released both fish.

High Stakes, skippered by Jason Jonas of Key West, finished third with a blue marlin release and a 26.5-pound dolphin. Angler Bob Hansen of Fairfax, Va., caught and released the marlin, while angler Don Jonas of Key West caught the dolphin.

### 2017 HAVANA CLUB KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

Reel Captivating started off the morning with a sailfish release by angler Wayne Jenkins scoring them 50 fun fish points. In the afternoon, they hooked up with what they thought could be the winning marlin. Unfortunately, it turned out to be another sailfish. Linda D V weighed in the biggest fun fish of the day with a 32.8lb wahoo caught by angler Shane Moseman.

Belle La Vie Sur La Mer weighed in a 29.1lb dolphin caught by angler David Milo and Mark Knowles aboard the Blue Heron caught a 28.0 lb dolphin.

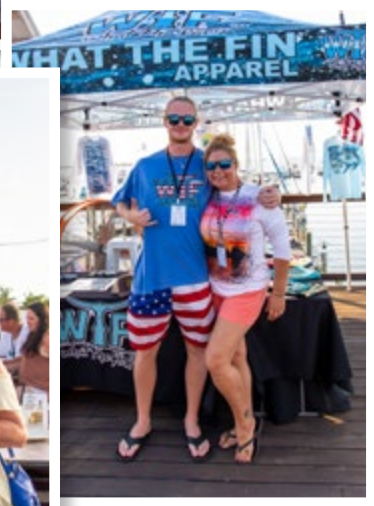


## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### 2018 KEY WEST MARLIN TOURNAMENT

The 2018 Key West Marlin Tournament was a battle down to the end with six boats in contention for the top three spots. Fishy Business released a sailfish for 50 points but was unable to get a marlin which left them in sixth place overall and The Helm who had 69.2 points going into day three wasn't able to catch a marlin either leaving them in fifth place overall. However, it was Floridian who caught and released a blue marlin on day three to put them in second place and knock Mary Jo to third place and Cracker out of the top three and into fourth place. Paved For weighed in a 23.1 lb. wahoo which was enough to keep them in first place when combined with their previous day's marlin and fun fish points. In addition to their first place overall trophy, Paved For took home the first place dolphin and second place wahoo in the Fun Fish Division. Pretty impressive results for the Paved For team taking home three trophies!











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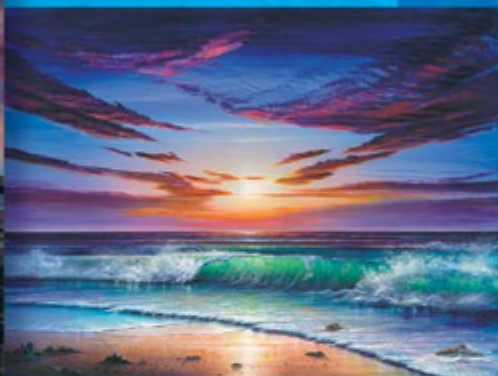


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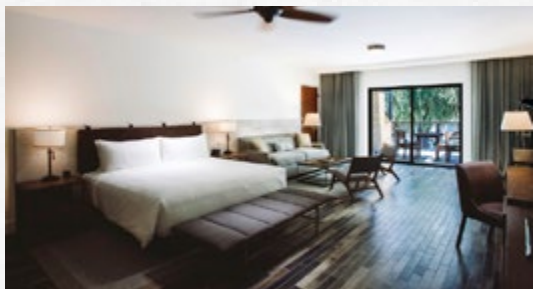
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