

## NAS Key West 29th Annual Dolphin Derby Saturday, May 24th, 2025 *Memorial Day Weekend*



## **RULES**

- 1. The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Dolphin Derby Tournament is open to all MWR authorized patrons with a valid military issued ID card. At least one person on each boat is required to have a military issued ID card. There is a maximum of SIX participants per boat. Sponsorship is required for all other anglers without military affiliation.
- 2. The following eight (8) prizes will be awarded for fish caught in the tournament:
  - Largest Dolphin overall, 2nd Largest Dolphin overall, 3rd Largest Dolphin overall
  - Largest Dolphin caught by an Active Duty Member
  - Largest Dolphin caught by a Lady Angler
  - Largest Dolphin Youth, 2nd Largest Dolphin Youth
  - Largest Wahoo
- 3. Tournament winners will be based on the weight of the largest fish caught in each category (Dolphin and Wahoo). Only one fish per angler will be weighed for each category. Each registered angler is eligible for only one of the eight (8) tournament prizes. For example, if the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd largest overall fish is caught by an active duty member, or lady angler, the next largest in fish will be awarded the prize for largest fish caught by an active duty, or lady angler. We ask that anglers not share their catch in attempts to circumvent this rule the idea is that more anglers have an opportunity to win awards.
- 4. Youth angler winners will be based on the weight of a single fish caught that day. Youth angler prizes are awarded to anglers 15 years old and under and they must be a registered angler. All youth anglers must hook and fight their own fish. Each youth angler is eligible for only one prize. Youth anglers are not eligible for any other category. Youth anglers must have a parent/guardian with them to sign for any prize that is won. We ask that anglers not share their catch in attempts to circumvent this rule we would like more youngsters to have an opportunity to win.
- 5. Tournament fishing hours are as follows: Lines in the water at sunrise and lines out of the water at 3 PM.
- 6. Boats must check in by VHF radio on channel 80 or call the Sigsbee Marina at 305-293-4434 no later than 8 AM to complete your registration/eligibility. Only vessels that check in will be allowed to weigh fish. All boats must check back in by 5 PM to inform the tournament staff that you have safely returned. You can do that at the weigh in, VHF channel 80 or call the Sigsbee Marina. If a boat has not checked back in, they will be reported as overdue to the Coast Guard. If a boat has safely returned and did not check in, they may be disqualified from future MWR tournaments at NAS Key West.
- 7. Weigh in will begin at 3 PM sharp. No fish will be weighed prior to 3 PM. Fish must be weighed at the Sunset Lounge Bar weigh station no later than 5 PM. Time is by the weighmaster's watch only. If anglers are in line waiting to weigh a fish at 5 PM they will be weighed as on-time entries, however no one will be allowed to get in line after 5 PM. Only one team, and two anglers per team, allowed in the weigh tent at any one time.
- 8. All Dolphin must be 20" minimum from the fork of the tail. There is no size limit on Wahoo. If you attempt to weigh a mutilated, weighted, injured, frozen, rotten, or chemically treated fish you will forfeit your entry in the tournament and eligibility for any prizes.

- 9. Fish transported by land shall be as direct as possible. Stops at fish houses, markets, other fishing tournaments, etc. shall be made after weigh in. Official weigh in will be performed by the designated weighmaster at Sunset Lounge Bar.
- 10. All hooks, leaders, lures, and rigs must be removed from the fish before bringing the fish to be weighed. The weighmaster will not weigh any fish with hooks lures or leader in its mouth.
- 11. No boats shall come together unless an emergency exists.
- 12. NAS Key West and the MWR reserve the right to reschedule the tournament due to extreme weather conditions.
- 13. Boating Conduct: Sportsmanship, seamanship, safety, and conservation are expected from each contestant. Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship or violates the rules or any federal, state or local laws will be disqualified. The captain of each vessel is responsible for the conduct, behavior and compliance with the rules of all persons onboard their vessel.
- 14. NAS Key West and MWR urge all participating anglers to release those fish not to be entered in the Tournament. The release of fish should be in keeping with the best conservation efforts for continued life.
- 15. All fish must be caught on rod and reel. Wire lines and electric reels are not permitted. All anglers must hook and fight their own fish.
- 16. All anglers must possess a valid Florida Saltwater Fishing License as required by the State.
- 17. Limitations: No barracuda, sharks, stingray, tarpon, or billfish will be allowed in this tournament. The only fish that will be weighed are Dolphin and Wahoo.
- 18. Ties: In the event of a tie in any category, the winner will be determined by fish length.
- 19. Rule Violations: Any violation of tournament rules will be grounds for disqualification from the tournament and forfeiture of entry fee. Any misunderstanding between fishermen must be presented to the Tournament Director prior to the final fish being weighed. These misunderstandings or rule interpretations will be settled by the Tournament Director.
- 20. Any fish may be ordered cut open as directed by the weighmaster or the Tournament Director.
- 21. It is expressly understood that all participants in this tournament enter at their own risk. NAS Key West as a whole shall be exempt from any liability for libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, or death suffered by any participant, vessels or equipment, which may occur during the tournament.
- 22. All decisions made by the Tournament Director are final.
- 23. Deadline for registration is 5:00 PM, Friday, May 23, 2025. All registration forms must be turned in at the Sigsbee Marina. Entry fee is \$250 per boat if paid by 5:00 PM on Sunday, May 04, 2024. Entry fees paid after May 04, 2023, will be \$300.
- 24. I have read, fully understand and agree to abide by the above tournament rules.

Captain's Name:	Signature:	Date:
(1	Please print)	
Sponsor* Name:	Signature:	Date:
	Please print)	

Contact the Sigsbee Marina for any additional questions or concerns: 305-293-4434.

<sup>\*</sup> The sponsor is the designated angler that is an authorized MWR patron with the military issued ID card.