



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Science Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, Florida 33149

Dear Tournament Operator,

YOUR BILLFISH TOURNAMENT HAS BEEN SELECTED to report catch and effort information to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). As tournament director, **you are required to submit a fishing record of the tournament** on the enclosed Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Billfish Tournament Summary Report form. Regulations require that the completed form, as well as a copy of the tournament rules and radio logs (if they exist) be submitted to the Science Director **postmarked no later than the seventh day after the conclusion of the tournament**. Please read the back of the form for instructions on how to complete it.

The following summarizes what information must be included on each Summary Form: (1) tournament name; (2) recorder name and telephone number; (3) date for which the information is recorded; (4) number of boats participating and total hours fished per boat; (5) the species of each billfish boated, released or released dead; and (6) the weight and length (measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail) of each billfish boated and measured. If no billfish were caught, you are still required to return the completed form. Information on other species caught during the event is desired but not mandatory.

If the tournament does not take place, please return the form indicating cancellation or termination of the event. If you have any questions about the federal regulations concerning your reporting requirements or any suggestions on how we can further facilitate the reporting process, please contact Arietta Venizelos at (305) 361-4214 or by email at arietta.venizelos@noaa.gov. Additionally, information on federal regulations impacting highly migratory species, including billfish, can be found at www.nmfpermits.com.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Thompson, Ph.D.
Director
Southeast Fisheries Science Center



ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION



Thank you for registering your _____ fishing tournament with the National Marine Fisheries Service. Please send the completed form (which is also available at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hmspg.html or www.nmfspermits.com) via mail to: HMS Tournament Registration, NOAA Fisheries, 9721 Executive Drive N., St. Peterburg, FL, 33702 or FAX to (727) 570-5656.

Tournament Name _____

Tournament Location _____ **Date(s):** _____
City State

Director/Operator Name _____

Mailing Address _____
Street/P.O. Box

City State Zip

Phone (____) ____ - _____ **FAX** (____) ____ - _____

E-mail Address (if applicable) _____

Has this tournament operated in previous years? ____ (Y/N); **Most recent year** _____

What name(s) have been used for this event? _____

Please check the appropriate HMS species below for which points or prizes are awarded for either tag and release, or that are landed in your tournament. Thank you.

Billfish

- White Marlin.....
- Blue Marlin.....
- Sailfish.....
- Longbill Spearfish.....

Swordfish.....

Sharks

- Large Coastal Sharks:
 - Ridgeback Sharks.....
 - Non-Ridgeback Sharks.....
- Small Coastal Sharks.....
- Pelagic Sharks.....

Tunas

- Bluefin Tuna.....
- Yellowfin Tuna.....
- Bigeye Tuna.....
- Albacore.....
- Skipjack Tuna.....

(Please See Reverse Side)

This information will be used to estimate tournament fishing effort and landings of highly migratory species for stock assessments and national statistical reports.

If available, please send a copy of the tournament brochure and rules

Thank you for helping the National Marine Fisheries Service track Highly Migratory Species recreational activities. For more information about HMS or for current regulations, contact the following personnel:

- Billfish, Swordfish, and HMS Tournament Registration: Russ Dunn, Rick Pearson, or Greg Fairclough at 727-570-5447
- Sharks: Margo Schulze-Haugen or Karyl Brewster-Geisz at 301-713-2347
- Tunas: Mark Murray-Brown or Brad Mchale at 978-281-9260

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: Collection of information through tournament registration and reporting provides essential information for the conservation and management of highly migratory species. This information will be used to estimate recreational landings of these species through tournaments and may be used to estimate fishing effort. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response (tournament registration), including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NOAA Fisheries, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Registering and, if selected, reporting, of tournaments is required under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act. It is NOAA policy to preserve the confidentiality of information submitted under this reporting requirement, except that NMFS may release such information in aggregate or summary form, such that individual identifiers are not disclosed (NAO-216-100). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

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Sufficient
Postage

**NOAA Fisheries
Highly Migratory Species Management Division
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, FL 33702**

Attn: HMS Tournament Registration

(Please See Reverse Side)

INSTRUCTIONS for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species BILLFISH TOURNAMENT SUMMARY REPORT (OMB#0648-0323)

Tournament Name: Record the entire name of the fishing tournament as it was reported on the tournament registration form.

Fishing Date(s): Record the actual fishing dates of the tournament (do not include lay days or days canceled due to bad weather).

Tournament Location (city and state): Record the city and state of the fishing tournament.

Total Boats Fishing: Record the number of boats fishing (please note if this number changes each day).

Hours Fished (lines in-lines out): Record tournament start times and ending times (please note if different days have different hours).

Recorder's Name, Phone, and E-mail: Record the name of the person who completes this form, the phone number of the recorder, and e-mail address if available.

No. Kept: Record the total number of fish kept for each species.

No. Lost: Record the total number of fish hooked but lost, when positive species identification is possible.

Number Released:

- **Alive, No Tag:** Record the total number of fish released alive (no tag) for each species.
- **Alive, Tag:** Record the total number of fish released (with tags) for each species.
- **Dead:** Record the total number of fish thrown back dead for each species.
- **Total:** Add the "Alive, No Tag", "Alive, Tag", and "Dead" numbers and record the total number of fish released or not weighed in for each species.

Size of Fish Kept: Record the length (lower jaw fork length for billfish) in inches and the weight (lbs.) of each individual fish kept for each species (if you need more space, please attach additional pages).

Additional Billfish and Tunas: More space to enter additional billfish or tunas.

Note: If the tournament keeps radio logs or catch certificates, operators are requested to submit those logs or certificates containing detailed capture information that is not necessarily included on the Tournament Summary Report.

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-----Attach Forms, Fold Here, and Mail-----

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**National Marine Fisheries Service
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, FL 33149**

ATTN: BILLFISH TOURNAMENT REPORTING

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