

www.TheMidAtlantic.com

26th ANNUAL



AUGUST 20-25, 2017

Started back in 1992, the “Mother of All Marlin Tournaments”, as it was called, posted an unprecedented upfront prize of \$500,000. Calcutta entries that first year put the total purse over \$1,000,000, making the Mid-Atlantic the first bona fide million dollar billfishing contest.

AUGUST 20-25, 2017

Over the years, the tournament has grown to be one of the top events in the sport. Known for its great fishing, hospitality and camaraderie, the MidAtlantic is a must attend event for competitive billfishing anglers. The fishing and fun take place out of two ports: Cape May, NJ, which is the home base of the event and Ocean City, MD, where Sunset Marina serves as OC tournament headquarters. Each port has first class accommodations and offers distinct amenities for participants to enjoy. Both locations have full weigh-ins which are visually linked by computer and broadcast media to keep everyone informed as the excitement happens.

If you're planning on doing some competitive fishing this year, we hope you'll choose the MidAtlantic. We believe it's the best bang for your tournament buck, and we know your family, friends and crew will have a great time creating exciting and lasting memories. If you need help in planning for this event simply give us a call and we'll do whatever we can to help you have a fun, hassle-free time at one of the best events in the world!

NEW THIS YEAR

Starting in 2016 we instated “port caps” limiting the number of boats per port. As we continue to grow at a steady rate, we are now allowing 95 boats per port to fish the MidAtlantic Tournament for 2017. So make sure you help spread the word and remember to register early this year to ensure your position. We had another record breaking year in 2016 for participation, overall purse, and catch & release action! We expect to exceed it once again in this year's event and hope you'll come enjoy it with us this August 20th-25th.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 20, 2017

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. • Registration, Calcutta Entries, Welcome Cocktail Party

4:30 p.m. • Captains' Meeting

Cape May - Canyon Club Resort Marina

Ocean City, MD - Sunset Marina

Monday, August 21, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Available Fish Day*

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Available Fish Day*

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Available Fish Day*

Thursday, August 24, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Available Fish Day*

Friday, August 25, 2017

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Available Fish Day*

7:30 p.m. - ? • Dockside Dining,

Entertainment and Awards Ceremony

**Weigh-In • 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Canyon Club Marina and Sunset Marina on each Available Fish Day.*

Dockside dining and entertainment will take place as scheduled by each port's host marina.

Cape May, NJ - Canyon Club Resort Marina

Ocean City, MD - Sunset Marina

2017 MIDATLANTIC CALCUTTAS



Jupiter Marine 50' and Under Overall Calcutta:* \$2,000 Entry Fee

Think the bigger boats have an advantage?
To enter the 50' and Under Calcutta, boats must be
50' or less in length according to the given boat's model name.
IE: A Viking 50 Convertible will be considered
a 50' boat even though its LOA is 50' 6".

Home Port Overall Calcutta:* \$4,000 Entry Fee

Compete against the other boats in your port!

MidAtlantic Overall Calcutta:* \$3,000 Entry Fee

\$3,000 will get you on your way to BIG MONEY!

In Deep Overall Calcutta: \$6,000* This is the BIG ONE!

Each of the above four Overall Calcuttas will be shared as follows:

Heaviest White Marlin - 20% • 2nd Heaviest White Marlin - 10% • 3rd Heaviest White Marlin 5%
Heaviest Blue Marlin - 15% • 2nd Heaviest Blue Marlin - 10% • 3rd Heaviest Blue Marlin 5%
Heaviest Tuna - 15% • 2nd Heaviest Tuna - 10% • 3rd Heaviest Tuna 5%
Heaviest Wahoo - 2.5% • Heaviest Dolphin 2.5%

*In the Event that: (pertains to the four Overall Calcuttas)

- 1 Less than three qualifying fish are taken in any category, the unwon prize money will be proportionately divided among the winners in that category.
- 2 No qualifying white marlin is taken, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the winners of the blue marlin category.
- 3 No qualifying blue marlin is taken, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the winners in the white marlin category.
- 4 No qualifying white or blue marlin is taken, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the winners in the tuna category.
- 5 No qualifying tuna is taken, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the winners in the marlin categories.
- 6 No qualifying billfish or tuna is taken, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the Dolphin and Wahoo categories.
- 7 No Dolphin is taken the unwon prize money will be go to the Heaviest Wahoo and vice versa.
- 8 No Dolphin or Wahoo are taken, the unwon prize money will be divided among the tuna categories.



ATLANTIC TACKLE BILLFISH POINTS CALCUTTA

\$1,000 Entry Fee (For Billfish Points only) Port specific

Most Points - 50% • 2nd Most Points - 30% • 3rd Most Points - 20%

In the Event:

- 1 Of a tie, the winner shall be the boat first reaching the winning point accumulation in that port.
- 2 That a category is not won, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the other winners in that port.



Little & O'Reilly / Merrill Lynch
White Marlin Pro Jackpot
\$5,000 Entry Fee

THE PRO JACKPOTS

Heaviest fish in each category takes all!

Blue Marlin Pro Jackpot
\$3,000 Entry Fee



SEAKEEPER®
Seakeeper Tuna Pro Jackpot
\$3,000 Entry Fee

In the Event that: No qualifying fish is taken in a Pro Jackpot Calcutta, the unwon money will be refunded.

TUNA, DOLPHIN & WAHOO CALCUTTA

\$2,500 Entry Fee

Heaviest Tuna - 25%
2nd Heaviest Tuna - 15%
3rd Heaviest Tuna - 10%

Heaviest Dolphin - 13%
2nd Heaviest Dolphin - 8%
3rd Heaviest Dolphin - 4%

Heaviest Wahoo - 13%
2nd Heaviest Wahoo - 8%
3rd Heaviest Wahoo - 4%

In the Event that:

- 1 Less than three qualifying fish are taken in any category, the unwon prize money will be proportionately divided among the winners in that category.
- 2 No qualifying fish is taken in any category, the unwon prize money will be equally divided among the winners of the other categories.



CHRISTI INSURANCE ON THE BOARD REWARD

\$2,000 Entry Fee

This Calcutta pays out each time you have a fish on the scoreboard in the following categories at the official close of each day's weigh-in:

Heaviest White Marlin, 2nd and 3rd • Heaviest Blue Marlin, 2nd and 3rd • Heaviest Tuna, 2nd and 3rd

The total purse will be divided by 5 (5 days). Each day's purse will be split evenly among those winning for that day. If there are no winners for a particular day, the un-won prize money will be split evenly among the purses of the remaining days. In the event that there are no winners on the last day (Friday), the unwon prize money will be evenly split among the previous 4 days' winners. If there are no winners for the entire week, the money will be refunded. *Example: Let's say the total purse for the On the Board Reward is \$200,000. That figure would be divided by 5 (5 days) giving each day a purse of \$40,000. Those who are in this Calcutta and remain on the board at the end of each day's weigh-in will evenly split the purse for that day. If there is only one winner, they would take the entire \$40,000. Two winners would get \$20,000 each and so on.*

HIGH BOAT AWARDS

Valuable trophies will be awarded to the winners of the following categories:

Most Points Overall (Both Marlin & Tuna Points Qualify)

- Most Points White Marlin
- 2nd Most Points White Marlin
- 3rd Most Points White Marlin
- Most Points Blue Marlin
- 2nd Most Points Blue Marlin
- 3rd Most Points Blue Marlin
- Most Points Tuna
- 2nd Most Points Tuna
- 3rd Most Points Tuna

POINT SCORING SYSTEM

- White Marlin - 75 points per release
- 1 point per pound for fish equal to or over the minimum weight
- Blue Marlin - 150 points per release
- 1/4 point per pound for fish equal to or over the minimum weight
- Tuna - 1/2 point per pound
- Only fish 50 pounds and over count in point categories.

IMPORTANT

The minimum weight limits to win Calcuttas in The MidAtlantic are as follows:

**White Marlin - 65 pounds • Blue Marlin - 400 pounds
Tuna - 50 pounds • Dolphin, Wahoo - No minimum weight**

Species eligible for cash prizes in the tuna category shall be limited to yellowfin (Allison), big eye, and longfin (true albacore).
No bluefin, bonito, skipjack, etc.

Federal law prohibits the boating of billfish under the following size limits:

White Marlin - 66 inches • Blue Marlin - 99 inches

These limits apply to the lower jaw-fork length (tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail) of the fish. A billfish under the minimum size must be released by cutting the line near the hook without removing the fish from the water.

Under no circumstances may a fish not meeting the Federal and/or State minimum size limits, regardless of weight, be boated and/or brought back to the dock.

South Jersey Tournaments will not be responsible for any fine or penalty incurred by any angler who boats a billfish or tuna which does not meet the Federal and/or State size limit requirements or other restrictions. It is the responsibility of the angler to be aware of current Federal and/or State regulations regarding the catching and/or boating of the various species of fish eligible in this tournament. Fish which do not meet the Federal and/or State size limit requirements will not be eligible for prizes, regardless of weight.

TOURNAMENT RULES

TIMES & BOUNDARIES

- Each registrant must designate their choice of Official Inlets; Cape May, NJ or Ocean City, MD. Boats must sail from and return to their designated inlet. All boats must return to their designated port for weigh-in. Canyon Club Resort Marina is the official weigh-in location for Cape May, NJ. Sunset Marina is the official weigh-in location for Ocean City, MD.
- Boats are not permitted to clear the sea buoy at their designated inlet prior to 3:00 AM.
- Fishing begins at 8:00 AM. No lines or bait of any kind may be put into the water until starting time.
- Fishing ends at 3:30 PM on each scheduled fishing day. Any fish hooked prior to the deadline may be played until boated or released, provided that said fish is announced hooked on the tournament channel before the deadline.
- Boundaries for the tournament will be 125 nautical miles from the Cape May Sea Buoy.
- Weigh-in begins at 5:00 PM. All eligible fish must be available for weigh-in by 9:00 PM aboard the boat on which they were caught.
- Each boat must pick two NON-FISHING DAYS by submitting the official Lay Day Form prior to 11:00 AM on the days selected. Said forms must be physically delivered by a member of the boat's crew to the dockmaster's office at one of the Host Marinas. The boat must be dockside when the lay day is declared. Any boat not submitting the proper form by the 11:00 AM deadline will be automatically assumed to be fishing on that day. Boats may not fish on lay days unless all of their available fish days have been used. Boats with

mechanical problems or other emergencies may use lay days to arrive late to the tournament so long as it is with the advance permission of the Tournament Directors and they conform with all other rules.

ANGLING/FISHING

- Participants shall comply with I.G.F.A. equipment and angling rules with the following exceptions: A) A fish may be hooked by someone other than the angler provided the rod is immediately transferred to the angler after hook-up. From that time on, the angler must fight the fish alone until boated or released; B) No harpoons, dart gaffs of greensticks. C) Live baiting is not permitted. The Tournament Directors retain sole authority for interpreting and implementing the I.G.F.A.'s rules.
- There is no limit on the number of lines or teasers.
- All billfish boated or released are to be announced on the tournament channel at the time of the catch. Tuna over 100 lbs. should also be reported.
- This is a trolling tournament. While hook-ups accomplished with no headway are permissible if they occur at a time when baits settle while fighting another fish, the use of live bait or stopping and casting or pitching to tailing fish or fish balling bait is not permissible.
- For release purposes, a fish will be considered caught when the mate grabs the leader or the swivel touches the tip of the rod.
- There are 5 available fishing days for the tournament. Fishing days for boats entered will be any 3 of the available 5 days, captains' choice; no weather committee. The crew members of each individual boat will be solely

responsible for the decision as to which days to fish.

- Anglers may not switch to another boat nor can anyone from another boat come aboard to assist in fighting or boating a fish.

SCORING/PRIZES

- Only one day need be fished for the tournament to be considered official & prizes to be awarded.
- Fractional weights will be rounded to the nearest pound.
- For release points to count, boats must be dockside by the weigh-in deadline and submit a Daily Catch report by 9:00 PM at the weigh station of one of the host marinas. Any catch report received after the deadline will lose 1/2 of its total value.
- In the event of a tie in the point categories, the winner shall be the first boat reaching the winning point accumulation.
- In the event of a tie in the cash prize categories, the prize money will be equally divided among those tying.
- For the purpose of release points identification only, sailfish & longbill spearfish will be considered white marlin.
- In order to be eligible for awards and calcuttas, fish must be caught in compliance with all tournament rules. Said rules include conformance to state and federal size limits and possession of a current NMFS angling, general or charter/headboat category HMS permit.
- All fish eligible for cash prizes may be subject to examination by the Tournament Directors, consulting biologists and/or Torrymeter, should there be any question as to the "freshness" of the catch. It shall be the responsibility of the participant to keep all eligible

catches in suitable and proper condition until weigh-in. In the event of any disputes arising from such examination, the decision of the Tournament Directors shall be final. Polygraph examination may be required of winning crews.

ADMINISTRATION

- The designated tournament VHF radio channels are 69 (Primary) and 71 (Alternate)
- Registration is by boat rather than by angler. The Tournament Directors reserve the right to decline the entry of any boat or crew.
- The Tournament Directors and hosting facilities assume no liability or responsibility for any damage or loss.
- In the event of boat disability, contestants may transfer to another boat not entered in the tournament and may fish in the name of the original, with prior approval of the Tournament Directors.
- Allegations of violations of any of the above rules may be submitted only by an official tournament registrant and must be submitted in writing on the day of the alleged infraction. In the event of such an allegation, the tournament directors will have the sole and exclusive responsibility to investigate the alleged incident and to rule as to whether any violation materially aided the angler, crew, or vessel, or otherwise affected the outcome of the tournament. Any subsequent penalty will be solely at the discretion of the tournament directors and shall be final. In all cases, registrant and their crews agree to be bound by the ruling of the tournament directors.

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