

**The Islamorada Sailfly
January 6th & 7th 2021
Official Rules**

Hours of Fishing: Captains must register their official home port on the Home Port Ledger at the Kick-Off Rules meeting.

Boats may not leave their official home port prior to 6:00 a.m. on fishing days.

Boats must return to their official home port after fishing. Teasers are permitted in the water and fishing begins at 8:00 a.m. Teasers must come out of the water when fishing ends at 4:00 p.m. each day.

Only fish hooked after 8:00 a.m. and before 4:00 p.m. may be entered for scoring.

A fish hooked prior to 4:00 p.m. may be fought to conclusion and entered regardless of the time so long as the score sheet is turned in on time by 6:00 pm.

Boats may catch teasers and/or chum for bait with hook and line or cast nets prior to lines in.

Score Sheet Turn In & Committee Boat: Each hookup must be reported immediately to the committee boat by cellular phone or VHF Radio on ch 78, the final disposition of each hookup must be reported. It is the captain's responsibility to confirm that the committee boat has acknowledged the reports. The committee boat will monitor VHF channel 78 and cellular phone number (305) 394-1158 reports can be relayed. Fish not reported and acknowledged will not count for scoring.

In the event of mechanical failure, Islamorada Fishing Outfitters (305) 394-2667 must be notified by telephone before 6:00 p.m. The Rules Committee decision will be final as to accepting or rejecting the late Official Score Sheet in question.

All catches must be attested to by the Captain and Angler(s) on the Official Score Sheet.

Tackle: Only one handed rods and single action reels, designed specifically for fly fishing may be used.

The rod must conform to generally accepted fly fishing customs and practices and must be longer than 6 feet. The rod butt may not extend more than 6 inches below the center of the foot of the reel.

Flies must be a recognized type of artificial fly including; streamer, bucktail, tube fly, muddler or popper, made specifically for fly casting in the normally accepted fashion.

The use of any type of live bait, tipping or scenting is expressly prohibited.

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Flies may be tied on a single hook or two hooks tied in tandem. The second hook, if tied in tandem may not extend beyond the wing material and the eyes of the hooks may not be farther than 6 inches apart. Treble hooks are prohibited.

Leaders may not exceed 12 feet in overall length between the attachments to the fly line and the eye of the hook. A tippet section of the material must be at least 15 inches inside the knots and may be attached directly to the fly or to a shock leader of any material.

If a shock leader is used it may not exceed 12 inches including the knots and must be tied directly to the tippet and fly.

Tippet material will be supplied by Sage/Rio, with "*Rio hard 16 lb.*" Class Tippet material, 2 spools per team to be picked up at, *Islamorada Fishing Outfitters* (MM 92.5 Bayside) 171 Hood Ave., Tavernier.

Teasing and Fishing: Anglers, captains or mates are allowed to tease the fish. Live or artificial teasers may be used and chumming is permitted.

Only the registered angler(s) are allowed to cast, retrieve, hook and play the fish. No other person may touch any part of the tackle once the cast is made other than to grab the leader at time of release.

Casting and retrieving must be carried out in accordance with normal customs and generally accepted fly fishing practices. The major criterion in casting is that the weight of the line must carry the fly rather than the weight of the lure carrying the line. Trolling the fly behind a moving boat is prohibited and the boat must be out of gear at the time the fly is presented to the fish and during the retrieve.

The tackle may not be altered with stiffening devices or extensions once the fish is hooked.

If a cable bill snare is used, the tube length may not exceed 48".

The following will disqualify a catch: If a fish is injured during the fight so that its ability to fight or its means of propulsion is impaired. Failure to comply with equipment or rules as stated herein.

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IGFA Rules, State & Federal Laws: All fish must be caught in compliance with tournament and IGFA Rules as well as State and Federal laws.

Scoring: *Release points will be awarded as follows:*

If the nail knot of fly line to leader is brought inside the tip top of the fly rod more than 60 seconds after hookup. It will count as 50 points. After you have obtained the release in this manner you may continue to fight this fish in order to obtain the max points available below.

A hook up and release where the fish is billed or taken in hand and the fly is removed will count for 150 points.

Total points accumulated by each boat will determine that boat's score. The boat with the most points wins. In the event of a tie in points the boat that released the last fish first will be the winner.

Awards will be given for Grand Champion Team, Runner Up to Grand Champion Team and Second Runner Up to Grand Champion Team.

Sportsmanship: Generally accepted practices of sportsmanship and angling ethics are required by all participants. Conduct judged as unsportsmanlike will disqualify the catch for the day.

Protests: Any Entered Boat may submit a protest in writing to the Rules Committee as to the alleged infractions of the rules by 6:00 p.m. on that day. Written notice of the protest will then be presented in person to an Angler or the Captain of the boat under protest by the rules committee. A hearing will be scheduled within one hour after delivery of the notice. Representatives of the protesting boat as well as the boat under protest and the rules committee shall be present to hear the arguments. Decision of the rules committee is final.

Best Other Catch:

To enter a catch in the "Best Other Catch" category, you must report it on the Official Score Sheet turned in at **TBA** by 6:00 p.m. on the day of the catch. The species and length of the fish from tip of jaw to the fork of the tail are required to be listed.

The fish must be caught in accordance with all the rules of the tournament and must be landed and measured in the boat.

The rules committee will review all entries in this category and determine a first place winner. The decision of the rules committee shall be final.

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To enter a catch in the "Outstanding Sailfish Photograph" category, you must submit by email attachment or on CD by 6:00 pm on Thursday. Photos will be judged on clarity, composition and subject matter. It may be a photo of a subject on your boat or another boat. This is an individual award, not a boat award. All photos entered will become property of the tournament and used at its discretion. The rules committee will review all entries in this category and determine a first place winner. The decision of the rules committee shall be final.

***Outstanding Sailfish Photograph
\$200.00 Gift Certificate from Islamorada Fishing Outfitters***

Requested Photo Specifications:

Photos must be at least 300 dpi

Minimum dimension of 3" x 5" (900 x 1500)

Maximum dimension of 8" x 10" (2400 x 3000)

Submitted in JPG format

Actual file size may not exceed 8 MB.

Email digital entries to Islamoradasailfly@gmail.com before 6:00 pm on Thursday

Whale Harbor Dock Office (305) 664-4959

Committee Boat Cellular (305) 394-1158

Islamorada Fishing Outfitters (305) 394-2667