

RTUSA'S Summary of Rules:

Unofficial rules-revised 11.26.24 Rules will be official at Captain's meeting.

- 1) Registration is by boat not by angler. Max 6 anglers per boat. Captain and mate(s) are eligible anglers. Basic Boat Entry Fee: **\$200 by 11.29.24. \$300 after 11.29.24.** Basic Entry Fee entitles teams to compete for Gift prizes (Total value: \$5,000) Top 10 places will be awarded gift prizes. Registration is completed one-line at www.reeltimeusa.com Gift Prizes will be displayed at <https://www.facebook.com/reeltimeusa>
- 2) **Optional:** Added Skill Level Entry Fee for Cash prizes are available at Captain's meeting ONLY. You must register on-line for the Basic Boat Entry & pay fee first in order to enter the optional added skill levels.
- 3) The captain on each boat must attend captain's meeting (Friday, 12.6.24, 7:30pm) & be responsible for relaying any last-minute changes to their team. Teams are welcomed to attend. Official rules will be announced and validation card will be given out to each team captain.
- 4) All anglers must possess a valid fishing license and follow all Federal and local laws. Vessels must have all valid fishing permits. Go to www.hmspermits.noaa.gov
- 5) Species eligible for challenge: Wahoo, Mahi, Blackfin or Yellowfin Tuna.
- 6) Each team captain chooses 1 of 2 available fishing days: (Saturday 12.7 or Sunday 12.8) to compete.
 - A) The captain representing each team must text the Director (Lenny) 609.377.0529 the morning of their 1 chosen fishing day. To clarify: Text before you leave your slip or before boat leaves boat ramp the day you commit to compete. You will receive confirmation text or call from Lenny (Director)
 - B) The captain on each team should use his cell phone to take a photo of every wahoo, dolphin, blackfin & yellowfin immediately after fish has been boated with angler holding validation card next to their fish. All photos of every fish must be texted to Lenny (Director) before weigh in.
- 7) Lines in 6:30 am, Lines out 3:30 pm. Any fish hooked up prior to 3:30pm deadline may be fought until caught or lost and must have a continual video from a team's cell phone filming before 3:30 pm: the "hook up," the angler fighting the fish and the fish secured in boat or lost. Fish will not qualify if video is not submitted to Lenny (Director) before your weigh-in. Make sure you have phone charged.
- 8) Boundaries for fishing: **North boundary line: Ajax reef to South boundary line: Tennessee reef** (No crossing of the Gulf stream to fish Bahamas. Boats may be trailered but need to be launched between Ocean Reef & Islamorada. (Further explained at Captain's meeting)
- 9) A maximum of 5 lines may be fished at one time, Electric reels are allowed, Planers & wire lines are permitted, trolling, kite fishing, chumming, jigging and live baiting are allowed.
- 10) Tournament channel is VHF 71, alternate 69.
- 11) Hook & hand is permitted with one pass as soon as possible.
- 12) Be sure to remove any Wahoo, Mahi or Tuna from day(s) prior to your competition day or you will be disqualified. Your boat may be subject to a visual inspection via FaceTime or the presence of committee member.
- 13) Each team captain chooses a maximum of 2 Wahoo, 2 Mahi and 2 Tuna to bring to scales for weigh-in. A team member on each boat chooses 1 vehicle to transport all eligible species to JD Outdoor weigh-in area no later than 6pm that same day. A staff member will confirm arrival of vehicle with fish to weigh at designated area. (further explained at Captain's meeting) If vehicle with fish is not at drop off area by 6pm that day, all fish will be disqualified.
- 14) In case of a tie in weight, Winner shall be decided by the first to weighed
- 15) Only participants of tournament may submit a dispute or protest with a signed document and a \$200 fee to director the day for the potential infraction. It will be settled by the committee. All decisions are final.
- 16) Rules are subjected to change & will be made official at Captain's Meeting 12.6.24
[]checking box you adhere to all tournament rules. Participants of this tournament enter at their own risk. Officials, committee members, sponsors and ALL persons connected directly or indirectly with the operations of this Wahoo Challenge shall be exempt from any liability for loss, damage or negligence, harm or injury suffered by any participant, entrants, sportfishing vessel and equipment which may occur during this tournament.