

# MAD DOG MANDICH FISHING CLASSIC FLORIDA KEYS RULES

1. **REGISTRATION AND FEES:** Entry fee is \$400 per boat if completed entry form and payment are received before October 15, 2010. Entry fee is \$450 per boat/team if received after October 15, 2010. Each Entry includes 4 Anglers per boat. Each registered angler receives a shirt, hat & social ticket for dinner and drinks on Friday and Saturday. Additional anglers entries are \$125 which include a shirt, hat & social ticket. Each boat is allowed a maximum of 6 anglers and **6 lines**. Each registered boat is eligible for general prizes. No changes are permitted in registered anglers after the "Lines In" (7:00 am) on October 23rd.

2. **RULES & LAWS:** I.G.F.A. rules shall apply to the Mad Dog Mandich Fishing Classic ("MDMFC") except where they are inconsistent with these MDMFC rules that follow, in which case these MDMFC rules shall apply. It is the responsibility of each angler to be familiar with these MDMFC rules and the I.G.F.A. rules. All registered anglers must also comply with all applicable Federal and Florida laws regarding fishing licenses, size limits, bag limits, speed limits, etc. Any infractions of the applicable rules will disqualify the registered angler(s) and boat from the entire tournament, and any disqualified angler(s) will not be entitled to any refund.

3. **CAPTAIN'S MEETING:** An official Captain's Meeting will be held Friday, October 22nd, 2010, at 6:30 pm at Ziggy and Mad Dog's Restaurant, Islamorada, Florida. At least one representative from each boat/team must be present. All anglers are encouraged to attend. The rules of this tournament may be amended verbally or in writing at the time of the meeting. Anglers are responsible for being well informed of all rules.

4. **ELIGIBLE SPECIES:** The eligible Funfish species in the MDMFC are dolphin, wahoo, kingfish, tuna (yellowfin and blackfin only), snapper and grouper. A **ten pound minimum weight** will be in effect for all dolphin, tuna, kingfish and wahoo. Snapper and grouper must be within the state and federal guidelines. Refer to the Florida Basic Recreation Saltwater Fishing Regulations ([http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs\\_by\\_species/](http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs_by_species/)). All boats are required to have a current Federal Tuna Permit, or the newly required Highly Migratory Species Permit (HMSP). (See Rule 2. Permits can be obtained through the NMFS at 888-872-8862 or [www.nmfspermits.com](http://www.nmfspermits.com)).

5. **TACKLE & BAIT:** All fish must be caught on rod and reel. Wire lines are permitted. No electric reels (except kite rods & downriggers) or treble hooks. Fishing with live bait is permitted in the tournament; however, live chumming is not permitted. Bait must be completely dead before it is placed in the water, if not attached to a hook. Frozen chum is acceptable. Registered boats may catch their own live bait at any time during the tournament.

6. **BOATS:** Any type or size of boat may be used in the tournament. In case of breakdown, another boat may be substituted after approval by MDMFC officials.

7. **HOOKING FISH:** Each eligible Funfish entered must be hooked and caught by a single registered angler only. All male, female, and junior anglers must hook, fight, and catch their own fish. Once a fish is hooked, that angler must fight the fish until it is properly released, boated, or lost. Anglers may not pass rods to fellow anglers once a fish has been hooked. A fish is considered to be hooked once a strike occurs and the drag is engaged. The use of a rod holder to hook a fish is allowable provided the individual that engages the drag is the same person that fights the fish until release, catch, or loss.

8. **COMMUNICATIONS:** All participating boats should be equipped with a working VHF marine radio.

9. **BOUNDARIES:** Participating boats are limited to the US waters off the east coast of Florida no more than 35 miles offshore. Boats may fish as far north or south as they wish, so long as they return for weigh-in by the time specified in rule #11. Boats may not fish in Bahamian waters

10. **HOURS OF FISHING:** Official fishing times for the MDMFC is from 7:00 am – 3:30 pm. Official fishing ends at 3:30 pm. All registered anglers on any boat with lines in the water before or after official fishing time will automatically be disqualified from the tournament.

11. **WEIGH-IN:** The weigh station is located at the Chesapeake Beach Resort basin. The scale opens at 4:00 pm and closes at 6:00 pm on the official day of fishing. No Exceptions. All fish must be brought to the weigh station. All fish presented for weigh-in must be in fresh, edible condition and caught that tournament day. No mutilated fish (based on tournament committee's opinion) will be accepted. All fish must be entered for official weigh-in in the presence of a boat representative. Upon weighing of fish, the participant will be given confirmation verifying the confirmation number, boat number, angler letter, species and weight of the fish just weighed. **Any dispute with this confirmation card and its data must be addressed with the weigh master immediately and prior to leaving the weigh station.** A **ten pound minimum weight** will be in effect for all dolphin, tuna, kingfish and wahoo. Snapper and grouper must be within the state and federal guidelines. Refer to the Florida Basic Recreation Saltwater Fishing Regulations ([http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs\\_by\\_species/](http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs_by_species/)). The decision of the weigh master is final. All anglers are urged to release any fish not to be entered into the tournament.

12. **SCORING:** Prizes will be awarded for heaviest eligible Funfish species and total aggregate weights. A **ten pound minimum weight** will be in effect for all dolphin, tuna, kingfish and wahoo. Snapper and grouper must be within the state and federal guidelines. Refer to the Florida Basic Recreation Saltwater Fishing Regulations ([http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs\\_by\\_species/](http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs_by_species/)). No more than three (3) of each eligible species may be weighed per boat in all Funfish categories. Each boat will be provided with tail tags at registration which must be filled out, signed by the entire crew aboard the boat and affixed to the fish's tail for the fish to count. The angler's name, designated letter and assigned boat number are mandatory on the tag. In the event of an exact tie, the first fish weighed in will be the winner.

13. **WEATHER CONDITIONS:** MDMFC officials may cancel any tournament day if, in their best judgment, unsafe conditions exist at sea for the average boat entered. No refunds of any sort will be made for any cause in the event of such cancellation. If one or two days are "weathered out", the tournament will be moved to the same hours on Sunday. Notice of cancellation and/or resumption of fishing will be broadcast on the radio at 7:30 a.m. A determination permitting fishing by MDMFC officials should not be interpreted to mean that the MDMFC ensures the safety of any registered angler or occupant of any boat. Registered anglers must make their own judgments whether to fish under the prevailing weather conditions based on the size and seaworthiness of their boat, their seamanship skills and any other relevant factors.

14. **PROTESTS:** Any protests concerning the conduct of an angler or rules violations must be filed in writing, along with \$250 cash or check to tournament officials no later than 4:30 pm on the official day of fishing.

15. **TIES:** In the event of a tie in weight, the winner will be determined by the earliest weigh-in time which correlated to the confirmation number.

16. **HOLD HARMLESS:** All registered anglers and non-registered occupants of their boats enter and participate in this MDMFC voluntarily and at their own risk. In consideration for the MDMFC's acceptance of his or her entry, each registered angler, for his or her heirs, executors, and administrators, agrees to release, hold harmless and indemnify the MDMFC, its officers, managers, directors, agents, polygraph examiners, sponsors, donors, the city and county where the event is held, and all other persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the tournament, from and against any and all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs, fees or expenses which he or she may have against any above-described party, or which his or her captains, crew members, family members, companions or non-registered occupants of their boat may have, arising out of or in any way connected with his or her participation in this MDMFC, including any injury or death suffered by any registered angler, boat captains, crew members, family members, companions or other occupants of any boat, and including any damage to vessels and equipment, which occurs during or in conjunction with the event. Each registered angler understands and agrees that this release specifically includes and waives any claims based on libel, slander, negligence, action or inaction of any above-named party. Each registered angler further understands and agrees that this release specifically includes and waives any claims arising from the MDMFC's use of any photographs and from the MDMFC's administration of or interpretation of any polygraph as described in Rule 18.

17. **SIGNING OF THE ENTRY FORM:** By signing the entry form, each registered angler agrees to follow the above tournament rules and that the tournament and/or its sponsors may use without payment or restriction any photographs or video in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial or promotional material. All anglers are required to sign the entry form as certification that they have read and agreed to abide by all rules and the above liability release.

18. **POLYGRAPH:** Each registered angler specifically agrees and consents to voluntarily submit to a polygraph examination or examinations to be conducted by a polygraph examiner selected by the MDMFC at any time until all prize winners and awards are determined and announced. Further, each registered angler agrees to obtain the agreement and consent of each and every occupant of the boat from which he or she fishes during the tournament (including but not limited to the captain and crew) to submit to a polygraph examination or examinations as described above. The method and conduct of all polygraph examinations, and the interpretation of the results thereof, shall be in the sole judgment of the polygraph examiner appointed by the MDMFC, whose opinion shall be final. If any registered angler or occupant of a vessel refuses to submit to a polygraph examination, or if any registered angler or occupant gives a response which, in the sole opinion of the polygraph examiner, is untruthful, then all registered anglers on the boat shall be immediately disqualified without further notice from the MDMFC. Any registered angler so disqualified shall not be entitled to any prize, award, or entry fee refund.

19. **AWARDS:** Tournament winners will be paid by check, which will be presented at the tournament awards ceremony.

20. **TOP BOAT:** The Top Boat will be determined by the total heaviest combination of Funfish accumulated by all registered anglers on each competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater. A ten pound minimum weight will be in effect for all eligible species. **No more than three (3) of each eligible Funfish species may be weighed per boat.**

21. **TOP ANGLER:** The Top Angler will be determined by the total heaviest combination of Funfish accumulated by a registered angler on each competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater.

22. **TOP LADY ANGLER:** The Top Lady Angler will be determined by the total heaviest combination of Funfish accumulated by a registered Lady angler on each competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered Lady angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater.

23. **TOP JUNIOR ANGLER:** The Top Junior Angler will be determined by the total heaviest combination of Funfish accumulated by a registered Junior angler on each competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered Junior angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater. A Junior Angler is defined as an angler that is less than 16 years old on the day of the tournament. Entry as a Junior Angler must be declared with a birth date on the entry form. Junior anglers must be accompanied by an adult registered angler.

24. **ADDED VALUE CATEGORIES:** The MDMFC offers three "added value" categories for registered anglers only. All MDMFC rules apply, and scoring in each of the three categories will be in accordance with the applicable MDMFC rules. Fees to enter these categories are on a per-boat basis and are in addition to boat entry fees. Participating boats must register for the added value categories of their choice at or before tournament registration closes. Fifteen percent (15%) of the gross entry fee in each category will be donated to the MDMFC named charities. The remaining eighty-five percent (85%) will be awarded and divided in each category as described in Rules 25, 26 and 27. Actual cash prize amounts of each category are dependent on the number of boats entering that category. All prizes will be paid by check at the awards presentation.

25. **FUNFISH FORTUNE:** The "Funfish Fortune" will seek the same eligible Funfish species as the MDMFC. The winner will be determined by the heaviest combination of Funfish accumulated by all registered anglers on each competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater. A ten pound minimum weight will be in effect for all dolphin, tuna, kingfish and wahoo. Snapper and grouper must be within the state and federal guidelines. Refer to the Florida Basic Recreation Saltwater Fishing Regulations ([http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs\\_by\\_species/](http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs_by_species/)). No more than three (3) of each eligible Funfish species may be weighed per boat. Entry fee is \$300 per boat. Awards for the Funfish Fortune will be distributed for first, second and third places on a fifty percent (50%), thirty percent (30%) and twenty percent (20%) basis.

26. **MEGA MAHI:** The "Mega Mahi" will be paid to the boat with the top total weight of dolphin caught by all registered anglers on a competing boat, or the heaviest single fish caught by a registered angler on a competing boat, whichever is greater. A ten pound minimum weight will be in effect for all eligible species. No more than three (3) dolphin may be weighed per boat. Entry fee is \$150 per boat. The award for the Mega Mahi will be on a winner-take-all basis.

27. **DOUBLE DECKER:** The "Double Decker" will be paid to the boat with the top combined weight for two individual fish from two of the six eligible Funfish species. A ten pound minimum weight will be in effect for all dolphin, tuna, kingfish and wahoo. Snapper and grouper must be within the state and federal guidelines. Refer to the Florida Basic Recreation Saltwater Fishing Regulations ([http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs\\_by\\_species/](http://www.floridasportsman.com/reference/regs_by_species/)). Entry fee is \$100 per boat. The award for the Double Decker will be on a winner-take-all basis.

28. **MDMFC 15K KINGFISH CHALLENGE:** The MDMFC 15K Kingfish Hook-Up cash prize (\$15,000) will be paid to the first angler to weigh-in a Kingfish greater than 50.10 lbs. All tournament rules apply. The Kingfish must have been caught during the official hours of fishing as described in Rule #10 and brought to the weigh station by the angler that caught the fish during the official weigh-in as described in Rule #11. If a winning fish is presented and certified, the winner must submit to and pass a polygraph exam within 12 days of the event, as well as complete Affidavit and Release forms. Upon completion and approval the prize money will be paid by SCA Promotions. Entry into the Hook-Up is included in the tournament entry fee. **Participation in this 15K Kingfish Hook-Up is limited to the first 200 registered and paid anglers.**