

# MAD DOG MANDICH FISHING CLASSIC TOURNAMENT RULES

1. **REGISTRATION AND FEES:** Entry fee is \$600 per boat if received before May 2, 2008. Entry fee is \$650 per boat/team if received after May 2, 2008. Each Entry includes 4 Anglers per boat. Each registered angler receives an angler bucket, t-shirt, hat & social ticket. Each boat is allowed a maximum of 6 anglers. Extra anglers may be added for \$100 each and includes an angler bucket, t-shirt, hat & social ticket for each angler. Each registered boat is eligible for general prizes. No changes are permitted in registered anglers after the conclusion of the Registration, May 16th.

2. **RULES AND 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, May 16, 2008, at 7:45 p.m. in the Banquet Room of Texas de Brazil Restaurant, second floor at the Miami Beach Marina. 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 and tuna (yellowfin and blackfin only). 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:** All fish must be caught on rod and reel. Wire lines are permitted. No electric reels (except kite rods & downriggers).

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. The tournament committee will monitor VHF channel 82. Official times or special notifications will be announced during the tournament on this channel. No weigh-in statistics will be available on VHF radio.

9. **BOUNDARIES:** Participating boats are limited to the 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 #12.

10. **CHECK-OUT:** All boats must pass the tournament check point Saturday morning and clearly display their boat # for verification with the check-out committee between the hours of 7:00am and 8:00 am. The committee will be located on the southwest corner of the Miami Beach Marina bulkhead facing Government Cut. Idle zones from the check points are: (1) east to the fishing pier on the north side of the cut; (2) west to pilot boat dock; (3) north to MacArthur Causeway. After checking out, boats may proceed to their chosen fishing site and begin fishing. Boats may not be transported by trailer to another location after check-out. There is no Bimini Start. After 8:00 a.m., any boat wishing to be eligible for the day's fishing must be radio the MDMFC committee on VHF channel 82 and be visually checked out at Miami Beach Marina fuel dock. No boat should inhibit the passage of any large ships, including cruise and freight, into or out of Government Cut.

11. **HOURS OF FISHING:** Official fishing times for the MDMFC is from 7:00 am (after boats have officially checked out) – 4:00 pm. Official fishing ends with a "lines out of the water" announcement broadcast on the radio - channel 82 (see Rule 10). All registered anglers on any boat with lines in the water before or after official fishing time, except when fighting a fish that has been reported to the MDMFC radio committee as described in Rules 5 will be automatically be disqualified from the tournament.

12. **WEIGH-IN:** The weigh station is located at the Miami Beach Marina. 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 in the boat that they were caught. Transferring of fish to another boat will result in disqualification. 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. The decision of the weigh master is final. All anglers are urged to release any fish not to be entered into the tournament.

13. **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 eligible species in all categories. No more than three (3) of each eligible Funfish species may be weighed per boat daily in all Funfish categories. All fish must be brought to the weigh station by boat only. Each boat will be provided with tail tags 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.

14. **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.

15. **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 5:00 pm on the official day of fishing.

16. **TIES:** In the event of a tie in weight, the winner will be determined by the earliest weigh-in time.

17. **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 as described in Rule 19 and from the MDMFC's administration of or interpretation of any polygraph as described in Rule 20.

18. **SIGNING OF THE ENTRY FORM:** By signing the entry form, the 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 their entry blank form as certification that they have read and agreed to abide by all rules and the above liability release.

19. **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.

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

21. **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.

22. **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.

23. **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.

24. **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.

25. **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 27, 28 and 29. 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.

26. **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 eligible species. No more than three (3) of each eligible Funfish species may be weighed per boat. Entry fee is \$500 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.

27. **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 \$250 per boat. The award for the Mega Mahi will be on a winner-take-all basis.

28. **DOUBLE DECKER:** The "Double Decker" will be paid to the boat with the top combined weight for two individual fish from two of the four eligible Funfish species. A ten pound minimum weight will be in effect for all eligible species. Entry fee is \$100 per boat. The award for the Double Decker will be on a winner-take-all basis.