

2021 TUNA MANIA RULES and REGULATIONS

- 1) All rules and regulations are conditions of participating in the tournament. Failure to comply will result in disqualification from the tournament. The owner and/or operator represent to the tournament committee that he or she shall go over all rules with any crew member, participant or invitee, and will ask a member of the tournament committee if a question arises regarding these rules and regulation. All participants are bound by these rules and regulations.
- 2) At least one representative MUST attend the Captains' meeting (Monday June 7th 2021 at 6:30PM) to register and receive pertinent tournament information.
- 3) All boats MUST display Tournament numbers on the port and starboard sides of their vessel.
- 4) The Captain may elect to fish one day or up to (4) of the Tournament days. The entry form and fees MUST be turned in no later than the Captains' Meeting on Monday June 7th. Separate numbers (one for each day of fishing) will be assigned to any boat fishing multiple days.
- 5) Mandatory check-out will be required between 12: AM and 7: AM on the morning (s) you intend to fish. Check out will be via Text message to 732-899-7707. The text message must include your boat name and number, time and the inlet you are leaving from. Videos may be used to aid in ensuring no early departures.
- 6) Boats MAY ONLY depart from Manasquan Inlet, Shark River Inlet or Barnegat Inlet to qualify for prizes.
- 7) All boats regardless of the Inlet from which they depart, must return through the Manasquan Inlet and weigh-in at Captain Bill's Landing 49 Inlet Drive Point Pleasant Beach, NJ. To qualify for prizes. All boats must return each fishing day, Tuna-Mania is not a overnight tournament
- 8) There is a fishing distance limit of 75 (nautical) miles from the Manasquan Inlet Sea Buoy.
- 9) All contestants, participants and/or passengers on a contending vessel agree to submit to a poly-graph examination if directed to by the Tournament Committee. If a rule or legal violation is discovered as a result of a poly-graph (or other means), then that participant, contestant or passenger the entire boat shall be disqualified from any prize and be liable for the cost of the poly-graph examination.
- 10) In case of a tie, the first eligible fish weighed in will take that place.
- 11) The Weigh Station will be open at 4: PM on all fishing days of the tournament. No fish will be weighed prior to 4:PM. Weigh-in will end no later than 7:PM.
- 12) VHF Channel 69 will be the official Tournament channel for all tournament communications. Please keep it clear. In the event of excessive radio traffic, then Channel 70 is designated as first alternative channel.
- 13) All persons on a participating vessel shall comply with State and federal laws. All-tackle IGFA Rules apply in this tournament except as follows: 1. Spreader bars and J-Hooks with bait are permitted. 2. A fish may be hooked by anyone on board the boat provided that the rod is immediately transferred to one angler after hookup. From that time on, that angler must fight the fish alone until the fish is boated or released. Recreational rules apply to all vessels fishing this tournament. Vessels must be properly permitted and adhere to RECREATIONAL BLUEFIN TUNA FISHING RULES. Violations of federal or state fishing regulations (e.g. fishing without the required permit[s] or NJ Saltwater Recreational Registration, or failure to comply with regulations governing fishing for and landing Bluefin Tuna) are prosecuted by Federal or State Conservation Officers, if they so choose, not the Tournament Committee. If, during the tournament, a summons is levied against a participating vessel or a person on a participating vessel that has weighed-in a contending fish, prize money for that place and any lesser place will be held until a court has determined whether or not the fish was caught legally. A vessel or participant adjudicated to have violated a federal or state fishery regulation while participating in the tournament shall be disqualified.
- 14) Eligible tuna for this tournament shall be Bluefin Tuna only. All Bluefin Tuna must be greater than 27" (CFL) curved fork length. The heaviest Tuna will win in all three places and in all eligible Calcutta.
Fish may be caught trolling, chunking, jigging and casting. No commercial gear such as green sticks, bandit gear, etc. or similar recreational gear may be used. Use of spotter planes, drones or any other types of aerial surveillance is also prohibited. Use of harpoons is prohibited.
- 15) In the event of any litigation regarding prize money, whether filed by Tuna Mania and/or GPPCBA or by a Participant, Tuna Mania and/or GPPCBA shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, to be paid out of the prize money in dispute. If the prize money in dispute is insufficient to pay Tuna Mania and/or GPPCBA reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, each Participant in the litigation shall be jointly and severally liable to pay Tuna Mania's and/or GPPCBA reasonable attorneys' fees and cost. In no event shall Tuna Mania and/or GPPCBA be liable to any person for any attorneys' fees or costs. In any litigation, the Court may order that any Tuna Mania and/or GPPCBA attorneys' fees or costs paid out of the prize money be reimbursed by any Participant who has taken a position in litigation that is contrary to a final decision made by the Tournament Directors.
- 16) There is **NO WEATHER DAY!** ALL CONTESTANTS PARTICIPATE, FISH, and SAIL AT THEIR OWN RISK! The captain and crew are solely responsible for deciding whether or not to sail. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS AFTER THE START OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE TOURNAMENT.(12:00AM Thursday June 10th) One fishing day makes the tournament official.
- 17) If no eligible fish are caught in any of the Calcutta's, winners will be drawn out of a hat consisting of only the participant in that Calcutta less 10% charitable donation to GPPCBA Ship Sinking and cancer research. THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS.
- 18) Any Captain concerned about the safety of his crew and vessel due to severe weather conditions may apply for a refund from the Tournament Committee. Request for a refund will only be accepted at the Captains Meeting or up until 12:00AM Thursday June 10th. Refunds are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee on entry fees and ALL Calcutta's are refundable less 10% charitable donation to GPPCBA Ship Sinking Fund and the Lustgarten Foundation. Maritime Law prevails.
- 19) In the event the Tournament is canceled, entry fees minus \$50.00 administration fee and ALL Calcutta's are refundable less 10% charitable donation to GPPCBA Ship Sinking Fund and the Lustgarten Foundation. Maritime Law prevails.
- 20) If a controversy occurs, a formal protest may be submitted to the Tournament Committee for determination and decision using the approved protest form. The protest form must be submitted, along with a check for \$200.00 (made out to GPPCBA), to the Tournament Committee Representative within 24 hours of the day of the alleged infraction occurred. A Protest form, with applicable instructions, will be in each Captain's Bag provided at the Captain's meeting. Any protest submitted after the day and time set forth herein will not be considered. If the protest stands the \$200.00 will be refunded. Decisions on a protest shall rest in the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee, and each Captain and participant agree to be bound by that decision. All Tournament Committee decisions are final!
- 21) Your Captains Bag (received at registration) will contain important information including; any additional rules and regulations, Check-out Procedures and weigh-in information. It will also include a Protest Form along with a Tournament Catch Log.