



# Manasquan River Marlin & Tuna Club

Established in 1936

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## 2020 Jack Meyer Memorial Trolling Tournament Tournament Outline, Rules and Awards

While the COVID-19 Pandemic remains a legitimate consideration in conducting our daily lives, some of New Jersey's restrictions relating to the pandemic have been relaxed. Among the relaxed restrictions is New Jersey's May 27th update to its COVID-19 Fishing Guidelines (see below). As the COVID-19 Pandemic is a dynamic situation with associated restrictions undergoing frequent changes, MRMTC members are advised to monitor NJ's COVID-19 Website ([covid19.nj.gov/](https://www.covid19.nj.gov/)) for any changes in the fishing guidelines and make adjustments accordingly.

### COVID-19 Statement

The safety, health and well-being of our officers, trustees, members, families, friends, guests, and the general public will always be our primary goal. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposures at Manasquan River Marlin and Tuna Club (MRMTC) member events, tournaments and gatherings (functions), we have developed a MRMTC COVID-19 Health & Safety Plan. That plan is available for viewing at: [mrmtc.com/covid19/](https://mrmtc.com/covid19/)

### NJDEP/ NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife

#### **COVID-19 Fishing Guidelines (Updated May 27, 2020)**

Consistent with Governor Murphy's latest Executive Orders regarding social distancing in order to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), **"non-family/household member" fishing is permitted in groups of fewer than 25 persons provided six-foot social distancing is maintained and the recommended infection control procedures (face coverings, hand washing) are followed.**

Anglers **MUST NOT** congregate in parking areas, boat ramps or at popular fishing locations. Conservation Police Officers, New Jersey State Park Police, and DEP staff are actively monitoring our parks and natural areas to ensure that individuals enjoying our natural resources are maintaining social distance. **Any groups encountered will be instructed to disperse to maintain social distance, and if they do not comply, tickets will be issued by law enforcement.**

#### **Excerpts from Dave Golden, Director of NJ Fish & Wildlife YouTube Video**

- A. Click Here for video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ms3eLwoLiz4>
- B. Do not fish if you are not feeling well. Stay at home if you exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms listed on CDC website
- C. Fish close to home, reducing travel
- D. Fish by yourself or with members of immediate family members ONLY
- E. Maintain safe physical distance from other anglers and do not share gear
- F. Use your rod as an easy measure to provide a 6' distance
- G. Avoid crowds and groups
- H. Buy licenses online



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## Tournament Outline

- A. Tournament Entry: Free
- B. Guaranteed Prize Money: \$3,250
- C. Fishing Days: Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, Members can fish 2 single-day trips
- D. Captains Meeting: Wednesday, July 1st, Hoffman's West, Brielle, 6:30 PM  
Food and Beverages provided
- E. Registration: All members in good standing are automatically registered to fish the tournament, Call-in required
- F. Calcuttas: Enter at Captains Meeting
- G. Call In: All Entrants are required to call-in their fishing day
- H. Weigh-Ins: Hoffman's East, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- I. Awards: 3 largest Tuna by weight (BFT excluded)

## Tournament Rules

1. This tournament is a MRMTC member only tournament. Only MRMTC members and non-member guests are eligible to fish this tournament.
2. All members in good standing are automatically registered to fish this tournament. Call-in required.
3. Tournament participation is on a per boat basis. A member may fish on a member or non-member boat.
4. Each boat may fish 2 single-day trips. However, a boat may fish 2 additional day-trips if the member's fishing "partner" is also a club member. The "partner" must be on board on their additional fishing days for any catches on that day to be eligible for award consideration.
5. Members must declare their fishing day by 12:00 AM on their declared day of fishing. To declare a fishing day, a representative from the boat must call (732) 612-8052 and leave a message with the following information: Member's name, boat name, fishing day, tournament being fished and day and time of call.
6. Boats must not depart Manasquan Inlet before 12:00 AM on their declared day of fishing and must return through Manasquan Inlet on the same day. Overnight trips are not permitted.
7. Upon returning to Manasquan Inlet, a representative from each boat is requested to call Dave Mellett at (732) 423-6520 to advise of their safe return
8. In the event of a boat becoming disabled after leaving Manasquan Inlet, a substitute boat and/or fishing day will be granted as long as the following conditions are satisfied:
  - a. Fishing lines must not have been placed in the water.
  - b. The boat must return to Manasquan Inlet by 10 AM on the same day it departed.
  - c. A participant on the boat must call (732) 612-8052 as soon as the boat enters Manasquan Inlet and leave a message with the following information: Member's name, boat name, fishing day, nature of the boat disability and date and time of call.
9. Yellowfin tuna, Longfin tuna and Bigeye tuna are eligible for awards. Bluefin tuna are not eligible for awards.



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10. Fish being entered for award consideration must have the fish weighed on the MRMTC scale at Hoffman's Marina - East. Weigh in hours are from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM each day of the tournament. Fish must be brought to the weigh scale by the boat upon which they were caught.
11. A completed MRMTC Official Weigh Slip must be submitted for all tuna that are to be considered for awards. A photo of the completed weigh slip shall be electronically submitted via **email to [WIN@mrmtc.com](mailto:WIN@mrmtc.com)**.
12. The boundary for the tournament is 125 miles from the Manasquan Inlet sea buoy. If the boundary limit is exceeded at any time during the declared fishing day, that boat is disqualified from the tournament.
13. There is no limit to the number of rods or lines used while fishing.
14. This is a recreational fishing tournament. The use of commercial fishing gear is prohibited. Commercial fishing gear includes, but is not limited to, green sticks, bandit gear, or similar type gear. The use of spotter planes, drones or any other type of aerial surveillance equipment is prohibited.
15. All State, Federal and IGFA Rules and Regulations apply to this tournament except as follows:
  - a. A fish may be hooked by anyone other than the angler provided the rod is immediately transferred to the angler after the hook-up. From that time forward, the angler must fight the fish alone until boated or released.
  - b. The use of spreader bars is permitted.
16. Once a boat leaves the inlet, assistance of any nature for the purpose of enhancement of or continuation of fishing may not be rendered to that vessel. This includes but is not limited to providing fuel, bait, tackle or mechanical assistance. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification of both involved vessels from the tournament.
17. In the interest of conservation, MRMTC encourages the use of circle hooks when using natural bait and natural bait/artificial lure combinations. However, circle hook rules are not in effect for this tournament.
18. This is a trolling only tournament. Chunking, casting, jigging, popping, hand feeding, hand lines, spearfishing and shooting are strictly forbidden.
19. The official tournament radio channel is: VHF Channel 65.
20. Prize Money will be paid by check and made out to the member's name as on record. Prize money will be distributed to the winners upon determining the official results.
21. This tournament is being run concurrently with the Club Bluefin Tuna Tournament. Participants may not fish both tournaments on the same day. The participant must state which tournament is being fished when declaring the fishing day.
22. Fish caught on a member's boat during the course of a non-member charter trip are not eligible for award consideration regardless of who the angler is. Fish caught by a member who is being paid as a crew member, i.e. a mate, captain, etc. during the course of a fishing trip, are not eligible for any awards.
23. The Jack Meyer Trophy will be awarded on the basis of highest number of points accumulated during the declared fishing day. Points are calculated as such: Tuna – One point per pound for the two largest tuna (Yellowfin, Longfin, bigeye, no Bluefin).
24. In the event of a tie in the Points Category, the boat accomplishing its total points first will be declared the winner. This determination will be based upon the time of catch during the declared fishing day (not the date). Remember to record time of catch on the Weigh Slip.
25. The tournament committee reserves the right to have winners take a lie detector examination.
26. The tournament may be altered, cancelled, postponed or extended to other dates at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
27. All interpretations of the Rules and decisions by the Tournament Committee are final.



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## **Tournament Awards**

Guaranteed Prize Money for the tournament is \$3,250. The prize money will be distributed across the three heaviest tuna (Bluefin Tuna are not eligible) as follows:

Heaviest Tuna	\$1,625 plus a 3-day Florida Keys Fishing Trip with John Meyer as your host
2 <sup>nd</sup> Heaviest Tuna	\$975
3 <sup>rd</sup> Heaviest Tuna	\$650

## **3-Day Florida Keys Fishing Trip**

A 3-day fishing trip in the Florida Keys with John Meyer as your host will be awarded to the heaviest tuna (Bluefin Tuna are not eligible). This fishing trip is in addition to the \$1,625 awarded to the heaviest tuna.

## **Jack Meyer Trophy**

The Jack Meyer Trophy will be awarded to the boat accumulating the highest number of points for fish caught during the tournament. See the Rules for details on how points are awarded.

## **Calcutta Entry**

Calcutta entry will be available at the Captains Meeting (cash only).

## **Weigh-In Execution**

Weigh-ins will be performed at Hoffmans-East fuel dock from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM each day of the tournament. Weigh-in procedure is as follows:

1. The MRMTC Weighmaster will weigh the fish.
2. The fish are to be placed on the dock and removed from the dock in a manner that complies with social distancing requirements.
3. Complete an MRMTC Official Weigh Slip.
4. Take a picture of the completed MRMTC Official Weigh Slip clearly noting the "Jack Meyer Tournament"
5. Electronically submit the weigh slip picture to [WIN@mrmtc.com](mailto:WIN@mrmtc.com).
6. The deadline for submitting weigh slip photos is 10:00 PM on each day of the tournament.

## **Tournament Payouts**

1. MRMTC will mail checks to the Tournament winners.
2. Because checks are being submitted to MRMTC for Calcutta entries, IRS tax laws require that IRS Form 1099's be issued to the Calcutta winners.

## **Calcutta Entry Form**

See the Calcutta Entry Form for information on the Calcutta categories.