



# Manasquan River Marlin & Tuna Club

Established in 1936

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## 2020 Artificial Reef Tournament Tournament Outline, Rules and Awards

The COVID-19 Pandemic remains a legitimate consideration in conducting our daily lives. Recent spiking in new COVID-19 cases, particularly in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, is a stark reminder of our need to remain steadfast in protecting ourselves from the COVID-19 virus. Foremost in protecting ourselves and others from the COVID-19 virus is our compliance with New Jersey's COVID-19 restrictions and New Jersey's 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://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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## 2020 Artificial Reef Tournament

### Tournament Outline

- A. Tournament Entry: Free
- B. Guaranteed Prize Money: \$500
- C. Fishing Days: Friday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> thru Monday Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> thru Monday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>
- D. Captains Meeting: None
- E. Registration: All members in good standing are automatically registered to fish the tournament, call-in required
- F. Calcuttas: Drop Off, see below.
- G. Call In: Entrants are required to call-in their fishing day
- H. Weigh-Ins: Brielle Yacht Club, Brielle, 5:00 - 6:00 PM
- I. Base Awards: 3 largest Blackfish by weight (50/30/20)

### 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.
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 only one day. However, a boat may fish multiple days if the member's fishing "partner" is also a club member and has entered the tournament separately. Each day of fishing requires a separate Entry Form. The "partner" must be on board on the fishing day of their entry 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.
7. In lieu of fishing on a boat, a member may fish from the shores of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. To declare a fishing day, the member must call (732) 612-8052 and leave a message with the following information: Member's name, fishing day, tournament being fished and day and time of call. Members fishing from shore must not commence fishing before 12:00 AM on their declared day of fishing.
8. **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. Boats not having fish to weigh are also requested to call in upon entering the inlet so that the weigh scale does not need to remain unnecessarily open.**
9. In the event of a boat becoming disabled prior to leaving Manasquan Inlet, the entry may be transferred to a substitute boat and/or a substitute fishing day. The boat disability must be reported by calling (732) 612-8052 and leaving a message with the following information: Entrant's name, boat name, fishing date, nature of the boat disability, date and time of call.
10. In the event of a boat becoming disabled after leaving Manasquan Inlet, the entry may be transferred to a substitute boat and/or a substitute fishing day 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.



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- 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.
11. Fish being entered for award consideration must have the fish weighed on the MRMTC scale at Brielle Yacht Club. Weigh in hours are from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM each day of the tournament. Fish must be brought to the weigh scale by the boat upon which they were caught or by vehicle.
12. There is no limit to the number of rods or lines used while fishing.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. Circle hook rules are not in effect for this tournament. However, in the interest of conservation, MRMTC encourages the use of circle hooks when using natural bait and natural bait/artificial lure combinations.
16. The official tournament radio channel is: VHF Channel 65.
17. Prize Money will be paid by check and made out to the member's name on record. Prize money will be distributed to the winners upon determining the official results.
18. 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.
19. The tournament may be altered, cancelled, postponed or extended to other dates at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
20. All interpretations of the Rules and decisions by the Tournament Committee are final.

## **Tournament Awards**

Guaranteed Prize Money for the tournament is \$500. The prize money will be distributed across the three heaviest blackfish as follows:

Heaviest Blackfish	\$250
2 <sup>nd</sup> Heaviest Blackfish	\$150
3 <sup>rd</sup> Heaviest Blackfish	\$100

## **Calcutta Entry**

1. Calcutta payments must be made in cash.
2. Complete the 2020 Artificial Reef Tournament Entry Form.
3. Place the Entry Form and payment (cash only) in an envelope addressed to: MRMTC, PO Box 251, Brielle, NJ 08730.
4. Deliver the envelope to MRMTC in one of the following ways:
  - a. Drop off at Carton Law Firm, 40 Union Ave., Manasquan, NJ 08736. The envelope must be delivered to the firm's front desk no later than 12 Noon, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - b. Drop off at JF Murray Co., 1414 Beaver Dam Road, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742. The envelope must be delivered to the firm's drop box no later than 12 Noon, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



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## **Weigh-In Execution**

Weigh-ins will be performed at Brielle Yacht Club from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM each day of the tournament. Weigh-in procedure is as follows:

- J. The MRMTC Weighmaster will weigh the fish.
- K. The fish are to be placed on the dock and removed from the dock in a manner that complies with social distancing requirements.
- L. Complete an MRMTC Official Weigh Slip.
- M. Only one member from the boat will be allowed on the dock for Weigh Slip completion and fish weight witnessing.

## **Tournament Payouts**

MRMTC will mail checks to the Tournament winners.

## **Artificial Reef Tournament Entry Form**

See the Entry Form for information on the Calcutta categories.