

HOUSTON BIG GAME FISHING CLUB

2008 AWARDS PROGRAM

The program has been established with both Texas and International Divisions. Categories and rules are the same for each division, except where noted.

All members of the Houston Big Game Fishing Club are eligible for the Club Awards Program. There are no entry fees. Awards will be presented to the winners at the Annual Members Celebration and Awards Banquet to be held in the spring of 2008.

AWARD CATEGORIES

TEXAS DIVISION

Largest Blue Marlin - 3 places

Only blue marlin caught, weighed and counted in the following recognized Texas tournaments: World Cup, Poco Bueno, ROC, TIFT, The Legends, 1 point per pound.

Largest Yellowfin, Wahoo and Dolphin - 3 places

Minimum weight is 25 pounds for Dolphin and Wahoo and 60 pounds for Tuna.

(Largest fish awards are given to the angler regardless of member classification, i.e. Junior, Male or Female.) May be weighed at any of the Club weigh stations or certified by any of the recognized tournaments above. See weigh station information.

Private Boat of the Year:

Awarded to the private boat of a member owner for most weighed blue marlin points plus Release points.

Charter Boat of the Year:

Awarded to the charter boat of a member owner for most weighed blue marlin points plus Release points.

Female Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the adult female member for most weighed blue marlin points plus Release points.

Male Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the adult male member for most weighed blue marlin points plus Release points.

Junior Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the junior member for most weighed blue marlin points plus Release points.

****Note:** Should there be no fish caught for awards in any of these categories, the award may be presented based on other angling accomplishments at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

AWARD CATEGORIES INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

Largest Blue Marlin – 1st place only. Must be weighed on certified scales. 1 point per pound.

Largest Black Marlin – 1st place only. Must be weighed on certified scales. 1 point per pound

Private Boat of the Year: Awarded to the private boat of a member owner for most weighed blue and black marlin points plus Release points.

Charter Boat of the Year: Awarded to the charter boat of a member owner for most weighed blue and black marlin points plus Release points.

Female Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the adult female member for most weighed blue and/or black marlin points plus Release points.

Male Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the adult male member for most weighed marlin points plus Release points.

Junior Angler of the Year:

Awarded to the junior member for most weighed marlin points plus Release points.

****Note:** Should there be no fish caught for awards in any of these categories, the award may be presented based on other angling accomplishments at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

RELEASE SCORING

Blue & Black Marlin - 500 points Swordfish - 250 points White Marlin - 200 points

Striped Marlin – 200 points Sailfish -100 points Spearfish -100 points

Bonus Points: 500 bonus points for an Angler Grand Slam (any three billfish species caught by the same angler on the same calendar day). 500 bonus points for a Boat Grand Slam (any three billfish species caught on a Member's boat on the same calendar day by *different* anglers).

1000 bonus points for a line class world record

Double points for releases in HBGFC Tournament

Release points will be verified by filling out and submitting a verification form with photo (if required), including one witness and their phone number. Pictures of fish in boat will **NOT** count for any points. **Verification and required photo must be received within 30 days of release/capture.**

RULES

For 2008, points will be awarded for all eligible fish caught on or after January 1, 2008 thru December 31, 2008. The angler or boat owner must be a member in good standing on the date of the catch. Renewing members must have renewal paid by the March 1, 2008 renewal deadline to receive points for fish caught prior to that date.

- ❖ Swordfish, White Marlin, Striped Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish will count only toward release points. These species will not be weighed. In the Texas Division weighed Blue Marlin are eligible only if caught, weighed and counted in one of the recognized tournaments set out in rules.
- ❖ Any Texas Division Blue Marlin release requires a date/time stamped photo. Points will be awarded based on the highest species identified in the photo. No date/time stamped photo required for International Billfish Division.

- ❖ A boat is eligible for boat points only if the owner is a member in good standing. Angler points will be awarded to members regardless of the boat owner's membership status.
- ❖ Any guest (non-member) catching a fish on a member boat will not be eligible for individual awards; however, the boat will be credited boat points for that fish.
- ❖ All IGFA tackle rules govern.
- ❖ Boats must leave from a Texas port and return to a Texas port for Texas Division. Departure from or return to any port outside Texas is considered International.
- ❖ A junior member must be 18 years old or younger on the date of catch or release.
- ❖ On weighed fish, points will only be awarded if a verification form is turned in and includes the signature of the weighmaster. All weights will be verified by the committee from the tournament/s involved. Weighed fish must be weighed on a certified scale.
- ❖ A legal Billfish release is by standard measure: The mate touching the leader, or wind-on leader to the rod tip. Tagging is encouraged but is not required.
- ❖ A verification form must be submitted by mail or fax to the club, a committee member or club board member for each fish **within 30 days of capture or release. No verification form, no points.**
- ❖ **Pictures of fish in boat will NOT count for any points.**
- ❖ In case of tie on total points, the first angler or boat to reach that total wins. This will be determined by the time/date of last reported catch on the verification form.

Weigh Stations

Galveston Yacht Basin:

The scales will be kept at the dry storage office next to the boat ramp. Hours of operation are 6:00am to 6:00pm 7 days a week. Calling ahead is recommended but not required. 409/762-9689 ext. 208. These are volunteers and you are encouraged to weigh your own fish. Have one of the scale keepers verify the weight and sign your verification form. Forklift will be available for large fish. If necessary, contact Eddie Barr 409/771-3408

Bridge Harbor Yacht Club:

Hours of operation are during Bridge Harbor's normal business hours.
Contact Mingo Marquez 979/233-2101

Port O'Connor Fishing Center:

Hours of operation are during normal business hours. Note: at the time of this printing their scale only goes up to 100 pounds and may not handle a big tuna. Call the club or a committee member for updates on this. 361-983-4440

Fisherman's Wharf – Port Aransas:

Hours of operation are during normal business hours. 361/749-5448

Surfside Marina: Hours of operation are 6:00 am to sundown **7 days a week.** Calling ahead is recommended. 713/228-2500

PLEASE TIP YOUR WEIGHMASTER

Awards Committee: Chairman – Kevin Deerman 409/789-2975 email; astuart1@houston.rr.com
Randy Bright 713/816-2165; Marc Gentry 713/828-4273; Jim Peachey 979/482-4040. Board Members: Randy Bright, Marc Gentry, Jim Peachey, Richard Richardson 281/893-6720, Pam Basco 713/542-1843, David Finkelstein 713/443-6853, Mike Miller 713/907-2663, Kevin Harper 281/831-9836, Charlie Shiro 713/702-6997, Capt. Tommy Tilotta -832/689-6429, .

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