

14th Annual Virginia Beach Billfish Tournament — 2017 Fact Sheet

CURRENT YEAR INFORMATION

DATES: Wednesday, August 23 – Saturday, August 26, 2017

HOST FACILITY: Southside Marina

LOCATION: Virginia Beach, Virginia USA

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 568, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

SHIPPING ADDRESS: 524 Winston Salem Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23451

CONTACT: Paula Owen, Tournament Director

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ENTRY FEE: \$2,400 (base entry) – \$8,900 per team with optional entries

ENTRY LIMITS: limited to 75 teams, previous year's teams have first right of refusal, open to both private and charter boats

TARGET SPECIES: blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, spearfish, tuna, dolphin and wahoo

FORMAT: modified release: 110" or 400 lb. minimum on blue marlin, release only on all other billfish species

ANGLING RULES: IGFA saltwater equipment and angling rules are followed with exceptions outlined in the rules

TOURNAMENT SERIES AFFILIATIONS: none

CHARITIES SUPPORTED: Achievable Dreams, Boys and Girls Club of Southside and Peninsula, Stop Abuse, Recreational Fishing Alliance and The Billfish Foundation

PUBLICATIONS: annual tournament program published by Liskey Printing, Norfolk, VA

HISTORY

TOURNAMENT STARTED IN: 2004

FIRST YEAR STATISTICS: 42 teams, 231 anglers, \$213,500 cash awards

2016 STATISTICS: 75 teams, 512 anglers, \$544,500 cash awards

HIGHEST PURSE PAID TO DATE: \$544,500 in 2016

HIGHEST PURSE PAID TO DATE TO A SINGLE TEAM: \$244,500 in 2016 to *A-Salt Weapon* for 1st Place Team (23 sailfish)

HIGHEST NUMBER OF BOATS PARTICIPATING TO DATE: 75 in 2016

BEST YEAR FISHING TO DATE: 2013 – 483 billfish released

OTHER: only one blue marlin has been weighed in the tournament's history (2004)

DESCRIPTION: The VBVT is part of the Virginia Beach Billfish Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to giving back to the community through youth and marine related charities—over \$610,000 has been donated to date. Started in 2004 to highlight the often-overlooked fishing opportunities off Virginia Beach, the VBVT is the area's best known big game fishing tournament with a focus on fun, conservation and charity. Over the years the tournament has become famous for its evening dock parties which feature 5-star dinners, a top shelf bar and rockin' live music. An expected 75 teams compete for over \$500,000 in cash awards each year, and in addition to Top Boat awards there are awards for Top Lady and Top Juniors. The tournament is a family-oriented event and many family activities are available in Virginia Beach.

RECORD FISH

BLUE MARLIN (2004) — 582.0 lbs., *Fortuna*, 46 ft. Sonny Briggs

Capt. Allen DeSilva from Pembroke, Bermuda; angler Dave Youens from Pembroke, Bermuda

DOLPHIN (2009) — 52.1 lbs., *Big Oh*, 63 ft. Ricky Scarborough

Capt. Ronnie Fields from Lake Park, Florida USA; angler Tim Lanahan from North Palm Beach, Florida USA

TUNA (2008) — 147.7 lb. bigeye, *Skirt Chaser*, 54 ft. Buddy Cannady

Capt. Barry Daniels from Wanchese, North Carolina USA; angler Shane Moore from Jarrettsville, Maryland USA

WAHOO (2005) — 77.8 lbs., *Huntress*, 59 ft. Ricky Scarborough

Capt. Bill McAllister from Richmond, Virginia USA; angler Preston Smith from Manakin, Virginia USA

2016 TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS

75 boats participated

ALEXIS Viking 92'
A-LURE-ING LADY..... Post 42'
ANN WARRICKPaul Mann 76'
ANTICIPATION..... Paul Spencer 61'
A-SALT WEAPONPaul Mann 56'
BACKLASH Jim Smith 53'
BB..... Viking 65'
BI-OP-SEA..... Paul Spencer 59'
BUILDER'S CHOICEJarrett Bay 64'
BULLWINKLE Paul Spencer 57'
CANYON EXPRESS Bayliss 57'
CARAMBA Sonny Briggs 61'
CARRISMA.....Ocean Yacht 55'
COMPROMISEPaul Mann 65'
CONTANGO Viking 52'
COTTON PICKER Heritage Boatworks 50'
COVERAGE Sportsman 61'
CROUPIER Knight & Carver 76'
CUTTIN' UP..... Viking 52'
DELLA ANN..... Paul Spencer 61'
DELTA DAWNIsland Boat Works 57'
DESPERADO (NC)Taylor Made 56'
DESPERADO (VA)..... B&D Boatworks 60'
DIAMOND GIRL Paul Spencer 61'
DOUBLE DIPPIN..... B&D Boatworks 60'
EVELYN KENNEDY Ricky Scarborough 48'
EYE CATCHERGarlington 61'
FENDER BENDERJarrett Bay 55'
FREESTYLE Blackwell 61'
FULL PULL..... Crowwait Brothers 57'
GIT-R-DONECaptain Squid 60'
GOOD GRIEF..... Hatteras 46'
HIGH HOPES..... Gary Davis 58'
HOME RUN Paul Spencer 60'
INSTIGATOR Blackwell 57'
JACKPOT..... Ricky Scarborough 63'
JUGGERNAUTCustom 36'
JUST RIGHT..... Viking 56'

LEGACY Bobby Sullivan 58'
MCKAY ELIZABETH Deadrise 46'
MICABEJarrett Bay 55'
MIMI Garlington 61'
OBSESSION..... Sheldon Midgette 55'
PIRACY Shearline 61'
POINT RUNNER.....Guthrie 60'
POOR GIRL Paul Mann 65'
QUALIFIER Paul Mann 57'
REBEL Ritchie Howell 60'
REELIN N DEALIN Blackwell 62'
RELEASE Bobby Sullivan 52'
RIGGED UP..... Omie Tillet 54'
SAFARI..... Garlington 61'
SAGA Ricky Scarborough 60'
SALLY GIRL Ricky Scarborough 57'
SEA BREEZE Bobby Sullivan 58'
SEA STRIKERJarrett Bay 61'
SEA TOY Paul Spencer 59'
SEA TRADER Hatteras 50'
SENSATIONJarrett Bay 53'
SKILIGAL..... Buddy Cannady 52'
SKIRT CHASER Buddy Cannady 53'
SMOKER..... Irvin Forbes 58'
SNIPER Paul Mann 58'
STARFLITEJarrett Bay 54'
STREAM WEAVER Paul Spencer 60'
TIPPECANOE Viking 56'
TOP HOOKER..... Blackwell 61'
VICTORY LAP Viking 61'
VIKING 62..... Viking 62'
WASTE KNOT Sonny Briggs 56'
WATERMAN Ricky Scarborough 63'
WAVERUNNER Bobby Sullivan 53'
WELDOR'S ARKJarrett Bay 55'
WILDLIFE Paul Mann 60'
WIRED UP Blackwell 55'