

# Great Gun Anglers 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shark Tournament Rules

Welcome to the Great Gun Anglers' 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shark Tournament. We thank you for your interest and participation. The information contained in this booklet should be read by all participants to insure compliance with all Tournament Rules. No matter what the outcome, we wish all anglers a safe and successful tournament. **GOOD FISHING!**

## **RULES AND INFORMATION**

1. Entry is open to any individual but Great Gun Anglers reserves the right to refuse to accept a shark tournament application from anyone.
2. All entered boats must be a minimum of 20' in length and be equipped with a working VHF.
3. Vessel must conform to USCG SAFETY STANDARDS.
4. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to inspect all boats entered in the tournament.
5. Each boat will supply their own bait, chum, equipment and supplies.
6. The Captain of each boat, who must be at least 21 years of age, will assume full liability and responsibility for their boat and crew.
7. **HMS PERMIT REQUIRED!** Only one shark may be taken per boat, therefore, only one shark may be weighed in. BLUE, MAKO, THRESHER, HAMMERHEAD and PORBEAGLE are the only Sharks that may be entered. Effective March 2, 2018 NOAA announced emergency **regulations** for Atlantic Shortfin **Mako Sharks** raising the minimum size limit to 83 inches (210 cm) fork length for shortfin **mako sharks**. An 83 inch long mako should weigh approximately 240 lbs.
8. Blue Sharks less than 10 feet will not be in contention. Measurement will be from the nose to the fork in the tail. All other sharks accepted for the tournament must weigh at least 100lbs. to be eligible. Remember, **NO WHITE SHARKS, "SANDBAR SHARKS (ALSO KNOWN AS BROWN SHARKS)" OR DUSKIES.**
9. The shark must be caught on rod and reel and on the boat that weighs in the fish.

10. The use of: harpoons, guns, or bang stick prohibited.
11. **Circle hooks must be used. NY State law A.5421-A/S.3884-A: “This legislation now prohibits the taking of sharks for commercial or recreational purposes by baited hooking except with the use of non-stainless steel non-offset circle hooks. In addition, it requires that shark tournament rules must stipulate the exclusive use of such circle hooks.”** Hook must remain in its original position when caught. No foul hooked sharks will be allowed. The hook and piece of leader must be in the shark’s mouth when brought to the weigh in station.
12. Mangled fish will be disqualified.

## **The Dock Master has the final say.**

### **DATES AND TIME**

13. Tournament to be held Saturday, June 22, 2019
14. Weather date will be Sunday June 29, 2019
15. Tournament hours will be 6 a.m. to 5:30p.m. On scheduled date.
16. There will be no time extension for fishing.
17. The Captains’ Meeting will be held 7 p.m. June 21, 2019 at the VFW Hall, Montauk Highway, Center Moriches, NY.
18. Entry fee is \$300. Per boat; due in cash at time of sign up.
19. In the event of a complete rain out, entry fee will be returned by mail to the boat captain, less 20% for tournament expenses.

### **CAPTAINS’ MEETING**

20. Each boat captain will be given entry numbers at this meeting. Your number must be displayed on the boat’s port and starboard sides so that it is easily visible to the TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE officials at all times.
21. All questions and discussion of interpretation of the rules will be discussed during this meeting.

## CHECK-IN

22. Check in will begin at 5:30 a.m. the morning of the tournament at Moriches Inlet.
23. Each boat must pass the anchored committee boat with yellow flag for both visual number and radio check before being released to the staging area on the north side of the Moriches sea buoy. Radio check will be conducted on vhf channel 69. Any boat not checked in by 8 a.m. must pass by the weigh in station at Center Yacht Club for both number and radio check by an assigned committee member.

## START

24. The tournament will start at approximately 6:00 a.m. at the Moriches sea buoy. You MUST be on the north side of the sea buoy prior to the start.
25. Start will be announced via VHF CHANNEL 69 at approximately 6:00 am. Please refrain from any unnecessary communication at that time

## IMPORTANT!!

26. **ALL BOATS NOT WEIGHING IN A FISH MUST REPORT BACK TO THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE EITHER BY VHF CHANNEL 69 BY 6:00PM., OR BY PHONE TO Mike Lang 631-903-5184 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE!**

**THIS RULE IS FOR SAFETY AND YOU MUST COMPLY. BOATS THAT DO NOT CHECK IN WILL BE REPORTED AS MISSING TO THE COAST GUARD AND YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY UNNECESSARY SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSION. FAILURE TO REPORT MAY ALSO PREVENT FUTURE ENTRY INTO OUR TOURNAMENTS.**

## WEIGH IN AT CENTER YACHT CLUB

27. All boats, **with fish to weight in** must arrive under their own power within 100 feet of Red Buoy 4W and the committee boat, communicate via channel 69 and be acknowledged by the committee boat **no later than 5:30PM.** These boats then must proceed to the staging area at Center Yacht Club on the Forge River in Center Moriches, **no later than 6:00PM. Please wait to be called into the dock area to be weighted in.**

**BOATS NOT ON TIME WILL NOT HAVE THEIR FISH WEIGHED IN!**

28. You are responsible for your fish. **DO NOT DUMP YOUR FISH IN THE BAY!**

## **AWARDS**

29. Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded at the conclusion of the tournament at Center Yacht Club.
30. All Fish eligible for prize money will be checked by the Tournament Committee. Committee ruling on fish eligibility will be final.
31. If no sharks are weighed in for any reason ( no eligible sharks caught, tournament cancelled, etc) the prizes will be raffled off less 20% operating expenses.

## **TROPHIES AND CASH PRIZES**

32. Cash prizes awarded after 20% operating expense have been deducted.
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|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b><u>FIRST PLACE</u></b>  | <b>50% of Prize Money plus Trophy</b> |
| <b><u>SECOND PLACE</u></b> | <b>30% of Prize Money plus Trophy</b> |
| <b><u>THIRD PLACE</u></b>  | <b>20% of Prize Money plus Trophy</b> |
33. Protest must be made to the **Tournament Dock Committee** within **15 minutes** after the last fish has been weighed in.
34. In the event of a protest the **Captain will be the only spokesman for the crew.**
35. The **Tournament Committee** will render judgments in the event of extenuating circumstances not covered by this booklet. In all cases the **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE'S** decision will be absolutely final.
36. Great Gun Anglers assume no responsibility for any prizes or Calcuttas given in conjunction with this tournament.