

2026 BHI Patriotic Mahi Invitational Rules & Regulations



AVAILABLE FISHING DAYS

Total of 8 Hours Daily
Lines In - Lines Out: (EDT)

June 28, 2026	Captain's Meeting @ 5 pm
June 29, 2026	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
June 30, 2026	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 1, 2026	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 2, 2026	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 3, 2026	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 4, 2026	6:00 am - 2:00 pm

SCALES OPEN @ 4PM AND CLOSE AT 6:00 P.M.
BOATS MAY FISH ANY 3 OF THE 6 FISHING DAYS.

Rules Committee

Jason Ainsworth, Michael Bumarch, Kenny
Cooper, Joe Elphick & John Munroe

Weighmaster

Kenny Cooper
(336) 382-8755

Tournament Director

John Munroe, (910) 471-4005

- REGISTRATION** All boats must be registered with the Tournament Committee and the entry fee paid to qualify for prizes and trophies. Any boat may be substituted during the week but must be registered with the Tournament Committee before fishing. Registration forms will be accepted at www.bhipatriots.com or at the Captain's Meeting. The tournament reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to deny entry to anyone for any reason. No entries will be accepted after 7:00 pm, Sunday Evening.
- RULES MEETING** At least one person from each boat should attend the Captain's Meeting for the Tournament, which will be held on Sunday at 5pm before the first day of fishing. Regardless, all participants in the Tournament are responsible for knowing all Tournament Rules, including any changes to the Rules that may take place at the Captain's Meeting.
- ROD & REEL RULES** This is a rod and reel, hook and line tournament. The fish must be fought by rod and reel from the boat. The following practices are illegal in this tournament: a) use of handline or rope attached to the line or leader; b) shooting, harpooning, or lancing. Drones are not allowed in this tournament.

- BOUNDARIES** All boats fishing in the tournament must fish in the Atlantic Ocean. All fish must also be hooked within those coordinates.
- FISHING DAYS AND TIME** No lines or teasers are permitted in the water before official fishing hours each day. Official time will be GPS time. Fishing days for all eligible boats shall be any of the available six days, at the captain's choice. Fishing Days must be reported via text to the BHI PMI group by 9 AM on the day of the fishing day.
- REPORTING** All Mahi should be reported to the Tournament Headquarters when hooked & boated. Radio frequency shall be VHF CHANNEL 6. Fish hooked before or after fishing hours are not eligible.
- FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS** All vessels and participants shall comply with North Carolina and Federal Fisheries laws and regulations regarding fishing licenses, vessel permits, fishing gear, season size limits, and bag limits. Participants shall also adhere to all BHI Patriotic Mahi Invitational rules as contained herein.
- GAMEFISH** Heaviest Dolphin, Winner Take All, will be determined by weight. In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by the first fish weighed in. Fish must be in fresh edible condition and fit for human consumption. All game fish must be weighed in on the day they are caught.
- WEIGH-IN** All Dolphin (MAHI) eligible for prizes must be off-loaded and weighed at the official Tournament weigh station from the boat landing the fish. The same scales and weigh station will be used for all fish. Gamefish scales will close at 6:00 p.m. Participants must notify the tournament committee by radio, text or phone before 4:00 p.m. and give a specific ETA to the official weigh station. The weigh station is located at the Bald Head Island Yacht Club Pavilion. The Weigh Master has the right to refuse any fish in his sole discretion.
- PRIZE PAYOUT SCHEDULE** Prize money will be paid in CASH, payable to the person or entity so indicated on the registration form of the winning boat. All undisputed funds will be distributed at the 4th of July Weigh In Party at the BHI Yacht Club Pavilion.
- PROTEST** Any protest by any participant against the catch of another participant must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Rules Committee. No protests are allowed against the tournament. Any protest must be received by 9:00 a.m. on the day following the catch of the disputed

fish and by 6:00 p.m. on the last day of the tournament. Any member of the Rules Committee or the Weigh Master (in their sole discretion) retains the right to hold and keep any fish deemed questionable by them with respect to being qualified for any prize or cash award. If retention of the fish is refused, the fish is automatically disqualified.

- WEIGHT ALTERATION** Attempted weight alteration of any Dolphin (Mahi) will be subject to disqualification and automatically disqualify the boat from the tournament. The Rules Committee reserves the right to cut open any fish for inspection of suspected weight-altering efforts such as inserted weights, ice, water, etc.
- MUTILATION: IGFA** rules apply regarding mutilated fish. The following situations will disqualify a catch: Mutilation to the fish, before landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.
- WITHDRAWAL** No Entry fees will be refunded. 50% of fees will be donated to benefiting Charity, (PTSD Service Animal from Rebuilding Warriors).
- VIOLATION OF RULES** Any boat violating any of these Tournament Rules or any boat containing a participant violating any of these Tournament Rules is subject to disqualification from the Tournament (unless another sanction for a particular violation is expressly set forth herein). By participating in the Tournament, all participants acknowledge that all Tournament Rules are material and that disqualification is a permitted and appropriate sanction for any violation of any Tournament Rules. Decisions regarding the interpretation of Rules, violation of Rules, penalties, and the suspension of any Rules or penalties will be made by the Rules Committee and/or the Board of Directors in their sole and absolute discretion. All decisions by the Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors are final and are not subject to further challenge by participants.

**50% OF \$2000 ENTRY FEES RETAINED BY
TOURNAMENT FOR CHARITY - REBUILDING
WARRIORS**

John Munroe, Tournament Director

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