



# 2025 REEL ESCAPES WAHINE TOURNAMENT

The Wahine Tournament returns with this year's theme:  
"Wicked Wahine - A fairytale re-written"



Whether you're a longtime wahine angler or casting your line with us for the first time, this year's tournament is all about reconnecting, reeling in big fun, and celebrating the power of being together again. WICKED WAHINE: A Fairytale, Rewritten - Featuring the Warrior Wahine Costume Contest. This year's costume contest theme brings fairytales into fierce territory. Show up as a Wicked Wahine: a storybook princess who traded her slippers for strength — or a Warrior Wahine, armed with confidence, edge, and unforgettable style. Gowns with grit. Glitter with attitude. Tiaras, boots, capes, or crowns — it's all fair game. Reimagine the characters you grew up with. Twist the story. Make it yours. You're not just in the fairytale. You're rewriting it. Costumes must be appropriate for a public event, with all key areas of the body covered. The tournament committee reserves the right to disqualify any participant whose attire is deemed excessively revealing or inappropriate.

## ENTRY FEE:

Entry fee is \$675.00 per team, which consists of up to (4) female anglers, one captain and one crew. Each person names on the entry form will be admitted to all functions, and will receive a tournament shirt. Additional Anglers/Crew may be added at \$125.00 per person. Please make checks payable to: HBGFC (Hawaii Big Game Fishing Club). Ladies are responsible for coordinating their own boat, captain and crew. If a team is without a boat, please contact [info@reelescapeshawaii@gmail.com](mailto:info@reelescapeshawaii@gmail.com) for assistance. First 75 teams paid in full with all completed waivers will be allowed to enter. All fees are nonrefundable. All participants must sign the tournament waiver to be registered. Failure to sign the waiver will result in disqualification. \*\*Due to processing time, checks from mainland banks will not be accepted within 10 days prior to the tournament date. Please use alternative payment methods if registering late.

**DATE & TIME:** 2025 Reel Escapes Wahine Tournament starts with tournament registration and briefing kickoff at Kona Brew at 6:00pm Friday August 8, 2025. At least one member from each team must be present at the briefing. Fishing starts at 8:00am Saturday August 9, 2025 and fishing ends at 4:00pm. Lines out by 4:00pm, no fishing after that time. Anglers are not permitted to use green sticks or bang sticks during the tournament. These devices are prohibited to ensure fair and traditional sport fishing practices.

**RULES:** Cash prizes will be awarded to the top-placing teams in the Marlin category from the main tournament prize pool, which is funded by entry fees. The dollar amounts listed below represent maximum estimated payouts and are subject to change based on the total number of paid entries. Final prize amounts will be confirmed and announced prior to the start of the tournament. The tournament committee reserves the right to adjust payouts proportionally should participation be lower than anticipated.

Each team will pay a \$675 entry fee, which includes eligibility for the Marlin Cash Jackpot. All other species—Ahi, Ono, and Mahi—are trophy-only categories and will not receive a cash award.

A portion of each team's \$675 entry fee will go directly toward the Marlin Cash Jackpot, with a minimum of 50% guaranteed. The remaining balance will be used to cover tournament expenses and to make charitable donations to our chosen charities: Hawaii Family Support Services and the Hawai'i Big Game Fishing Club. If sponsorship support offsets some of these costs, a larger percentage of the entry fees will be added to the jackpot pool to be announced prior to the start of the tournament.

Reel Escapes and the tournament team, including volunteers from the Hawai'i Big Game Fishing Club, are donating their time and resources to help make this event possible. While the Club is assisting with tournament operations, it is also one of the charitable beneficiaries. No individuals or organizers will retain any portion of the entry fees for personal profit.

## Example with 40 Teams

- 40 teams x \$675 = \$27,000 total collected
- At least 50% to the Marlin Cash Jackpot = \$13,500
- Remaining \$13,500 supports tournament expenses and charitable donations

## Marlin Jackpot Payout - Top 5 Teams

Based on a \$13,500 jackpot pool:

- 1st Place - 35% = \$4,725
- 2nd Place - 25% = \$3,375
- 3rd Place - 20% = \$2,700
- 4th Place - 12% = \$1,620
- 5th Place - 8% = \$1,080

Final prize amounts may vary based on sponsorship support and actual expenses. If sponsor funding offsets costs, additional funds may be added to the jackpot.

Final amounts will depend on total entries and actual expenses incurred.

**Disclaimer:** Prize amounts are contingent upon total paid entries. The tournament committee reserves the right to modify, adjust, or reduce payouts at its sole discretion. All decisions regarding prize distribution are final and not subject to appeal. Any disputes or questions regarding tournament rules will be resolved by the Rules Committee. All decisions made by the committee are final. Final payouts will be based on the actual number of entries and actual tournament expenses. Prize winners are required to complete a W-9 form prior to payment.

### **BLUE & BLACK MARLIN Category:**

Cash prizes will be awarded to the teams with the biggest marlin weighed over 300 pounds. ONLY one marlin per boat can be weighed. Fish weighed that are less than 300 pounds will be disqualified with no penalty. If fewer than five (5) marlin are caught and weighed during the tournament, the remaining payout in that category will be awarded based on the points system. (for example if two marlin are caught over 300 pounds they receive the first and second cash prize. The remaining three cash prize places will be allotted to the top three boats based on the point system) In the event that there are no fish weighed, the boat with the most release points will win the first place jackpot. All released fish must have a photo taken of the fish prior to the fish being released. Photos must clearly show the species of the fish and include the fish positioned alongside the boat for verification. No photo No points! No points for short-billed spearfish or striped marlin. **Text photos to Brent Hawley 808-825-8377** All places will be paid, in the event that less than five fish are weighed the remainder of money will be paid to the teams with the most release points who have not weighed a fish.

### **In situations involving limited catches or tied scores, the rules are as follows:**

In the event that fewer than five fish are weighed, and there are not enough teams with release points to pay all five places, the remainder of the money will be split evenly among the winning teams. If no qualifying fish are weighed or released, all marlin jackpot monies will be refunded.

In the event of a tie, the first fish boated or released by release time will determine the winner. Captains must remove the fish from the dock prior to 6:00 PM or the fish will be disqualified from prize consideration. 300 release points will be awarded for all blue and black marlin releases. No points will be awarded for short-billed spearfish or striped marlin. Release points do not supersede the heaviest fish weighed for cash prize eligibility.

Trophy for **mother & daughter team** catching the biggest fish or total points.

### **Tuna, Ono & Mahi Mahi Category:**

No cash prize will be awarded to this category. Fish must exceed a 20 pound minimum, **LARGEST FISH IN EACH CATEGORY/SPECIES TO BE WEIGHED**. Trophy will be given for the biggest fish in each category.

### **Best Decorated Boat/Team Costume Awards - Cash, Merchandise & gift certificates.**

To qualify, teams must:

- (1) Wear their costumes to the briefing party and identify to the judges with their team number.
- (2) Parade their boat past the pier within close viewing distance of the judges and display their team number for judging before "start fishing" on the day of the tournament.

"Start fishing" will be in the front of Kailua Bay at 8:00am. Weigh-ins will be at the Fuel Dock at Honokohau Harbor. All fish must be weighed in by 6:00pm. Awards Party will be held Sunday, August 10, 2025, at Kona Brew at 6:00pm. To enter the 2025 Reel Escapes Wahine Tournament, entry forms, waivers & fees paid in full must be received by August 1, 2025 by 7:00pm. Tournament LIMIT 75 teams.

***Mahalo to our incredible sponsors and community for making the 2025 Reel Escapes Wahine Tournament possible! Proceeds from this event proudly support Hawaii Family Support Services as well as the Big Game Fishing Club. Be sure to tag your best catches, costumes, and moments with #reelescapesWahine2025—we'd love to see and share your stories.***

***Your 2025 Reel Escapes Wahine Tournament Committee***