2027 Bald Head Island Surf Fishing Tournament Rules

1. The tournament's entry fee places you in all five categories—trout (gray and speckled), bluefish, black drum, pompano, and sea mullet. The entry fee does not place you in the Slot Red Drum TWT.
2. All participants must be registered by 8:30 pm on Friday, October 8. Registration is on Friday, October 8, from 3:00 pm until 8:30 pm. You may pre-register on our website at www.bhisurffishing.com (click on the “Register for the 2027 Tournament” button on the home page) until 8:00 pm on Thursday, October 7; afterwards, you must register in person on Friday, October 8, at Tournament HQ.
3. The tournament fishing time starts 11:59 pm on Friday, October 8, and lasts around the clock until 12:00 noon on Sunday, October 10.
4. There is one weigh station at Tournament Headquarters: BHI YACHT CLUB
5. The one weigh station will be open Saturday, October 9th from 10-11 am and 3:30-4:30 pm, and Sunday, October 10th beginning at 11 am. All fish must be in the weigh station line by 12:00 noon on Sunday, October 10th.
6. All participants must fish from the Bald Head Island Surf. No boats. No sound or pier fishing. The North End boundary is 1000 yards beyond the Access 42 (and marked with a BHI Surf Fishing flag). The South End boundary is the 500 yards beyond the Access 2 (and marked with a BHI Surf Fishing flag). Please reference map in Entry Packet or online at www.bhisurffishing.com
7. All fish weighed must have been caught by the individual bringing them to a weigh station. All fish must be caught on hook and line.
8. Each participant may not fish more than two rods at a time.
9. No kites, balloon rigs, paddling out baits, bait cannons, or drones. No chumming or chum pots. No gaffing or netting fish (cast nets are allowed for the purpose of catching bait only).
10. The tournament will fish rain or shine—no makeup dates are scheduled.
11. Each participant must physically attend Registration on Friday, October 8, between 3:00 pm to 8:30 pm to receive the tournament wristband—no exceptions. All participants must then display the tournament wristband while fishing. No fish can be weighed in by an angler not displaying the tournament wristband.
12. All fish must adhere to North Carolina state size regulations.
13. No cut or mutilated fish will be accepted.
14. Any fish weighed in may become the property of The Bald Head Island Surf Fishing Tournament, LLC.
15. The Slot Red Drum TWT (tournament within a tournament) is voluntary for tournament anglers. It is offered as another way to win money. It has a payout ratio of 1st—50%, 2nd—30%, and 3rd—20%.
16. All red drum weighed in must be in the slot, and red drum will be measured with belly facing the weigh master and a uniform pinch of the tail.
17. Prizes are awarded solely based on fish weight. In the event of identical weights, the first fish weighed shall be declared the winner. In the event of identical weights and times, any prize money for one or both places on the leaderboard will be divided equally between the two participants.
18. A participant may not place more than once in any one category, but a participant may place in multiple categories (for example, a participant can't place twice in the Bluefish category, but a participant can place once in Bluefish, once in Pompano, etc.). A participant may only place once in the Slot Red Drum TWT.
19. Slot red drum will count towards the TWT Redfish Results.

20. The Youth Angler must be 14-years-old or younger (as of October 8, 2027).
21. By signing the entry form, the participant consents that the Bald Head Island Surf Fishing Tournament, LLC may use without payment or restrictions any photographs in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial, or promotional material.
22. Anglers that appear to be in first or second place on Sunday morning in any category (including the TWT) must make it to Tournament HQ (the location of Awards) by 12:30 pm to be available for a polygraph test. Showing up late or not showing up at all may postpone and/or cancel the reception of any tournament winnings.
23. Any angler, if directed by the tournament committee, must submit to a polygraph test within 72 hours after the last fish has been weighed. This decision is at the sole discretion of the tournament committee. Should the test be failed or if the angler fails to participate in the polygraph test within the 72 hours, the tournament committee reserves the right to forfeit all winnings awarded to the winner in question.
24. All protests made to the tournament committee shall be accompanied by a $350 cash deposit. All protests shall be made no later than one hour after the last fish has been weighed. The $350 cash deposit will be returned if the tournament committee upholds the protest. The $350 cash deposit will become the property of the Bald Head Island Surf Fishing Tournament, LLC if the protest is not upheld. All decisions of the tournament committee shall be final.
25. The tournament committee has the right to refuse entry from any applicant. If an entry is refused, then 100% of the applicant's entry fee will be returned.
26. All participants are responsible for reading and following all rules and regulations set forth by Bald Head Island Surf Fishing Tournament.
27. All Participants are responsible to adhere to all rules pertaining to parking enforced by the Bald Head Island Public Safety.
28. All Participants are to use a red light when night fishing. Red Lamp headlights can be purchased at a few different locations on the island. Please ask tournament staff if needed.

Questions? Email us at info@bhisurffishing.com