

# 2020 OFFICIAL BILLFISH RELEASE FORM



Please complete the form for each billfish released. The information from this form will be used to inform fishery management agencies about the billfish fishery in NC. This information will help NC anglers continue to enjoy the off-shore fisheries in NC. Release data is needed regardless of the size of the fish or the gear used by the angler.

**J-Hooks may be used with entirely artificial lures only. Circle hooks MUST be used on any natural bait or natural-artificial bait combination.**

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Captain (Name/Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Mate (Name/Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete your release form and turn into the correct tournament official, and incomplete form may disqualify releases.

**The form must be turned in to the Weigh Station or photographed and uploaded to your Big Rock KWLA App account no later than 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 6th, 2020 to qualify.**

| Angler | L/JG <sup>1</sup> | Junior Age | Release Time | Fight Time | Species <sup>2</sup> | Est. Size | Hook Type <sup>3</sup> | Hook Location <sup>4</sup> | Rig Type <sup>5</sup> | Bait Type <sup>6</sup> | Leader <sup>7</sup> | Main Line <sup>8</sup> |
|--------|-------------------|------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 2.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 3.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 4.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 5.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 6.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 7.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 8.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 9.     |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |
| 10.    |                   |            |              |            |                      |           |                        |                            |                       |                        |                     |                        |

Filling in your release form:

1. L for Lady Angler, JG for Junior Girl (16 years and under)
2. Species—Blue marlin (BM), white marlin (WM), sailfish (SF), spearfish (SP), roundscale spearfish (RS)
3. Hook type—Circle (C) or J-hook (J). Also note the hook size (i.e. circle 7/0)
4. Hook location—Jaw (J), Bill (B), Mouth Cavity (M), Gills (G), Deep/Gut (D), Fowl (F), Unknown (U)
5. Rig Type—Natural Dead (ND), Natural Live (NL), Combo-Natural/Artificial (C), Lure (L)
6. Bait Type—Ballyhoo (B), Spanish Mackerel (SM), Squid (S), Mullet (M), or Other (O). **If rig is a lure, note the number of hooks in Bait Type.**
7. Leader—Size of mono (Leader will be considered mono unless wire is noted)
8. Main Line—Size of backing



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**9. RELEASE POINTS** - Cash prizes will be awarded to the boats that score the most number of points first. No release points will be awarded if the gaff breaks the outside vertical plane of the boat. In the event of a tie in total release points, the tie breaker shall be the largest single gamefish (yellowfin tuna, dolphin, wahoo) by weight. If no gamefish are caught, the winner will be determined by the first boat to achieve the winning total. **In order to qualify as a release, the billfish must remain in the water. (Federal Law).**

**125 Release Points will be awarded:**

1. For all billfish including blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish, hatchet marlin and spearfish and
2. When mate touches the leader before the fish is released and
3. Team turns in a release form provided by the Tournament Committee attested to by signature of the captain and mate or angler on board the boat at the time of the release. This form may be submitted to the OFFICIAL WEIGH MASTER AT TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS or submitted electronically. Release forms must be turned in no later than 10:00 p.m. on Saturday to qualify. Other than blue marlin, billfish forms may also be photographed and emailed to forms@thebigrock.com. If you do not receive an email confirmation, please call tournament headquarters to confirm. In the event of ties, the first boat to achieve the winning totals shall be declared the winners.

**400 Release Points will be awarded for:**

1. Blue Marlin if the team provides indisputable video or photo evidence to the Rules Committee. To qualify for the 400 points, teams must turn in a Release Form in person along with the SD Card, Micro SD Card or Compact Flash Card from their camera. Forms and Media Cards can be turned in at the Official Weigh Station in Morehead City. The Media Card and Release Form must be turned in no later than 10:00 p.m. on Saturday to qualify. The Media Card must show continuous video or a clear single photo of the mate touching the leader and clear and indisputable evidence that the fish is a blue marlin. It is the responsibility of the participants to ensure that their camera's Clock/Date is set accurately to reflect the time and date of the Releases to qualify for the 400 points. All videos will become property of the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament. If the rules committee is unable to see indisputable evidence that the fish is a blue marlin, the release will be scored at 125 points. The tournament will NOT allow photos or video from cell phones. Date and time stamp must be 100% accurate.