



2026 Wounded Waters Offshore War Tournament Rules

Causeway Cove Marina • Fort Pierce, Florida
Captains Meeting: May 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM • Tournament Day: May 2, 2026

ELIGIBLE SPECIES & FISHING BOUNDARIES

Tournament Species: KINGFISH – DOLPHIN – WAHOO

Bonus Species: AMBERJACK – GROUPER – SNAPPER

Fishing Boundaries: You may depart from any inlet. The Eastern Fishing Boundary line is 40 nautical miles. Fishing in the Bahamas is prohibited.

TOURNAMENT HOURS

Lines In: 6:00 AM (Honor System). You may leave your launch site at any time but cannot begin fishing for eligible tournament fish until 6:00 AM.

WEIGH-IN STARTS AT 2:00 PM AND ENDS AT 4:00 PM. All boats must be checked in (in person) with the tournament check-in station no later than 4:00 PM and receive verbal confirmation over VHF Channel 8 or your catch will not qualify.

FISH MUST BE BROUGHT FOR WEIGH-IN BY BOAT ONLY AND MUST HAVE BOAT NUMBER. The Weigh-in Master reserves the right to refuse any mutilated or suspicious fish.

FISHING RULES

- All state and federal recreational fishing rules regarding weight, size, and bag limits must be observed. Only legal-sized fish will be weighed.
- All fish must be caught on rod and reel. Electric reels are permitted.
- Live, dead, and artificial bait, any line test, wire, kites, down-riggers, and planers are permissible.
- Each boat may weigh only 3 fish per category.
- No limit to the number of lines each boat may fish.
- Cash prizes are based on heaviest fish, not accumulated weight.
- Maximum one overall/KDW cash prize and one Bonus Species cash prize per boat.
- In the event of a tie, the first boat checked in will win the award. The other fish will be eligible for the next lowest award category, if applicable.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES

- **Top Hero Angler:** Non-cash prize (Trophy).
- **Lady Angler:** Non-cash prize (Trophy).
- **Junior Angler:** Non-cash prize (Trophy). Eligible ages 6–16.

Fish entered for the Hero, Lady, and Junior Angler categories may also be submitted for cash prizes.

PRIZES

Tournament Species:

Kingfish

- 1st Place: \$2,000 Cash, Trophy & Free Entry into 2027 Tournament
- 2nd Place: \$1,000 Cash & Trophy
- 3rd Place: \$500 Cash & Trophy

Dolphin

- 1st Place: \$2,000 Cash, Trophy & Free Entry into 2027 Tournament
- 2nd Place: \$1,000 Cash & Trophy
- 3rd Place: \$500 Cash & Trophy

Wahoo

- 1st Place: \$2,000 Cash, Trophy & Free Entry into 2027 Tournament
- 2nd Place: \$1,000 Cash & Trophy
- 3rd Place: \$500 Cash & Trophy

*** Based upon 100 boats (70/30 split if under 100 boats).

*** In the event a Tournament Species (Kingfish, Dolphin, or Wahoo) is not caught, the captain's name will be drawn in a lottery to determine the 1st Place winner (2nd & 3rd Place will not be drawn). The winner must be present at the time of drawing.

If a category remains vacant (i.e., no 3rd place Wahoo), that prize will not be awarded.

HIGH ROLLER CALCUTTA'S & BONUS FISH

High Roller Calcutta's:

- \$350 entry – Heaviest Kingfish – 80/20 split (80% Captain / 20% Wounded Waters)
- \$200 entry – Heaviest Dolphin – 80/20 split (80% Captain / 20% Wounded Waters)
- \$200 entry – Heaviest Wahoo – 80/20 split (80% Captain / 20% Wounded Waters)

Bonus Fish: Entry is \$50 per species (\$150 for all three species).

- Heaviest Amberjack – 70/30 split (70% Captain / 30% Wounded Waters)
- Heaviest Grouper – 70/30 split (70% Captain / 30% Wounded Waters)
- Heaviest Snapper – 70/30 split (70% Captain / 30% Wounded Waters)

*** Sponsors do not have automatic entries into Bonus Fish categories. Captains must pay into these cash payout categories.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **50/50 Chance:** Tickets sold at the Registration Tent. Drawing during awards presentation (50% Winner / 50% Wounded Waters).
- **Raffle Prizes:** Tickets sold at the Registration Tent. Drawing during awards presentation.
- **First 100 boats** entered receive a Captain's Bucket.
- **Fish Donation:** Fish may be donated after weigh-in to support charity.
- **Kids Tournament:** Starting at 10:00 AM, a kids (land only) tournament will be held at Causeway Cove Marina. All species are eligible and non-cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Additional information will be available during the captain's meeting.

PAYOUT & AWARDS

- Cash and prizes will be awarded to the person or entity that paid the entry fee from the winning boat, unless that person signs a release designating another individual or entity to receive the cash or prize.
- Winners will be required to complete a W-9 form, if necessary.
- Cash payouts will be made within 14 business days.

SAFETY & USCG COMPLIANCE

SAFETY FIRST! All captains are responsible for ensuring their vessel is in safe operating condition and complies with all applicable United States Coast Guard regulations.

All captains and crew must comply with all federal, state, and local boating laws and regulations at all times during the Tournament, including during transit to and from fishing grounds.

DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY

The operation of any vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is strictly prohibited during Tournament hours (from departure through weigh-in). Violation of this policy will result in immediate disqualification without refund and may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. Wounded Waters Inc reserves the right to refuse weigh-in services to any captain or crew member who appears to be impaired.

ANIMAL POLICY

All animals, including dogs and other pets, brought to any Tournament event or venue must be kept on a leash or otherwise properly restrained at all times. Animals must remain under the direct control and supervision of their owner at all times. Wounded Waters Inc reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to require the immediate removal of any animal from the event premises that displays aggressive, threatening, or disruptive behavior, or that otherwise poses a risk to the safety or well-being of any person. At no point will any animal to include service animals be allowed on the stage during tournament operations.

The animal's owner bears sole responsibility and liability for any injury or damage caused by their animal pursuant to Florida Statute § 767.04. Wounded Waters Inc and Causeway Cove Marina are not responsible for the behavior of any animal brought to a Tournament event by any participant, attendee, volunteer, or third party.

DISQUALIFICATION

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to disqualify any team, without refund, for any of the following:

- Violation of any Tournament rule.
- Failure to comply with all state, federal, or local fishing and boating regulations.
- Operating a vessel under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct, threatening or abusive behavior, or conduct that endangers any person.
- Failure to comply with the Animal Policy.
- Tampering with, mutilating, or misrepresenting any fish submitted for weigh-in.
- Failure to check in by the 4:00 PM deadline.

- Any conduct deemed detrimental to the Tournament, its participants, or the mission of Wounded Waters Inc.

All decisions made by the Tournament Committee are final and official.

PROTESTS

Any protest concerning a rule violation must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Committee prior to the presentation of awards. All protests must be accompanied by a \$250 check, which will be refunded if the protest is upheld. All decisions made by the Tournament Committee are final and official.

WEATHER POLICY

Postponement or rescheduling of the Tournament due to weather is unlikely but may be considered if necessary. The weather call will be made at the Captains Meeting. If for any reason the Tournament does not take place, a raffle will determine winners by boat number for overall winners and 1st place only. **No refunds.**

WAIVER REQUIREMENT

All captains must sign the official Wounded Waters Inc Waiver and Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk, Indemnification, and Covenant Not to Sue prior to participating in the Tournament. By signing the waiver, each captain accepts full responsibility and liability for their crew, passengers, and anglers. No boat will be permitted to participate without a completed and signed waiver on file.

REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES

Boat Entry:

- Early Bird: \$250 (before April 1, 2026)
- Standard: \$300 (April 1–25, 2026)
- Late / Walk-Up: \$350 (April 26 – Tournament Day)

All forms of payment (Cash, Check, Credit/Debit Card, and Venmo) will be accepted. Any credit card or processing fees incurred will be added during payment.

No refunds from sponsors or boat entries. Keep in mind this is for charity.

MEDIA & PHOTOS

Photos and video taken during the Tournament may be used for social media, promotional items, and future event marketing by Wounded Waters Inc.

LIABILITY & INDEMNIFICATION

BY REGISTERING FOR THIS TOURNAMENT, you acknowledge and agree that each captain accepts full responsibility and liability for their crew and that it is at his or her sole discretion to fish or not.

Understanding the inherent risks, I individually and as a team, agree to release from any liability and to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Wounded Waters Inc, Causeway Cove Marina, all tournament sponsors, and their respective officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and agents from any liability, claims, causes of action, demands, costs, obligations, or financial responsibility of every kind and nature, for any incident, injury, or accident occurring to myself, a team member, or member of my family, while engaging in or observing any activity at the Wounded Waters Offshore Fishing Tournament.

By agreeing to this indemnification, I am knowingly and willingly choosing to be financially responsible for any future claims brought against Wounded Waters Inc, Causeway Cove Marina, and all tournament sponsors.

THIS TOURNAMENT IS FOR ALL TO HAVE FUN AND ENJOY!

Now that you know the rules, get your friends and family together for an enjoyable day of fishing and entertainment to help support Wounded Waters and their mission to save our Nation's Heroes.