

14th Annual MBARA Kingfish Tournament

August 28, 2010

Updated August 4, 2010

The water is crystal clear, the beaches are a sugar white, NOAA says federal waters will probably open up on Monday of next week, **AND THE TOURNMENT IS ON!** All state waters are currently open now. Let's go fishing!

We are blessed in that we have had no oil on the beach and no oil in the water at Mexico Beach. None at all. We are truly blessed.

We are getting ready for the most wonderful tournament in the Florida Panhandle. It will be on Saturday, August 28, 2010. The tournament will begin at 5:00 am and end at 5:00 pm on August 28, 2010. All times are Central Standard Time. It is **ALWAYS** *the weekend before Labor Day weekend. Remember, a full weekend before the Labor Day weekend.* Not the Saturday before, the **WEEKEND** before. This year's tournament will be on Saturday, August 28, 2010.

There will be Registration and the Captains' Party on Friday night at the **EL GOVERNOR MOTEL** beginning at 5:00 pm on August 27, 2010

Food and drinks are served from 5:00-7:00 pm. Door prizes given out at 7:00pm. at the El Governor Motel on Friday night.

Registration begins at 5:00 pm on Friday but you can **pre-register** in August at Marquardt's Marina in Mexico Beach, Half Hitch Tackle in Port St. Joe, and at Blue Water Outrigger in Port St. Joe, Florida. The Captains' Meeting is not mandatory, but door prizes will be given out at that meeting. You must be in attendance to get a door prize.

Sausage and beer are served from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for your pleasure at the El Governor Motel. We give out door prizes at 7:00 pm.

Special Room Rates: El Governor Motel: They have a tournament special of \$75.00 a night for a room during the tournament. That is only for the tournament weekend. Rooms are usually \$129 per night. Two night minimum.

DOOR PRIZES

When you register or pre-register, you will be given a yellow copy of your registration and at the bottom is a perforated tear off door prize ticket which you will need to put in the door prize bucket at the Captains' Party. Do not lose it. You will not be given another one. Tickets will be drawn out of the bucket and prizes awarded at 7:00 pm.

The cost is 150.00 dollars per boat, and you can fish as many people on the boat as you desire.

The weigh-in will be on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm at Marquardt's Marina.

The fish fry on Saturday night has been cancelled.

There will be a dance at TOUCANS on Saturday night with a live rock and roll band.

A super live band at Toucans plays music starting at 8:00 pm until late in the morning. It is a blast!

Entries are 150 dollars per boat. You can fish as many people on the boat as you like.

Prizes are

King Mackerel

1st	3,000
2nd	2,000
3rd	1,000

Wahoo

1st	1,000
-----------------------	--------------

Spanish

1st	500
-----------------------	------------

Rules

- 1. All times are CST.**
- 2. All participants must abide by the State of Florida Recreational Fishing Rules at all times.**
- 3. No mutilation of any fish is allowed.**
- 4. No fish may be transferred from one boat to another.**
- 5. Fish weighed must be caught on the day of the tournament only.**
- 6. All boat registrations are 150 dollars.**
- 7. Weighing fish ends at 5:00 pm. Boats in line at scales on whistle are allowed to weigh. If you are late you do not weigh.**
- 8. Participants may pre-register at Marquardt's in Mexico Beach, Half Hitch in Port St. Joe, or at Blue Water Outrigger in Port Saint Joe.**
- 9. Registration form must be presented to the weigh master to officially weigh fish in tournament. This is not optional. NO form, NO weighing of fish. We have to be able to identify the people who weigh in fish with the registration form.**
- 10. Any and all disputes will be settled by Tournament Committee. Any protests must be in writing and submitted to the Tournament Director.**
- 11. Tournament Committee members may not fish in tournament.**
- 12. Only one prize per boat.**
- 13. Any fish is subject to inspection.**

Sally Childs is the Weigh Master. She is a veteran of 13 Kingfish Tournaments and was the Weigh Master for the City of Mexico Beach Ling Tournament. She works at Sundance Realty if you want to contact her. We use Official Tournament Approved Scales which measure to the 1/100 of a pound. You must sign when you weigh your fish.

Bad Weather

We will put the announcement of any change of date on the website at noon on the Wednesday before the tournament date. That way everybody will know where to go to look and see about the tournament change is there is any change due to bad weather and/or bad sea conditions.

Commonly asked questions:

- 1. Can I leave early from dock? When you leave is up to you. You can leave very early on Saturday morning, but you may not start fishing until 5:00 am. on Saturday. You are on your honor not to fish before 5:00 am.**
- 2. Can I leave from another dock somewhere outside of Mexico Beach? Yes, you can leave from anywhere. That is up to you.**
- 3. Do I have to weigh my fish at Marquardt's Marina? Yes.**
- 4. Can I park my boat at another place and bring my fish to the scales by truck or car? Yes.**
- 5. Can I get assistance getting my fish to the scales? No, you are responsible for getting your fish to the scales to weigh. That is a part of the tournament itself. Getting back from off shore and getting the fish to the scales is the responsibility of the fishermen. Your boat and equipment are a part of the tournament process. The tournament staff cannot help you get in to weigh. I suggest you sign up for Sea Tow if you anticipate engine trouble. This**

also means you cannot transfer a fish to another boat to bring in for you.

- 6. My boat is too big to get under the bridge in the canal at Mexico Beach. What can I do? You have several options. Park a truck on the canal for use when you get to the canal, take fish out of boat and put into truck and drive over to Marquardts. If your boat is too big to use the canal, park the boat wherever you left from and put your fish in your truck and bring the fish to the canal. Bringing the fish to the weigh station is the responsibility of the fishermen on each boat. You can drive a truck up to the scales or come in by boat. Be on time-scales close at 5:00 pm CST on Saturday.**
- 7. If I am in line at the weigh in and it gets to be 5:00 pm, can I still weigh my fish? Yes. The tournament director will blow a horn at 5:00 pm and any boat or truck visually sighted and registered by the director will be allowed to weigh if they are in line to weigh. You can be in the canal right behind Marquardt's Marina or in the parking lot as well. You have to be able to be seen from the dock in the canal at Marquardt's Marina. That is not anywhere in the canal; it means in the canal close to Marquardt's Marina so you can be seen from the dock at Marquardt's Marina by an official spotter.**
- 8. We will have official spotters to sight boats in canal and trucks in parking lot. You must be sighted and noted by an official spotter. We have never made an exception to this rule and we will not. Some people have been angry that they were late and could not weigh. This is a rule. You must follow it. There will be no exceptions.**
- 9. What time will Marquardts open for gas and bait? 5:00 am. Marquardts is on Highway 98 on the Mexico Beach canal.**
- 10. Will someone open early for breakfast? Yes, Sharons will open up at 5:00 am for breakfast on Saturday morning.**
- 11. Can I come down Saturday morning and register? NO. If you anticipate a problem pre-register sometime this summer.**

12. Do I have to be a member of the MBARA to fish in the tournament? No. But we encourage you to join us. You can join on line if you want to. It is only 35 dollars a year to be a member. We raise money to build reefs. No member receives any money or compensation for working as a volunteer. All monies go to reef building, education, and research.

13. Do I get a free t-shirt when I register? Free t-shirts are given out at the captains' party. Bring your receipt if you registered early. You can get your t-shirt at the captains' party and registration on Friday night at the El Governor motel. If you pre-register, just bring your yellow copy of registration to Captains' Party and pick up your t-shirt.

T-shirts are currently on sale in Mexico Beach at Beach Walk and Gulf Foods. They cost only \$10.00. We have MBARA hats as well at the Shell Shack in Mexico Beach. They are only \$10.00. We have red, blue, pink, and brown hats.

14. Can I get a refund? NO. This is a charity event to raise money for a charity to help the MBARA build more reefs, conduct research, and provide education to the public on the benefits of the reef building effort.

15. Where can I get an official tournament brochure? They are currently at Marquardts, Gulf Foods, Blue Water Outrigger, Port. St. Joe Marina, and Half Hitch Tackle Shop in St. Joe.

16. How do I get my picture taken with Miss Kingfish? You come to the weigh-in from 1:00 to 5:00 and we have three photographers taking pictures for next year's brochure. Bring your camera. Get lots of pictures with Miss Kingfish. We take over 300 pictures and our tournament committee goes over the pictures and selects the best ones for next year's brochure. Some pictures come out really good, others do not. But we try to get a lot of good shots for next year's brochure.

- 17. How does the payment count for who is fishing? Registration is 150 dollars per boat. You can fish as many people as you like on each boat.**
- 18. What about the parties? On Friday night we have a great outdoor sausage cookout with beer at the El Governor motel. The MBARA Cook Team is bringing some very special sausage from Louisiana that is the best. The oak smoker is ready to go. *Sausage and beer are served from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm at the El Governor Motel.* There is registration, door prizes, and lots of talking and meeting old friends. The Captains' Meeting is at 7:00 pm. Any rules are clarified at that time and questions answered.**
- 19. Is there a dance? There is a dance at TOUCANS on Saturday night.**
- 20. Where is the weigh in? The weigh in is at Marquardts Marina on Highway 98. There is a big board with leaders posted. The weigh master is Sally Childs who has been doing this for 13 years now. She is super. Also, don't miss Miss Kingfish for some really great pictures.**
- 21. How many prizes or places can I win? Only one cash prize per boat. This allows more winners.**
- 22. I would like to donate a door prize. Bring it to the Captains' Party on Friday night.**
- 23. Can I preregister early? Yes. You can register now at Marquardts Marina in Mexico Beach or at Blue Water Outriggers in Port Saint Joe over by Piggly Wiggly. You can also register at Half Hitch Bait and Tackle in Port St. Joe as well. They are all open 7 days a week. The cost is 150 dollars per boat.**

- 24. How much fun can I have? This is one of the best weekends of your life. It is so much fun you won't believe it.**
- 25. If I am late to the scales on Saturday afternoon, can I still weigh and enter my fish? NO** Being on time is a part of the rules of the tournament. This is not hard to understand, yet every year we get one or two people who do not understand this and get very upset when they cannot weigh. Scales are unplugged and loaded in a truck and driven away at 5:00 pm after all in line weigh. This is a very important rule and there is never an exception. This is the one area that always causes one or two people to get angry, but, we make no exceptions. Be on time, or you will not be weighed.
- 26. How do you keep from having a tie? That may happen-but, we use professional scales certified for tournaments which are calibrated to two decimal places or hundredths. We can weigh a fish the the 100th of a pound. For example, 26.37 pounds. If a tie does occur, we will let the first fish weighed stay up on the board. In other words, first fish up stays up.**
- 27. What if I have a protest or complaint? Put it in writing and hand it to the Tournament Director who will immediately meet with the Tournament Committee for a resolution. The decision of the committee is final.**
- 28. What if I have a suggestion? Any and all suggestions are welcome. We want this to be a friendly tournament.**
- 29. Do I get a t shirt? Yes. You pick it up at registration on Friday night with your yellow copy of your registration at the El Governor Motel. One per person. Others are only ten dollars. Each one you buy helps support our organization's efforts to build more reefs.**
- 30. What about door prizes? Door prizes are given out on Friday night at the captains' party at 7:00 pm. You must be there to win.**

Also, there will be beer and cooked sausage from the MBARA cook team. Sausage and beer are served from 5:00 to 7:00 pm only. Last year over 4000 dollars worth of door prizes were given out.

31.Can I help? We usually have a crew lined up, but some help may be needed. Will there be any pretty ladies at the registration? Yes, there will be pretty ladies and lots of handsome men as well.

32.If I am late, can I still weigh a fish? NO. No exceptions. Take this one to the bank.

33.How do you monitor starting time of fishing? We are on the honor system of all participants. We trust all to do the right thing.

34.What about other publicity? Several magazines and newspapers will be covering the event. The STAR is coming this year for pictures and a story. Look for it on the shelves.

35.If I win, will my picture be on the front of the next year's brochure which is all over the area? Yes.

36.Can I buy a shirt now? Yes. At Beachwalk down by Mango Marleys Restaurant in Mexico Beach, Gulf Foods in Mexico Beach, and Bluewater Outrigger in Port St. Joe.

37.What are the sizes? S, M, L, XL, and XXL

38.How much are they? Ten dollars. We keep them priced low and they are top quality.

39.What about the cookbook? The MBARA sponsors a cookbook but right now we are sold out but thinking about a second edition.

40.We also have new GPS site cards with our numbers and with other great numbers of old reefs built by others years ago. They are water proof and very high quality.

41.Do I have to be member of MBARA to fish in the tournament? NO. But we need Donors to help our cause. We are building

reefs all the time, and our latest project is 18 to 25 miles out. We need your help. We are a tax deductible organization and we need some help from all of you. Remember us in November and December when you are giving to your charities for tax purposes.

42. Where do I put my boat? This question has several answers. If you trailer your boat, you can use the new big parking lot over behind the canal. You can park there and then walk down to the courtesy ramp and go down to the canal and get on the boat which is being driven by your buddy. Also, you can call the City of Mexico Beach and reserve a slip or a space along the canal walkway where you can tie up. (850 648 5700) Or you can call the Port St. Joe Marina and get one of their 128 wet slips if some are available for that weekend. (850 227 9393)

42.If we lose our yellow registration form, can we still weigh in a fish? No.

43.I have another question. Contact Bob Cox, President of the MBARA and he will get back to you ASAP. (rcox@mchsi.com)

44.What is the Panhandle Kingfish Slam?

This new idea links three tournaments: The Bluewater Charity Classic on June 5, the Marquardt's Marina Offshore Classic on July 30 and July 31, and the Mexico Beach Artificial Reef Association Kingfish Tournament on August 28. Boats entered in these tournaments can weigh in one king mackerel per tournament as rules stipulate.

The boat with the total accumulated weight of king mackerel after the three tournaments will win a special prize of at least \$5,000 in cash and prizes.

There is no special entry fee or entering process. The weights from each tournament weigh in sheets will be examined after the MBARA tournament and the boat with the most cumulative kingfish weight will win the special prize.

This obviously gives the advantage to the boat that enters all three tournaments and weighs in a kingfish in all three tournaments to get as much weight as possible credited to that boat.

But, you are not required to enter all three tournaments. For example, if you were to catch a 90 pound king mackerel in the MBARA tournament and no other boat has accumulated weight equal to that or better, you win.

However, you increase your chances of winning the SLAM if you enter all three tournaments.

Also, you don't have to win the individual tournaments to win the Slam. It is the total weight of the three tournaments that wins the Slam. Theoretically you could not win any of the three tournaments and win the Slam by weighing in three fish that have the greatest cumulative weight in the end.

Fish will be weighed per each tournament rules with weights recorded after each event and posted on the Bluewater Charity Classic website as well as in both the Bluewater Outriggers business address and that of Marquardt's Marina. Weights will be to the hundredths place and in the event of a tie, the prize will be split. There are no tie breakers for the Slam.