



ENTRY & AWARDS 2025

135th Anniversary Signature Open - Entry & Awards

While all efforts are made to keep this information current, all published rules shall be considered unofficial. Official rules will be distributed and announced at the registration check-in and captains meeting. All participants agree to the terms of these rules by participating in the tournament.

TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

The **135th Anniversary Signature Open** is a celebration of 135 years of passionate dedication to craftsmanship and the love of ethical sport fishing, coming to life December 4-6, 2025. The event will be hosted at the incredible Marina Pez Vela facility with the competitors testing their skills in the fish rich waters of Quepos Costa Rica.

TOURNAMENT TEAM BASE ENTRY FEE AND AWARDS

- Mandatory Base Entry fee for the **2025 135th Anniversary Signature Open** is:
 - **\$4,500 for Sonar Boats**
 - **\$2,500 for Non-Sonar Boats**
 - **\$1,000 for Boat 36' and under**
- Allowing up to six registered anglers, one registered captain and two registered mates to participate.
- Teams will also have the opportunity to enter optional jackpots to compete for cash prizes.
- A final registration Soirée and Captain's meeting will take place at Marina Pez Vela on December 4.
- Followed by two fishing days on December 5 and December 6.
- The awards ceremony at Marina Pez Vela follows the final day of fishing (December 6).
- **Total Sonar Boats across the board including the base entry and all optional jackpots is \$33,500.**
- **Total Non-Sonar Boats across the board including the base entry and all optional jackpots is \$23,500.**
- **Total Boat 36' and Under across the board including the base entry and all optional jackpots is \$2,000.**

Teams with "Non-Sonar" designation may opt to fish in the "Sonar" designated divisions but must choose one or the other.

All teams pay a tournament base entry fee of \$4,500 for Sonar equipped boats, \$2,500 for Non-Sonar equipped boats or \$1,000 for Boat 36' and under with 20% going to the tournament and the remainder awarded as cash purse. The tournament base entry fee provides nine VIP passes for six registered anglers, one registered captain and two registered mates to attend all event functions, receive team gifts, and be eligible to win purse and awards. Teams may invite guests to attend all event functions for an additional fee of \$120 per person. Guests are allowed on the boats but are NOT allowed to participate in any angling of the fish. Registered team members and guests must wear the provided tournament wristbands for access to the tournament activities.

Teams will be designated as fishing on a Sonar boat, Non-Sonar boat or Boat 36' and Under and will

compete in separate divisions for the Base Entry purse and awards. The Base Entry purse will be determined by the number of teams entered as Sonar, Non-Sonar or Boat 36' and Under boats. All Sonar and Non-Sonar Boats, will compete together for the Tuna and Dorado Base Entry and Optional Jackpot division purse and awards. The Base Entry awards will include daily winners for each fishing day and overall winners over the two days of fishing and be awarded accordingly.

A maximum of one professional angler per team will be permitted and must be identified on the entry form. The term professional is defined as any individual who, within the previous three years of the start of the first day of fishing derives income from and/or actively engages in the act of sportfishing for profit or employment, whether full or part-time, and whether such income comes from the ownership entity of the vessel or not, such as a captain, mate, deckhand, boat owner or charter operator who runs and operates a sportfishing vessel or teaches others how to sportfish. The following individuals shall not be deemed professional under these rules and regulations: yacht brokers who do not personally run boats for profit or employment, licensed captains who do not derive income from sportfishing, event coordinators and/or fishing tournament promoters, charter operators and owners who do not act as a captain or mate on the vessels they own or manage. All participants will be required to submit entry forms for each angler in which they will declare their occupation.

All teams must follow I.G.F.A. saltwater angling and tackle rules unless otherwise stated for the 135th Anniversary Signature Open. For a complete listing of the I.G.F.A. saltwater equipment and angling rules, please go to:

<http://www.igfa.org/Fish/INTERNATIONAL-ANGLING-RULES.aspx>

The exception to this is that a registered captain, registered mate or registered angler may set the hook and pass the rod to a registered angler. Each team is allowed to register one captain, two mates and six anglers with only one angler allowed to be classified as a pro-angler under the rules of the tournament. It is the responsibility of each team to know, understand and abide by I.G.F.A. and tournament rules during this competition. Any team who intentionally breaks these rules is subject to expulsion and disqualification upon determination by the tournament committee, from this and future tournaments without a refund of any registration fees.

TEAM BASE ENTRY AWARDS

Sonar Team Division Base Entry \$4,500 - purse based on number of teams entered

- Day One Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- Day Two Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- First Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 32%
- Second Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 22%
- Third Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 12%
- High-Point Billfish Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Lady Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Jr. Angler (17 or younger) – Trophy and prizes

In the event of a tie the team or angler reaching the highest score first wins with the other team or angler assuming the next award position. This is based on the time of release. Sonar and Non-Sonar boats will compete together for the gamefish base entry awards.

Non-Sonar Team Division Base Entry \$2,500 - purse based on number of teams entered

- Day One Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- Day Two Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- First Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 32%
- Second Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 22%
- Third Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 12%
- High-Point Billfish Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Lady Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Jr. Angler (17 or younger) – Trophy and prizes

In the event of a tie the team or angler reaching the highest score first wins with the other team or angler assuming the next award position. This is based on the time of release. Sonar and Non-Sonar boats will compete together for the gamefish base entry awards.

Sonar and Non-Sonar Base Entry - Tuna Awards

- First Place Tuna 3%
- Second Place Tuna 2%
- Third Place Tuna 1%

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

Sonar and Non-Sonar Base Entry - Dorado Awards

- First Place Dorado 3%
- Second Place Dorado 2%
- Third Place Dorado 1%

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

Flor de Caña Happy Hour Award

All Sonar and Non-Sonar teams are eligible to win the Happy Hour Daily prize of \$1,000 and additionally a bottle of Flor de Caña V Generaciones, 30-Year Old Luxury Rum. The Sonar and Non-Sonar teams that earn the most billfish release points from 11:00am - 1:00 pm each day will win the prize.

Boat 36' and Under Base Entry \$1,000 - purse based on number of teams entered

- Day One Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- Day Two Most Billfish Release Points 11%
- First Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 32%
- Second Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 22%
- Third Place Most Overall Billfish Release Points 12%
- High-Point Billfish Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Lady Angler – Trophy and prizes
- High-Point Billfish Jr. Angler (17 or younger) – Trophy and prizes

In the event of a tie the team or angler reaching the highest score first wins with the other team or angler assuming the next award position. This is based on the time of release.

Boat 36' and Under Tuna Awards

- First Place Tuna 3%
- Second Place Tuna 2%
- Third Place Tuna 1%

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

Boat 36' Base Entry - Dorado Awards

- First Place Dorado 3%
- Second Place Dorado 2%
- Third Place Dorado 1%

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

OPTIONAL SONAR BOAT JACKPOTS

All optional jackpot divisions are 80% payback. Only teams entered in the optional jackpots will be eligible for these cash awards. The tournament rules apply to all optional jackpots. **Teams with “non-sonar” designation may opt to fish in the “sonar” designated divisions but must choose one or the other.**

SONAR BOAT DAILY BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$3,000

The Daily Billfish Release Jackpot prize consists of one-half of the total jackpot money for each day and goes to the team with the most billfish release points each day. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

SONAR BOAT DAILY SPLIT BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$3,000

The Daily Split Billfish Release Jackpot will provide two daily prizes each day and consists of one quarter of the total jackpot money. The teams that have the most billfish release points from 7:30 am - 11:30 am, and 11:31 am to 3:30 pm each day will win the prize. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

SONAR BOAT OVERALL BILLFISH RELEASE POINTS JACKPOT

LEVEL ONE - \$3,000

LEVEL TWO - \$5,000

There are two levels of Sonar Boat Optional Overall Billfish Release Points Jackpot. Level-one jackpot fee is \$3,000; level-two jackpot fee is \$5,000. The Overall Billfish Release Points Sonar Boat Jackpot will be awarded to the top three teams with the most Overall Billfish Release Points of the tournament over the two days of fishing and be awarded accordingly. First place 50%, Second place - 30%, Third place - 20%. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

SONAR BOAT WINNER TAKE-ALL BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$5,000

The fee to enter the Sonar Boat Winner Take-All Release Jackpot is \$5,000 and is optional. The jackpot will be awarded to the Sonar Boat team with the most overall billfish release points of the tournament. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

OPTIONAL NON-SONAR BOAT JACKPOTS

NON-SONAR BOAT DAILY BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$1,500

The Daily Billfish Release Jackpot prize consists of one-half of the total jackpot money for each day and goes to the team with the most billfish release points each day. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

NON-SONAR BOAT DAILY SPLIT BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$1,500

The Daily Split Billfish Release Jackpot will provide two daily prizes each day and consists of one quarter of the total jackpot money. The teams that have the most billfish release points from 7:30 am - 11:30 am, and 11:31 am to 3:30 pm each day will win the prize. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

NON-SONAR BOAT OVERALL BILLFISH RELEASE POINTS JACKPOT

LEVEL ONE - \$2,000

LEVEL TWO - \$3,000

There are two levels of Non-Sonar Boat Optional Overall Billfish Release Points Jackpot. Level-one jackpot fee is \$2,000; level-two jackpot fee is \$3,000. The Non-Sonar Boat Overall Billfish Release Points Jackpot will be awarded to the top three teams with the most Overall Billfish Release Points of the tournament over the two days of fishing and be awarded accordingly. First place 50%, Second place - 30%, Third place - 20%. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

NON-SONAR BOAT WINNER TAKE-ALL BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$3,000

The fee to enter the Non-Sonar Boat Winner Take-All Release Jackpot is \$3,000 and is optional. The jackpot will be awarded to the team with the most overall billfish release points of the tournament. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

SONAR AND NON-SONAR OPTIONAL GAMEFISH JACKPOTS

Sonar and Non-Sonar, will compete together for the gamefish optional jackpots.

DORADO (DOLPHINFISH) DAILY JACKPOT

There are two levels of optional Dorado (Dolphinfish) Daily Jackpot.

LEVEL-ONE JACKPOT FEE IS \$1,000

LEVEL-TWO JACKPOT FEE IS \$2,000

The Dorado (Dolphinfish) Daily Jackpot prize consists of one-half of the total jackpot money and will be awarded to the team that catches the largest Dorado (Dolphinfish) each day. If no fish are weighed on an individual day, the jackpot rolls over to the next day or the previous day's winner.

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award.

OVERALL TOP THREE LARGEST DORADO (DOLPHINFISH) JACKPOT

The fee to enter the Overall Top Three Largest Dorado (Dolphinfish) Jackpot is \$2,000 and is optional. The teams that catch the three largest Dorado (Dolphinfish) will be awarded accordingly. First place 50%, Second place - 30%, Third place - 20%.

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

TUNA DAILY JACKPOT

There are two levels of optional Tuna Daily Jackpot:

LEVEL-ONE JACKPOT FEE IS \$1,000

LEVEL-TWO JACKPOT FEE IS \$2,000

The Tuna Daily Jackpot prize consists of one-half of the total jackpot money and will be awarded to the team that catches the largest tuna each day. If no fish are weighed on an individual day, the jackpot rolls over to the next day or the previous day's winner.

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award.

OVERALL TOP THREE LARGEST TUNA JACKPOT

The fee to enter the Overall Top Three Largest Tuna Jackpot is \$2,000 and is optional. The teams that catch the three largest tuna will be awarded accordingly. First place 50%, Second place - 30%, Third place - 20%.

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award and next award position.

OPTIONAL BOAT 36' AND UNDER JACKPOTS

BOAT 36' AND UNDER BOAT DAILY BILLFISH RELEASE JACKPOT \$500

The Daily Billfish Release Jackpot prize consists of one-half of the total jackpot money for each day and goes to the team with the most billfish release points each day. If there is a tie in billfish release points by multiple teams in the tournament, rankings will be determined by the first team to reach their aggregate point total by time of release.

TUNA AND DORADO (DOLPHINFISH) DAILY JACKPOT \$500

The Tuna and Dorado Daily Jackpot will go to the largest Tuna and Dorado each day and consist of 25% of the total purse. If no fish are weighed on an individual day, the jackpot rolls over to the next day or the previous day's winner.

In the event of a tie by weight the teams will split the award.