

Stuart Sailfish Club Foundation Inc.
KDW Tournament Rules

Section #	Section Title	Rules
1	Short Tournament Description	The Stuart Sailfish Club Foundation Inc. will hold the KDW on May 15-16, 2026. The goal of the tournament is to produce a fun and reasonably priced family fishing tournament that stimulates the local marine & fishing industry as well as builds camaraderie among our members and neighbors. Proceeds from this year's tournament will benefit the Stuart Sailfish Club Scholarship Fund. Members and Non-members are welcome.
2	Registration & Cost	<p>a. Inclusions: The entry fee covers the registration for the captain and two anglers. 2 award dinner tickets, 2 tournament shirts, and a captain's bucket are included with the registration.</p> <p>b. Additional Angler Costs: The cost for each additional angler is \$50.</p> <p>d. Maximum # of Anglers: There is no specified limit on the number of anglers.</p> <p>d. Additional Participants: Teams may opt to include extra crew members or mates.</p> <p>e. Additional Award Dinner Costs: Award dinner tickets for extra attendees are available at \$25 each.</p> <p>f. Non-Refundable Entry Fees: General entry fees, once submitted, are non-refundable under any circumstances.</p> <p>g. Right to Refuse Applications: Officials overseeing each event retain the right to refuse applications or entry into the tournaments at their sole discretion, with or without cause.</p>

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3	Awards Dinner	The Awards Dinner will be held May 16th at 6pm at the Stuart Sailfish Club Tiki Hut at 3867 SE Evans Terrace Stuart FL, 34997.
4	Captain and Crew Responsibilities	Captains and crew are responsible for understanding and adhering to the tournament rules.
5	Captains Meeting	The Captain's Meeting will be on May 15th at 6pm at the Stuart Sail-fish Club Tiki Hut at 3867 SE Evans Terrace, Stuart FL 34997. <u>One member of each team must be present in case of any rule changes.</u>
6	Eligible Species	Kingfish, Dolphin, Wahoo, Tuna, Sailfish
7	Divisions	1st-3rd in each Meat Fish Category, Aggregate Meat Fish Category, Top Sailfish Release Boat, Lady Angler and Youth and Jr. Angler divisions.
8	Youth and Jr. Anglers	Youth and Jr. Anglers are classified as persons who have not turned the age of 16 by May 15th, 2026. Jr. Anglers must reel catch in unassisted (one exchange for hook and hand is permitted). Youth may be assisted any number of times during catch.

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KDW Tournament Rules

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9	Fishing and Tackle Rules and Regulations	<p>a. Catch Method: All fish must be caught using a rod and reel.</p> <p>b. Line Test Restrictions: There are no specific line test restrictions.</p> <p>c. Wire Line: The use of wire line is permitted.</p> <p>d. Leader Compliance: Leaders must be IGFA compliant for line class used.</p> <p>e. Bait Usage: Anglers are allowed to use any natural, live, or dead bait. Additionally, artificial lures are permitted.</p> <p>f. Chumming Restrictions: Chumming is permitted.</p> <p>g. Hook and Hand: Teams are permitted to fight a hooked fish with multiple members using the "hook and hand" method, allowing the rod to be passed between anglers without limitations.</p> <p>h. Dredges and Teasers: Unlimited use of dredges and teasers is allowed. Live teasers are permitted.</p> <p>i. Electric Reels: Use of electric reels for capturing fish is prohibited.</p> <p>j. Teasers Placement: Teasers should not be placed in the water until the official lines-in time has occurred.</p> <p>k. Kite Usage: The use of kites is permitted.</p> <p>l. Planers: Planers are permitted for use.</p> <p>m. Release Definition: A fish is officially considered released when the leader knot touches the rod tip, or when the mate takes control of the leader.</p> <p>n. Leader Handling Compliance: Leaders must be cut as close to the fish as possible. Deliberate jerking or snatching of leaders is not permitted.</p> <p>o. Boat and Angler Transfer: No fish or anglers may be transferred between boats.</p>
10	Calling In Releases	<p>Sailfish Releases must be called into Channel 74.</p> <p>Thank you to our Radio Sponsor Fish Heads of Stuart!</p>
11	Release Verification Videos and Affidavits	<p>All Sailfish Releases must be confirmed by video with time and date stamp. Videos may be texted in to 407-721-3998 or brought to weigh station.</p>
12	Departure	<p>Boats may leave from the Fort Pierce, St. Lucie, and Jupiter Inlets.</p>

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KDW Tournament Rules

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13	Daily Check-Out	All boats must check out on channel 74 no earlier than 7:00am. Bait fishing is allowed prior to lines in.
14	Boundaries	<p>a. Geographic Boundaries: The boundaries of the tournament are from 20 miles north or south of Ft. Pierce and Jupiter Inlets. Fishing in Bahamian waters is not allowed. Bahamian waters begin at the end of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone.</p> <p>b. Line Deployment Restrictions: Boats may not deploy any lines in the water until they are within the stated boundaries.</p>
15	Lines-In	Lines-in at 8:00 AM.
16	Lines-Out	Lines-out at 3:00 PM.
17	Check-In	All Boats must clear inlet and check in by 5pm. Please include your boat name in the and indicate if you have fish to weigh-in.
18	Weigh Station Location and Times	<p>The weigh station will be located at the Sailfish Marina in Stuart and open on day of fishing from 2:00pm-5:30pm. Fish may be brought by boat or car or truck.</p> <p>Thank you to our weigh-in sponsor Sailfish Marina!</p>
19	Weighing Fish	<p>a. Eligibility Criteria: Only fish that meet the eligibility criteria will be considered for weighing.</p> <p>b. Size Limit Compliance: All fish presented for weighing must comply with the legal-size limits stipulated by both Florida state and Federal regulations.</p> <p>c. Mutilated Fish Restrictions: Mutilated fish, in any form, will not be accepted for weighing in the tournament.</p>

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KDW Tournament Rules

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20	Scoring & Prizes	<p>a. Meat Fish Awards: There will be prizes for individual anglers based on weight of eligible fish. There will be an aggregate prize for meat fish with priority given to teams weighing one of each species.</p> <p>b. Sailfish Awards: There will be prizes for the top Sailfish Release Boat.</p> <p>c. Top Lady, Youth, and Jr. Anglers: There will be prizes based on heaviest aggregate weight of eligible fish per division.</p> <p>d. Official Log Designation: The Committee Boat log holds the authoritative status as the official log for the entirety of the tournament proceedings.</p>
21	Cash Awards of \$600 or More	Recipients of cash awards of \$600 or more will be required to sign a W9 before receiving the award. 1099's will be mailed to recipients. W9s can be signed at the Awards Dinner.
22	State and Federal Regulations	Participants are required to comply with all State and Federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to licenses, bag and size limits, speed limits etc. Failure to comply may result in disqualification without refund.
23	Boats	<p>a. Boat Size: Boats of any size may fish.</p> <p>b. Changing Boats: Teams may use different boats, if approved by the Tournament Rules Committee. Team names, if applicable to this tournament, must remain the same. Requests to use a different boat should be directed to the Tournament Committee at 407-721-2998 prior to fishing a different boat.</p>
24	Weather	If Small Craft Advisory is in effect, on the day of the tournament, the new date of the tournament will be May 19th. If the weather is still unfavorable for the date above, new dates will be published by the Tournament Committee, at that time. The date of the Captain's Meeting will not change in the event of a postponement.
25	Refunds	Refunds will not be issued. Any request for an exception to this policy should be emailed to the Tournament Email listed in these rules.

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KDW Tournament Rules

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26	Protests	Any protest must be filed in writing by the captain by 6:00 PM the same day as the infraction. The protest must be accompanied by a \$300 cash deposit fee, returnable only if the Tournament Rules Committee finds the protest to be valid. All decisions of the tournament officials regarding protests are final. All participants agree and acknowledge by their participation that this protest shall be the sole remedy for all disputes arising from the competition.
27	Tournament Release Agreement	The Captain or Owner must accept the tournament's release agreement as part of the registration process using the Tournament Website, listed at the end of these rules.
28	Tournament Phone #	The tournament phone # is 407-721-3998.
29	Tournament Email	The tournament email is tournaments@Stuartsailfishclub.com.
30	Tournament Website	The tournament website is stuartsailfishclub.com.
31	Tournament Contacts	Please direct any tournament related questions to Alli Flynn 407-721-3998.
32	Tournament Discretion	The Tournament Rules Committee reserves the right to implement their discretion at any time during the tournaments as it may apply to the rules or any other circumstance that should arise during an event in the series.
33	Agreement	By registering for a tournament, the captain and/or owner agrees that all anglers and occupants of their boat will abide by all tournament rules.