

2023 ECBC FACT SHEET

revised January 11, 2023

CURRENT YEAR INFORMATION (21st ANNUAL)

Summary: June 21-25, 2023: 21st Annual Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin – the Gulf Coast’s favorite tournament with luxury accommodations and a purse over \$2 million. Call Julia for information at 910-264-3947 or email julia@tournamentcontrol.com; find details at fishecbc.com.

Dates: Wednesday, June 21 – Sunday, June 25, 2023

Host Facility: Sandestin® Golf and Beach Resort

Location: Miramar Beach, Florida USA

Mailing Address: ECBC, PO Box 6128, Miramar Beach, FL 32550

Shipping Address: Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin, 9300 Emerald Coast Pkwy W, Miramar Beach, FL 32550, Attention: Jason Draughn, Recreation Department

Contact: Julia Brakhage | 910-264-3947 | julia@tournamentcontrol.com

Website: fishecbc.com

Entry Fee: \$6,000 (base entry) – \$77,750 per team with optional entries

Cash Purse: Over \$2 million

Entry Limits: No limits on number or size of boats, open to both private and charter boats

Target Species: blue marlin (110” minimum), white marlin, sailfish, spearfish (release only), yellowfin and bigeye tuna (20 lb. & 27” minimum), dolphin (20 lb. minimum), wahoo (20 lb. minimum)

Format: Modified release: 110” minimum on blue marlin, release only on all other billfish species

Angling Rules: Expected to follow the spirit of the IGFA Saltwater Angling Rules

Sanctioned by: Gulf Coast Triple Crown Championship, InTheBite’s Captain of the Year Cup, Sport Fishing Championship

Charities Supported: The Billfish Foundation, Sandestin Foundation for Kids

Publications: Annual tournament program published by Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort

HISTORY

Tournament Started In: 2003

First Year Statistics: 45 teams, 180 anglers, \$329,625 cash awards

2022 Statistics: 84 teams, 559 anglers, \$1,987,100 cash awards

Highest Purse Paid to Date: \$2,040,200 in 2018

Highest Number of Boats Participating to Date: 91 in 2018

Highest Purse Paid to Date to a Single Team: \$596,025 in 2019 to *It Just Takes Time* for 1st Place Marlin

Highest Purse Paid to Date to a Single Team All-Release: \$328,885 in 2018 to *Born2Run* (4 blue marlin)

Best Years of Fishing: 2016/2021–55 billfish caught, 2013–118 gamefish weighed

Other: Placement on Perpetual trophy awarded to team with most released billfish; average number of teams receiving awards each year: 22; 2010 tournament canceled due to BP-Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf.

DESCRIPTION

Taking place in one of the most productive fisheries in the United States, timed to coincide with the peak of the Gulf Coast’s blue marlin season and located at the South’s number-one ranked resort destination, the Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin (ECBC) has set the precedent for world-class sportfishing tournaments.

This annual event offers something for everyone. Most importantly, for the angling teams, there are the deep blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico, red-hot billfish action, and cool green cash. While onshore, both tournament participants and their families can enjoy the wide variety of recreational activities offered at the Sandestin® Golf and

Beach Resort and The Village of Baytowne Wharf. The spectacular night-time weigh-ins held at the Baytowne Marina at Sandestin are free and open to the public.

Named as one of the top ten big-money tournaments in the world by *Marlin* magazine, the ECBC's cash awards surpass \$2 million – and with over 27 optional entry levels, there are plenty of ways to win a piece of the pie.

The ECBC is a “modified-release” tournament and led the Gulf Coast tournament circuit in setting a high minimum length for blue marlin, which are the only billfish that may be weighed. Release points are awarded for blue marlin, white marlin, sailfish and spearfish. The three heaviest weighed blue marlin, dolphin, tuna and wahoo are eligible for cash awards, as are the top three teams entered in the Release Division, and the top three Crews entered in the Crew Division. Awards are presented to the top overall, release, lady and junior anglers, and the top overall release team has its name engraved on the Magnificent Blue Perpetual Trophy, donated by Galati Yacht Sales and Viking Yachts, sculpted by Chris Barela and on permanent display at the Baytowne Marina Bar & Grill.

RECORD FISH

BLUE MARLIN (2015) — 899.6 lbs., *Cotton Patch*, 60 ft. Hatteras

Capt. Johnny Dorland from Orange Beach, Alabama USA; angler Lance Hill from Orange Beach, Alabama USA

DOLPHIN (2006) — 53.1 lbs., *Fly By*, 74 ft. Viking

Capt. Marco Gaona from Elberta, Alabama USA; angler James Justice from Lawrenceville, Georgia USA

YELLOWFIN TUNA (2021) — 231.1 lbs., *Quick Time*, 70 ft. Viking

Capt. Wilks Hammock from Pensacola, Florida USA; angler Robert Burroughs from Laurel, Mississippi USA

WAHOO (2016) — 112.2 lbs., *Lucky 2*, 51 ft. Bertram

Capt. Tommy Green from Destin, Florida USA; angler Lynn Layton from Decatur, Alabama USA

2022 TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS

84 Boats Participated

A WORK OF ART	Viking 92'	LOLITA.....	Hatteras 68'
ALL-IN FISHING	Viking 55'	MADE IT BACK	Hatteras 50'
ANGELS' SHARE II	Hatteras 65'	MAE	Blackwell 65'
BANDITO	Jim Smith 68'	MISS MA'AM	Hatteras 60'
BAREFOOT DRIVE	Viking 76'	MISS VIRGINIA	Viking 66'
BENEDETTA.....	Viking 70'	MOLLIE	G&S 66'
BIG ENOS	Custom Carolina 66'	MON CHARI	ACY 68'
BREATHE EASY	Viking 72'	NEVER SETTLE	Viking 74'
BREATHE REEL DEEP	Ocean Yacht 52'	PANHANDLER	Hatteras 63'
BRIAR PATCH	Viking 68'	PEARL.....	Viking 48'
CE	Viking 80'	PERRA MALA	Spencer Yachts 57'
CHANGE ORDER	Hatteras 46'	POP N' CORKS.....	Invincible 40'
CHASIN TAIL.....	Weaver Boat Works 80'	QUANTIFIED	Spencer Yachts 64'
CODE BLUE	Hatteras 60'	QUESTIONABLE JUDGEMENT	Nor-Tech 39'
COLD MOTION.....	Caison 60'	RAISE 'EM UP.....	Sunny Briggs 56'
COTTON PATCH.....	Hatteras 60'	REBECCA.....	F&S 63'
C-YA.....	Spencer Yachts 74'	REEL FIRE	Viking 76'
DEVOTION.....	Viking 61'	REEL WICKED.....	Donzi 73'
DON'T BLINK	Viking 76'	REELTLESS.....	Freeman 37'
DOUBLE J	Freeman 42'	RELENTLESS PURSUIT.....	Jim Smith 95'
EL JEFE'.....	Viking 70'	RENEGADE.....	Custom 52'
EVIL EYES.....	Viking 64'	RESTLESS.....	Viking 61'
FATSO.....	Hatteras 60'	RIDGEBACK	Bertram 37'
GARFIN	SeaHunter 36'	RISING SON'S.....	Viking 58'
GET REEL.....	Hatteras 60'	ROCK N REEL	Merritt 80'
GLASSY HOOKER.....	Buddy Davis 68'	SALT SHAKER	Viking 58'
GUNNSLINGER.....	Invincible 46'	SEA WOLFF	G&S 62'
HIGH COTTON	Viking 92'	SINGLE BARREL.....	Hatteras 60'
HONU	Hatteras 70'	SKIN DEEP	Ricky Scarborough 63'
HOOKS DEEP.....	Encore Boatworks 40'	SLICK NICKEL.....	Bertram 60'
ICE MAN.....	Invincible 46'	SOUL CANDY.....	F&S 61'
INTENSE	Contender 44'	SOUTHERN CHARM.....	Hatteras 63'
IONA LOUISE.....	Hatteras 68'	SQUID ROW	Viking 50'
IT JUST TAKES TIME	Viking 72'	STRIKE ZONE TOO	Ocean Yacht 56'
JOLENE	Viking 60'	SUNRISE	Guthrie 53'
JUST LOOKIN'	Viking 82'	TESTAMENT.....	Garlington 61'
JUST THE TIP	Viking 56'	UP TO IT	Viking 52'
KNOT ON CALL.....	Hatteras 60'	VINCERE	Viking 76'
LALA'S SIX CHICKS.....	Hatteras 77'	WARFIGHTER.....	Jupiter 41'
LIFELINE	Hatteras 60'	WHY KNOT?.....	Viking 68'
LINDA LUCILLE	Viking 65'	WHY WOULDN'T WE.....	Viking 80'
LIQUID APPLE	Viking 68'	YOU NEVER KNOW!	F&S 72'