

## 2020 ECBC FACT SHEET

May 19, 2020

### CURRENT YEAR INFORMATION (18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL)

**Summary:** June 17-21, 2020: 18th Annual Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin – the richest tournament on the Gulf Coast with purse over \$2 million. Call Julia for information at 910-264-3947 or email [tournament@fishecbc.com](mailto:tournament@fishecbc.com); find details at [www.fishecbc.com](http://www.fishecbc.com).

**Dates:** Wednesday, June 17 – Sunday, June 21, 2020

**Host Facility:** Sandestin® Golf and Beach Resort

**Location:** Miramar Beach, Florida USA

**Mailing Address:** Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin, 9300 Emerald Coast Pkwy W, Miramar Beach, FL 32550

**Contact:** Julia Brakhage | 910-264-3947 | [tournament@fishecbc.com](mailto:tournament@fishecbc.com) / [julia@tournamentcontrol.com](mailto:julia@tournamentcontrol.com)

**Website:** [fishecbc.com](http://fishecbc.com)

**Entry Fee:** \$6,000 (base entry) – \$77,050 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), blackfin tuna (20 lb. & 12" minimum), 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

**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, \$329,625 cash awards

**2019 Statistics:** 80 teams, 527 anglers, \$1,864,075 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

**Best Years of Fishing:** 2016–55 billfish, 2013–118 gamefish weighed

**Other:** 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 (2016) — 190.6 lbs.,** *Marlin Darlin*, 70 ft. Viking

Capt. Matt Condon from Destin, Florida USA; angler Kenny Tamm from New Orleans, Louisiana 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

## 2019 TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS

100 Boats Registered, 80 Participated – 20 Boats Withdrew for Various Reasons (personal, mechanical, weather)

A WORK OF ART .....	Viking 92'	MARLIN DARLIN .....	Viking 70'
ALDENTE .....	Viking 76'	MELANIE .....	Bertram 55'
AMIGO .....	Viking 62'	MISS VIRGINIA .....	Viking 61'
A-TEAM .....	Viking 44'	MOLLIE .....	G&S 66'
BLANCHITA .....	Viking 72'	MOLLY G .....	Ricky Gillikin 43'
BORN2RUN .....	Viking 72'	NOTHIN' MATTERS.....	Albemarle 44'
BREATHE EASY.....	Viking 68'	ONE MORE .....	Viking 55'
BREATHE REEL DEEP .....	Ocean Yacht 52'	PAIR-A-DICE .....	Viking 66'
BUGGYWASHER.....	Viking 74'	PANHANDLER .....	Hatteras 54'
CARIB .....	Viking 64'	PHEN-SYN .....	Viking 74'
CHASIN TAIL.....	Weaver Boat Works 80'	POUR INTENTIONS.....	Viking 66'
CODE BLUE .....	Viking 52'	PULLIN' WIRE.....	Buddy Davis 61'
COTTON PATCH.....	Hatteras 60'	QUICK TIME .....	Viking 70'
CRAWGATOR .....	Viking 61'	REBECCA .....	F&S 63'
DIANE KAY.....	Viking 56'	REEL FIRE .....	Viking 70'
DOCTORS ORDERS.....	Gillman 57'	REELENTLESS.....	Freeman 37'
DONE DEAL.....	Viking 70'	RELENTLESS PURSUIT.....	Jim Smith 95'
DONNY D IV .....	Hatteras 68'	RESTLESS.....	Viking 61'
DON'T BLINK .....	Viking 56'	RIP RIDER .....	Cabo 40'
DOUBLE J .....	Freeman 42'	SALT SHAKER .....	Yellowfin 42'
DRAGGIN' UP .....	Viking 74'	SEA MIXER .....	Spencer Yachts 66'
DREAM'S WAKE IV.....	Yellowfin 36'	SEAMENT.....	Yellowfin 39'
EL GANCHO.....	Viking 65'	SHARE-E .....	Viking 72'
FLEUR DE LIS.....	Viking 72'	SNAFU.....	Viking 52'
GET REEL.....	Hatteras 60'	SOGGY DOLLAR .....	Viking 61'
GLASSY HOOKER.....	Buddy Davis 68'	SONORA.....	Hatteras 70'
GRANDER MARINE .....	Invincible 40'	SOUTHERN CHARM.....	Hatteras 63'
GUNNSLINGER.....	Southern Cross 52'	SQUID ROW .....	Viking 45'
HALL PASS .....	Freeman 42'	SWEET LIBERTY .....	Hatteras 68'
HIGH COTTON .....	Viking 76'	TEAM SUPREME .....	Viking 76'
HOT ROD.....	Viking 56'	TICO TIME.....	Hatteras 65'
INTENSE .....	Contender 39'	TIRELESS .....	Cabo 44'
IONA LOUISE.....	Hatteras 68'	TRADERS HILL .....	Broward 105'
IT JUST TAKES TIME.....	Viking 62'	TRIPLE THREAT .....	Hatteras 65'
JUST THE TIP.....	Viking 45'	ULTIMATE LURE .....	Catamaran 53'
LINED OUT .....	Contender 30'	UP TO IT .....	Hatteras 60'
LIQUID APPLE .....	Viking 68'	VENGEANCE.....	G&S 52'
LISA JO.....	Ricky Scarborough 55'	WAR HORSE.....	Dixon 55'
LOLITA.....	Hatteras 68'	WYNSONG .....	Viking 66'
LYONS PRIDE.....	Viking 68'	YOU NEVER KNOW! .....	F&S 72'