

Revised 8/12/25

Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament Rules

Welcome to the Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament

Participants can fish anytime during the tournament dates of October 4th – October 25th at 3 pm.

Fish have to be brought to Chasin' Tails by the boat it was caught on, the same day it's caught and off loaded and weighed by 7 PM, except on the 25th of Oct they must be off loaded by 3 pm.

Boats may not congregate or pass anything while ocean side of an inlet.

Entry fee for this King Mackerel Tournament is \$300 to be paid by October 3rd at midnight by cash, PayPal, Venmo or check. Entry fee is \$400 after October 3rd. Tournament within a Tournament Fees include a \$100.00 TWT or \$300.00 High Roller TWT to be accompanied with entry fee. There will also be a \$100 TWT for a 2 fish aggregate weight, and a Wahoo TWT for \$500. (each boat can only enter one Wahoo) (TWT is extra \$100 or \$300 and extra \$100 for 2 fish aggregate or \$500 in addition to your entry fee but is optional). **If you enter after October 3rd, you cannot weigh a fish until the 2nd day after date of registration.** A boat can enter only one time.

A 10% retainer will be held back on all TWT's for the ABKMFT, and the remaining 90% will have a 50/30/20 split for all TWT's.

Make checks payable to ABKMFT. Mail to 407 Atlantic Beach Causeway Ste 15. Atlantic Beach, NC 28512 OR register and pay online at abkingmack.com or pay through Venmo.

The Captains Meeting will be October 3rd, from 6pm till 10pm at the Crystal Coast Civic Center. Rules review will take place at 7pm.

There will be an awards banquet outside of the Crow's Nest Club House on October 25th at 6:00 PM.

To win any of the prizes drawn the registered Captain or Co-Captain will need to be present. Tournament competition is limited to motorized boats only.

A captain and co-captain will be required for the boat being registered. **The declared captain OR co-captain must be on boat registered during the tournament day when the fish is caught to be eligible to weigh a fish.** All winnings will be made payable to the registered captain. This Captain and/or Co-Captain will be allowed to be

a crew member on other boats but, WHILE ON THE OTHER BOAT, can't weigh a fish in their name or boat name.

Each boat entered can only be registered once.

There is no restriction as to the number of people allowed aboard each boat during competition hours.

All participants must comply with NC Wildlife laws and USCG regulations.

The tournament committee reserves the right to refuse an entry into the tournament.

Each boat will be allowed to weigh in **only two fish** during this tournament.

The eligible species for competition purposes is king mackerel. With the exception of the Wahoo TWT for those who pay the \$500.

This is a sporting event. All fish must be taken on a rod and reel. No hand lines or electric reels will be allowed. Down riggers will be permitted as fishing line carriers only. If a down rigger is used in the manner of a fishing rod/reel combination, it must be counted as one of the six allowable lines.

A boat may be substituted for mechanical repairs only by notification to the tournament committee the day before being fished.

Any advertiser, sponsor, board, or committee member entering the tournament in compliance with these rules is eligible for any and all prizes.

Information entered on the registration form is official and any changes must be initialed by the participant.

It is the sole responsibility of the crew aboard each boat to off-load and present its catch for weighing. Captain or Co-Captain must accompany the fish to the weigh station.

All fish must be brought to Chasin Tales by the boat catching same under its own power. Fish must be unloaded at designated docks only. Fish cannot be transported over land.

A signed, sworn affidavit will be required of each individual who places a fish in competition for tournament prizes.

All prize winners are subject to polygraph at the discretion of the tournament board members. If requested, the angler must submit to a test within 48 hours after the fish has been weighed.

All King Mackerel submitted for weigh-in must be in fresh, edible condition and caught that tournament day. No mutilated fish will be accepted for weigh-in. Mutilation is defined as any damage which may impair the fish's fighting ability. The Weight Master shall immediately notify an angler of any questionable fish submitted for weigh-in. Eligibility of fish shall be immediately determined. No frozen fish will be accepted for weigh-in under any circumstances. No fish with stomach contents other than its natural food will be accepted for weigh-in. **All fish weighed in become property of the Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament.**

All protests concerning the determination of tournament prize winners shall be made to the tournament board and shall be accompanied by \$500 cash. All protests shall be made no later than one hour after the last fish has been weighed. In the event that a protest is upheld by the tournament committee, the \$500 cash deposit will be returned. In the event that the protest is not upheld, the \$500 cash deposit will become the property of the Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament. All decisions made by the tournament committee shall be final.

At the time of weigh in, a team may protest the weight of their fish and such protest shall be accompanied by a \$500 protest fee which shall be paid within 1 hour of the protest. In connection with the protest the team SHOULD NOT sign the weigh ticket. Once the weigh ticket is signed the weight is FINAL and no protest will be accepted. If a protest is filed on the weight of the fish, the fish will be segregated and placed under the control of the weigh master until a member of the tournament committee can be present to witness the reweighing of the fish. A member of the team protesting the weight shall stay with the fish until the fish is reweighed. The \$500 protest fee will be returned if the fish weight is changed once reweighed, and the official weight of the fish will be officially changed. If the committee does not uphold the protest the \$500 cash deposit will be kept by the Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament.

A boat entry can only win one major cash prize per tournament. (Major cash prize is considered first place – tenth place).

In the event that two or more king mackerel are the same weight, the winner shall be determined by the earliest weigh-in time.

The winning fish and all fish entered and or donated become the exclusive property of the tournament committee.

AGAIN this year.....

All fishermen are encouraged to donate any and all fish, even those that are not weighed to the tournament. For every fish donated to the tournament, the captain will receive a raffle ticket for a drawing to win a free entry in the 2026 tournament.

To qualify for a ladies, junior (15 & under), or senior (55 & older) prize, they must be on the boat at the time the fish is caught, accompany the fish to weigh in, and sign the weight ticket. The same fish may win a major prize and qualify for a lady angler, junior angler or senior angler.

Any breaking of the rules will result in disqualification from the tournament. Disqualifications will result in forfeiture of winnings.

The Tournament Committee will determine or interpret all rules.

The ABKMFT is owned entirely by the non-profit Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament, Inc.

Boundaries for the Atlantic Beach King Mackerel Fishing Tournament

Boundaries for this Tournament are 34 54 N (cannot go north of this) and 77 25 W (cannot go west of this)

You cannot weight a fish on a day your boat is in the ocean outside the boundaries.

Start a fishing day as early as you like (no lines in the water time), but to start a fishing day you must depart one of these inlets; Drum, Bardens, Beaufort, Bogue, New River.

Upon completion of fishing you must return through Drum, Bardens, Beaufort, Bogue inlet, or New River.

To be eligible fish must be caught within the boundaries.

***All tournament rules are subject to modification prior to the tournament start date.