



JUNE 21-25, 2023

Get ready for the newest kickoff event of the summer offshore fishing season in Cape May! The School's Out Tuna Tournament is just in time for the best tuna bite of our region. The best way to celebrate the end of another busy and stressful academic year, the School's Out Tuna Tournament is the perfect event to get out on the water and get in on the action while its red hot!

South Jersey Tournaments is teaming up with the local community to kick off this next big event. Featuring Day Trip or Overnight Options, extended weather window and several Calcutta options for your team to target Yellowfin, Bigeye, and even swords and mahi. Giving all the options for anglers to choose from to be on the water at the right time! Teams can depart from any Inlet from Cape May to Ocean City, New Jersey. Weigh-ins will be held at South Jersey Marina, daily featuring dockside events and open house hospitality at the Cape May Marlin & Tuna Club!

We're all looking forward to getting together to kick off this event featuring the landing here in Cape May and we certainly expect plenty of fish to hit the scales and have just as many winners for this year's newest event on the tournament calendar, the School's Out Tuna Tournament!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

At Cape May Marlin and Tuna Club

6:00pm **Late Registration**

7:30pm **Captains' Meeting**

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

At South Jersey Marina /

Cape May Marlin and Tuna Club

9:00pm **Tournament Awards,**

Catered Dinner & Beverages

Weigh-Ins

At South Jersey Marina

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

5:00pm **Scales Open** | 8:00pm **Scales Close**

4 Day Trip Options

Captain's Choice – Fish 2 of 4

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

12:00am **Depart Inlet**

4:30am **Lines In**

3:30pm **Lines Out (11 Hours - Same Day)**

3 Overnight Trip Options

Captain's Choice – Fish 1 of 3

Thursday-Friday, Friday-Saturday, Saturday-Sunday

1:30pm **Depart Inlet**

5:30pm **Lines In**

3:30pm **Lines Out (22 Hours - Following Day)**

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SCHOOL'S OUT TUNA TOURNAMENT

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TOURNAMENT ENTRY - \$500

Tournament Entry Fee includes team's tournament registration and hospitality.

TOURNAMENT CALCUTTAS

FRESHMAN CLASS CALCUTTAS (35' & UNDER)

The following categories target either heaviest Bigeye Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna, or both (Stringer). Boats must be 35' or less in length according to the given boat's model name.

HEAVIEST BIGEYE TUNA - \$400

1st Place 70% | 2nd Place 30%

HEAVIEST YELLOWFIN TUNA - \$400

1st Place 70% | 2nd Place 30%

HEAVIEST TUNA STRINGER - \$600

1st Place 70% | 2nd Place 30%

SOPHOMORE CLASS CALCUTTAS

The following categories target either Heaviest Yellowfin or Heaviest Yellowfin Stringer Only.

HEAVIEST YELLOWFIN TUNA - \$600

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

HEAVIEST YELLOWFIN STRINGER - \$600

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

JUNIOR CLASS CALCUTTAS

The following categories target either Heaviest Bigeye or Heaviest Bigeye Stringer Only.

HEAVIEST BIGEYE TUNA - \$600

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

HEAVIEST BIGEYE STRINGER - \$600

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

SENIOR CLASS CALCUTTAS

The following categories target either heaviest Bigeye Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna, or both (Stringer).

HEAVIEST BIGEYE TUNA - \$800

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

HEAVIEST YELLOWFIN TUNA - \$800

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

HEAVIEST COMBINED TUNA STRINGER - \$800

1st Place 50% | 2nd Place 30% | 3rd Place 20%

LUNCHBOX CALCUTTAS

The following categories target either heaviest Dolphin, Swordfish, or any single heaviest tournament eligible species (Tuna, Dolphin, Swordfish).

HEAVIEST DOLPHIN - \$200

1st Place 70% | 2nd Place 30%

HEAVIEST SWORDFISH TUNA - \$250

1st Place 70% | 2nd Place 30%

HEAVIEST FISH - \$1,000

1st Place 100% = Winner Take All

SCHOOL'S OUT TUNA TOURNAMENT

JUNE 21-25, 2023

TOURNAMENT RULES

TIMES & BOUNDARIES

1. Boats may sail from any inlet between Cape May Inlet to Great Egg Inlet.
2. Boats fishing 11 hour trips (Day) are not permitted to clear the Sea Buoy at their respective inlet prior to 12:00 AM on each scheduled fishing day. Boats fishing 22 hour trips (Overnight) are not permitted to clear the Sea Buoy at their respective inlet prior to 1:30 PM on each scheduled fishing day.
3. For Boats Fishing 11 hour trips (Day) fishing begins at 4:30 AM on each scheduled fishing day. For Boats Fishing 22 hour trips (Overnight) fishing begins at 5:30 PM on each scheduled fishing day. No lines, chum, or bait of any kind may be put into the water prior to this time.
4. For Boats Fishing 11 hour trips (Day) & 22 hour trips (Overnight) fishing ends at 3:30 PM on each scheduled fishing day. Any fish hooked prior to the deadline may be played until boated or released, provided that said fish is announced hooked on the tournament channel before the deadline.
5. Boundaries for the tournament will be 125 nautical miles from the Cape May Sea Buoy .
6. Weigh-in begins at 5:00 PM. All eligible fish must be available for weigh-in at South Jersey Marina by 8:00 PM aboard the boat on which they were caught.
7. Each boat must pick either one overnight trip or two day trips by submitting the official Fish-Day Form prior to leaving the dock on the day selected. Said forms must be either physically delivered to the dockmaster's office at South Jersey Marina OR transmitted to the Tournament Director. The boat must be dockside when the fish day is declared. Any boat not submitting the form will be assumed to be laying on that day. Boats may not fish on a lay day unless all of their available fish days have been used. Boats with mechanical problems or other emergencies may use lay days to arrive late to the tournament so long as it is with the advance permission of the Tournament Directors and they conform with all other rules. To withdraw a Fish Day Form the boat must be dockside and the Tournament Directors notified within three hours after fishing beginning on the day selected.

ANGLING/FISHING

8. Participants shall comply with I.G.F.A. equipment and angling rules with the following exceptions: A) A fish may be hooked by someone other than the angler provided the rod is immediately transferred to the angler after hook-up. From that time on, the angler must fight the fish alone until boated or released. B) No harpoons, dart gaffs or green sticks. C) Spreader bars with hooks ARE permitted. The Tournament Directors retain sole authority for interpreting and implementing the I.G.F.A.'s rules.
9. There is no limit on the number of lines or teasers.
10. All fish boated over 75 lbs. must be reported over the tournament channel at the time of the catch.
11. There are 4 available "Day" fishing options and 3 available "Overnight" fishing options for the tournament. Boats may choose either 2 of the available days or 1 of the available overnights, captains' choice; no weather committee. The crew members of each individual boat will be solely responsible for the decision as to which day or night to fish.
12. Anglers may not switch to another boat nor can anyone from another boat come aboard to assist in fighting or boating a fish.

SCORING/PRIZES

13. Only one day need be fished for the tournament to be considered official and prizes to be awarded. 94% of Calcutta entries will be paid out.
14. Qualifying species are Bigeye, Yellowfin, Dolphin (Mahi-Mahi) and Swordfish. Bluefin Tuna will not be eligible for awards in this tournament.
15. Boats may weigh up to 3 Yellowfin and 3 Bigeye per fish day. Overnight trips will count as two fish days. Participants will be given tags which must be securely attached to each fish prior to being weighed and should include boat number and trip type identified.
16. Fractional weights will be rounded to the nearest pound.
17. Up to 4 fish will be counted towards each tuna stringer Calcutta.
18. In the event of a tie in the cash prize categories, the prize money will be equally divided between those tying.
19. In the event that all places are not filled the unwon prize money will be proportionally divided among the winners of that prize.
20. In the event that no qualifying fish are caught in a Calcutta, the payout percentage of that Calcutta will be returned.
21. In order to be eligible for awards, prizes, and calcuttas, fish must be caught in compliance with all tournament rules. Said rules include conformance to state and federal size limits and possession of a current NMFS angling, general or charter/headboat category HMS permit.
22. All fish eligible for cash prizes may be subject to examination by the Tournament Directors, consulting biologists and/or Torrymeter, should there be any question as to the "freshness" of the catch. It shall be the responsibility of the participant to keep all eligible catches in suitable and proper condition until weigh-in. In the event of any disputes arising from such examination, the decision of the Tournament Directors shall be final. Polygraph examination may be required of winning crews.

ADMINISTRATION

23. The designated tournament VHF radio channels are 69 (Primary) and 71 (Alternate).
24. Registration is by boat rather than by angler. Tournament Directors reserve the right to decline entry of any boat or crew.
25. The Tournament Directors and hosting facilities assume no liability or responsibility for any damage or loss.
26. In the event of a boat disability, contestants may transfer to another boat, not entered in the tournament, and may fish in the name of the original, with the prior approval of the Tournament Directors.
27. Allegations of violations of any of the above rules may be submitted only by an official tournament registrant and must be submitted in writing on the day of the alleged infraction. In the event of such an allegation, the Tournament Directors will have the sole and exclusive responsibility to investigate the alleged incident and to rule as to whether any violation materially aided the angler, crew, or vessel, or otherwise affected the outcome of the tournament. Any subsequent penalty will be solely at the discretion of the Tournament Directors and shall be final. In all cases, registrant and their crews agree to be bound by the ruling of the Tournament Directors.