

# MAKE-A-WISH® TUNA CHALLENGE 2019

August 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

## Rules, Regulations & General Information

### **Rules & Regulations:**

Rules are subject to change prior to the Captains Meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

### **Captains Meeting:**

Friday, August 23, 2019 @ 6:00 PM; UPSES Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida De Portugal, San Diego, CA 92106.

Check-in will begin at 4:00 PM. One team member must be present for registration & the meeting that will start promptly at 6:00 PM. All teams not checked in prior to 6:00 PM will have to check in after the Captains Meeting concludes. No changes to boat, crew, club affiliation, etc., will be accepted after the Captain's Meeting. Due to space limitations, please limit attendance to **two** members!

### **Lines In:**

5:00 AM, Saturday, August 24, 2019

### **Fishing Area:**

In those waters of the Pacific Ocean between a line running due east and west along the 31°00' longitudinal line in the south to a similar line running due east and west along the 34°00' longitudinal line in the north. Boats may depart from any Southern California (not Mexican) port, but must return to either San Diego Bay or Mission Bay via water in order to be eligible for weigh-in.

Fishing area is subject to change and any final changes will be announced at the Captains Meeting.

### **Divisions:**

There will be (2) divisions in 2019: Smaller Boats (less than 27 feet) and Larger Boats (27 feet or greater). Each division will have its own set of individual angler awards although only participating anglers in either the Smaller Boats or Larger Boats division are eligible to win the Richard Thomas Memorial Grand Prize Award.

### **Teams:**

A team consists of as many paid anglers per boat as the team desires. Regardless of the number of team members, only the four largest scoring fish will count towards the team prize. Team championship jackets will be awarded to each paid angler on the high team in each division (limit 8/team; additional jackets for teams with more than 8 paid anglers may be purchased).

### **Crew:**

Captains, deckhands or guests may gaff, chum, run the boat, etc. They may not clear trolling lines and shall not touch any rod or reel while there is a line in the water.

### **Weigh In:**

All eligible fish must be weighed in from the boat of entry at either the San Diego Marlin Club or Dana Landing Market & Fuel Dock in Mission Bay no later than 9:00 AM, Sunday, August 25, 2019. Trailer boats are not permitted to remove their boat from the water and trailer the boat to a weigh in station for the purpose of weighing fish. Scales will be open from 4:00 PM-9:00 PM on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> and 7:00 AM-9:00 AM on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>. (Fish identification & final weigh-in details will be announced at the captains meeting).

### **Point System:**

Tuna (Bluefin, Yellowfin, Bigeye, Albacore and Skipjack) shall receive one point per pound. Yellowtail and Dorado shall receive ½ point per pound. Billfish other than marlin (Swordfish and Spearfish) shall receive ¼ point per pound. Marlin scoring will be defined in the paragraph below. No other fish will qualify. **For individual awards, only the largest scoring fish for each angler will be eligible for an award.** For team awards (if applicable), the four highest scoring fish for the entire team will count towards determining the team point total. All qualifying fish will count whether they are caught on the troll or via other legal method.

### **Points (MARLIN):**

Marlin points may only be accrued in a release format. In addition, there will be a limit of 1 marlin per team that may accrue points. A released marlin will be credited for 100 pounds or 25 points. In order to receive credit for a marlin release, you must successfully photograph a crewmember with the leader in hand AND the marlin in the same photograph OR a crewmember holding the bill of the marlin. Photographs that do not meet this burden of proof will lead to the disqualification of the fish. Each team is encouraged to use a personal digital camera (but may also use a disposable camera). Digital camera cards marked with the owner's name must be turned in at the time of weigh in of the rest of the team's catch (and will be returned to the captain shortly thereafter). All captains will be instructed to photograph an item TBA prior to the commencement of fishing. Marlin will not be weighed in for Tuna Challenge purposes. In addition, marlin will not be considered for points accrual in the Charter Boat ("6-pack") division. Furthermore, a billfish (marlin, swordfish, spearfish) cannot win the Richard Thomas Memorial Grand Prize if a tuna of any qualifying type is caught in the tournament, regardless of the point total. In the unlikely event that no tuna are caught in the tournament, then the highest scoring fish of any other qualifying species (marlin, swordfish, spearfish, dorado, yellowtail) will win the Richard Thomas Memorial Grand Prize. Billfish are eligible for the 1<sup>st</sup> Place prize in either the large boat or small boat division

## Rules, Regulations & General Information (cont.)

### Ties:

In the event of a tie between anglers in any private boat division, the angler with the higher team total points (of their top 4 scoring fish) will be declared the winner. Should a tie still exist, then the angler fishing on the team with the largest overall fish (and so on) shall be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, a coin flip will decide the tie. This tiebreaker shall also be used to decide ties between team totals in the unlikely event that there is a tie between teams.

### Richard Thomas Memorial Grand Prize

The adult angler catching the highest point scoring tuna will be eligible for the Richard Thomas Memorial Grand Prize as the tournament's top angler. Any adult angler from the Smaller Boat or Larger Boat divisions will be eligible for this prize. In the unlikely event that no tuna are caught in the tournament, then the highest scoring fish of any other qualifying species (marlin, swordfish, spearfish, dorado, yellowtail) will win this prize.

### Ladies Award:

The lady angler catching the highest point scoring fish will be eligible for a special prize. Should the winner also qualify for an adult individual award, they will be allowed to retain their right to this award as they are paying the adult entry fee. Only lady anglers from the Smaller Boats and Larger Boats divisions are eligible for this prize.

### Juniors Category:

The Juniors Category is for children fishing aboard a boat in the Smaller Boats or Larger Boats divisions and who are aged 15 y/o and younger as of August 24<sup>th</sup>. Junior anglers are eligible only for the junior prizes unless they pay the adult entry fee. They may be a member of a team entry and therefore be eligible for the team jackets. A junior can participate in the adult category by paying the adult entry fee; however, should they qualify for an adult individual award they will forfeit their right to a junior award. Juniors must be accompanied by at least one paid adult angler. There will be two junior divisions: Juniors aged 11 y/o and younger as of 8/24/2019 & Juniors aged 12 y/o-15 y/o as of 8/24/2019.

### Special Awards:

Anglers catching the largest dorado and largest yellowtail will be eligible for special prizes. Should the winner also qualify for an adult individual award, they will be allowed to retain their right to this award as they are paying the adult entry fee.

### Additional Side Pots:

Each entered team/boat may elect, for an additional fee, to enter either or both of two additional cash side pots for the team that catches the largest dorado and for the team that catches the largest yellowtail. The cost is \$50 per team/boat per side pot, and the winning team/boat of each side pot will receive a cash prize of \$500.

### Licenses:

All Anglers shall abide by California and Mexican rules regarding permits and licenses. In addition, all anglers shall abide by bag limits from each respective agency.

### Angling Rules:

IGFA Standards will apply with the exception that double and treble trolling hooks are allowed.

### Protests:

The protest committee will include the following members of the Tuna Challenge committee: current chairperson, the current rear chair, and the treasurer. Any protests must be submitted in writing by 9:00 AM on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Awards Banquet:

10:00 AM, Sunday, August 25, 2019; UPSES Portugeuse Hall, 2818 Avenida De Portugal, San Diego, CA 92106. The banquet will include presentation of tournament awards, a mega raffle and silent/live auctions. All anglers will receive a participation bag, tournament t-shirt and banquet ticket. See application for entry fee, t-shirt, hat and extra banquet ticket information. Entries submitted on or before July 31<sup>st</sup> will receive one raffle ticket per paid angler, which will make them eligible for the early bird prize.

**Please make checks payable to "Make-A-Wish San Diego."**

**\*\*\* No entry refunds will be offered after 7/31/2019. \*\*\***

Due to space limitations, entries to this event may have to be limited to the first 150 boats and/or first 600 anglers.

**Please enter your application early to secure your position.**

**ALL FORMS MAY BE DOWNLOADED FROM [www.tunachallenge.org](http://www.tunachallenge.org)**

Make-A-Wish Tuna Challenge Chair: Dave Kirkpatrick, (619) 846-0799 or [56fordpu@cox.net](mailto:56fordpu@cox.net)

Fishing Tournament Director:

***100% of Net Proceeds will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of San Diego, Inc.***