



OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

2026 CAJUN CANYONS FALL INVITATIONAL

SEPTEMBER 16–19, 2026

CYPRESS COVE MARINA · VENICE, LOUISIANA

Rules are subject to change. Final instructions and any amendments will be given at the mandatory Captains' Meeting, Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 8:00 PM. Amendments announced at the Captains' Meeting supersede this document.

TOURNAMENT AT A GLANCE

FORMAT	Heaviest Blue Marlin wins. One optional Yellowfin Tuna category.
CAPTAINS' MEETING	Wednesday, September 16 — 8:00 PM (mandatory; virtual attendance available)
LINES IN	Thursday, September 17 — 8:00 AM
LINES OUT	Saturday, September 19 — 2:00 PM
SCALES OPEN	Thursday, September 17 — 12:00 Noon
SCALES CLOSE	Saturday, September 19 — 8:00 PM
WEIGH STATION	Cypress Cove Marina, 235 Cypress Cove Rd, Venice, LA 70091
DEPARTURE PORT	Boats may depart from any port
BLUE MARLIN MINIMUM	110 inches LJFL or 500 pounds — maximum 2 per boat
YELLOWFIN TUNA MINIMUM	50 pounds (optional category)
REQUIRED ENTRY	\$35,000.00 per boat — \$3,500.00 Entry Fee plus \$31,500.00 All-In Buy In
OPTIONAL ENTRY	Yellowfin Tuna — \$2,500.00

1. DATES AND TIMES

Tournament fishing days are Thursday, September 17; Friday, September 18; and Saturday, September 19, 2026. Official fishing time begins with lines in at **8:00 AM Thursday, September 17** and ends with lines out at **2:00 PM Saturday, September 19**. No lines may be in the water outside of official fishing times.

Tournament scales open at **12:00 Noon Thursday, September 17** and close at **8:00 PM Saturday, September 19, 2026**. All eligible fish must be presented at the weigh station at Cypress Cove Marina prior to the close of the scales. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make any schedule change it deems necessary, in its sole discretion.

HOOKED UP AT LINES OUT

Any fish still on the line at 2:00 PM on Saturday, September 19 **must be called in to Tournament Control at or before 2:00 PM** in order for that fish to remain eligible. Report the boat name, angler name, species and hook-up time. A fish hooked prior to lines out and properly called in may be fought to completion. A fish that is not called in by 2:00 PM is not eligible, regardless of when it was hooked, and the fish must still reach the scales before they close at 8:00 PM Saturday.

2. REGISTRATION

Online registration is available at <https://cajuncanyons.catchstat.com/>. All boats and anglers must be fully registered prior to the start of the Captains' Meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 to be eligible for tournament awards or prizes.

Payment of entry fees and submission of the entry form constitutes acknowledgment that each participant has read and wholly understands these tournament rules and the release of liability in Section 19, and agrees to abide by these rules and by the decisions of the Tournament Committee. Decisions of the Tournament Committee — inclusive of the Weigh Master and the Rules Committee — are **FINAL**. Participants must fish the boat that is registered; boat changes are not permitted after the Captains' Meeting.

3. ENTRY FEES AND OPTIONAL ENTRIES

ENTRY	AMOUNT	CATEGORY
Tournament Entry Fee	\$3,500.00	Required of all boats
All-In Buy In	\$31,500.00	Required — Top Tournament Blue Marlin
Yellowfin Tuna Optional	\$2,500.00	Optional — heaviest Yellowfin Tuna
Total Required Per Boat	\$35,000.00	Entry Fee plus All-In Buy In

The tournament entry fee of **\$3,500.00** and the **All-In Buy In of \$31,500.00** are both **required of every boat**, for a total required entry of **\$35,000.00**. The All-In Buy In funds the Top Tournament Blue Marlin pool; every registered boat is automatically entered in that category.

The **Yellowfin Tuna Optional** is exactly that — optional. It is not included in the required entry, and a boat must be registered in that category prior to the close of the Captains' Meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 to be eligible for its award.

All entry and optional entry monies must be paid in full prior to the close of the Captains' Meeting. Entry fees are non-refundable and non-transferable except as provided in Section 17. Payment of entry fees constitutes acceptance of these rules and of the release of liability in Section 19.

4. DEPARTURES AND BOUNDARIES

Boats may depart from any port. There are no tournament fishing boundaries. It is the Captain's sole responsibility to operate safely, to exercise sound judgment with respect to weather, fuel capacity and range, and to arrive at the weigh station on time. All eligible fish must be brought to Cypress Cove Marina in Venice, Louisiana aboard the registered boat from which they were caught.

5. ANGLING AND TACKLE RULES

All teams must follow International Game Fish Association (I.G.F.A.) saltwater angling and tackle rules except as otherwise stated in these rules. The one exception is that a mate or teammate may set the hook and pass the rod to a registered angler; this may occur only once and only during the first minute of the fight.

6. OFFICIAL TIME

Official tournament time is Central Time and will be announced at the Captains' Meeting. The official tournament clock will be posted at the weigh station and governs all reported and recorded times.

7. CAPTAINS' MEETING

The Captains' Meeting is scheduled for **8:00 PM Wednesday, September 16, 2026. Attendance is mandatory.** An authorized representative of each registered boat must attend and check in.

Virtual attendance is supported for boats departing from ports other than Venice. Teams electing to attend virtually must notify the Tournament Committee in advance; the meeting link and connection details will be sent to the team leader listed on the entry form. Virtual attendees are responsible for their own connectivity and must be present for the full meeting and check in through the meeting.

8. SPORTSMANSHIP

All participants agree to abide by the basic tournament philosophy: "Treat fellow sportsmen and fishermen the way you would like them to treat you in return." Unsportsmanlike or threatening conduct toward tournament organizers or other participants, or any other behavior which the tournament organizers deem inappropriate in their sole discretion, will result in immediate disqualification of the entire team with no refund of entry fees or optional entry monies.

9. PERMITS AND LICENSES

All tournament participants are responsible for complying with all Federal, State of Louisiana, and Plaquemines Parish laws and regulations regarding boating, fishing licenses and permits, size limits and bag limits. Vessels are reminded that a Federal HMS permit and applicable Atlantic Tunas or Gulf reef fish requirements may apply to their operation. The tournament organizers, owners, sponsors and affiliates are not responsible for enforcing Federal or State law. Any angler or team in possession of an illegally taken fish will result in disqualification of the entire team without refund of entry fees or optional entry monies.

10. REPORTING OF BLUE MARLIN

Every Blue Marlin that is killed must be reported to Tournament Control immediately upon boating, together with a length. Tournament Control telephone numbers, text number and VHF channel will be announced at the Captains' Meeting. The following information must be reported:

1. Name of boat
2. Name of angler
3. Lower jaw to fork length (LJFL) in inches
4. Time the fish was boated

5. Estimated time of arrival at Cypress Cove Marina

It is the team's responsibility to confirm that Tournament Control has received and logged the report, including the reported length and time boated. If Tournament Control cannot be reached, a verifiable report must be given to another registered tournament boat and that boat's name must be recorded and reported on arrival. **A Blue Marlin that is killed and not reported as required will be disqualified.**

11. WEIGH-IN

Tournament scales are located at Cypress Cove Marina, Venice, Louisiana. **All fish must be weighed at Cypress Cove Marina.** The weigh station will be open from 12:00 Noon Thursday, September 17 until 8:00 PM Saturday, September 19, 2026; daily hours within that window will be confirmed at the Captains' Meeting.

All fish must be brought to the weigh station by the registered boat from which they were caught and must not leave that boat except for the weigh-in itself. Only registered tournament anglers may weigh in an eligible fish, and fish should be presented at the scales by the angler who caught them. The angler must remain with the fish throughout the complete weigh-in procedure and must sign the certified weight slip verifying the weight and time before the fish becomes an Official Fish eligible for prizes or awards. Weigh-in times are recorded to the minute.

No mutilated, cut, frozen or otherwise questionable fish, as determined by the Tournament Weigh Master and Tournament Committee, will be weighed. The decision of the Weigh Master and the Tournament Committee is **FINAL**.

12. ELIGIBLE FISH

SPECIES	MINIMUM TO WEIGH	MAXIMUM PER BOAT	CATEGORY
Blue Marlin	110 inches LJFL or 500 pounds	2 for the tournament	Required entry — heaviest fish
Yellowfin Tuna	50 pounds	No limit	Optional entry only

Blue Marlin. A Blue Marlin must measure at least 110 inches lower jaw to fork length (LJFL) or weigh at least 500 pounds to be an eligible fish. Any Blue Marlin brought to the scales that meets neither standard will not be scored. A boat may weigh a maximum of **two (2) Blue Marlin** over the course of the tournament.

Yellowfin Tuna. Yellowfin Tuna are eligible only in the optional Yellowfin Tuna category, and only for boats registered in that category. Minimum weight to qualify is **50 pounds**. There is no limit on the number of qualifying Yellowfin Tuna a boat may weigh; the category is scored on the single heaviest qualifying fish.

13. AWARDS AND PAYOUTS

The heaviest Blue Marlin wins the tournament. Awards are based on the weight of an individual fish, not on cumulative weight or points. The optional Yellowfin Tuna category is scored on the single heaviest qualifying tuna.

Top Tournament Blue Marlin. Every registered boat is entered in this category through the required All-In Buy In. The number of places paid is determined by the number of qualifying Blue Marlin weighed, as follows:

QUALIFYING BLUE MARLIN WEIGHED	1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE
Three or more	60%	30%	10%
Two	65%	35%	—
One	100%	—	—

Yellowfin Tuna Optional. The Yellowfin Tuna Optional category pays **winner take all** to the heaviest qualifying Yellowfin Tuna.

If no Blue Marlin meeting the minimum requirements is weighed, the Top Tournament Blue Marlin pool will be refunded to the team leader listed on each entry form within fourteen (14) days following the tournament. The same applies to the Yellowfin Tuna Optional pool if no qualifying Yellowfin Tuna is weighed.

All checks for tournament winnings will be made payable to the entity indicated on the entry form. A Social Security Number or Federal Tax Identification Number must be provided, and a Federal Tax Form 1099 will be issued for all monetary awards. Winning payout checks will be issued within fourteen (14) days following the tournament.

14. TIE BREAKERS

A tie between the weights of two or more fish is broken by the time the fish were weighed in, as recorded by the Tournament Official Weigh Master. The fish weighed first is the winner.

15. PROTESTS

Participants may lodge a protest against any catch which they believe was not made in accordance with these rules. All protests must be stated in writing and accompanied by \$1,000 USD. The tournament judges may call a protest hearing at their discretion; a protest hearing is not guaranteed. All protests will be settled on the day of the incident, must be in the hands of the tournament's designated rules officials by 8:00 PM on the day of the alleged incident, and in no event later than 8:00 PM Saturday, September 19, 2026.

The protesting party, as well as the accused team members, captain and crew, must be present at any official protest hearing. The Tournament Committee may refuse to consider any protest evidence not submitted at the hearing in the presence of the protested team. If the protesting or protested team fails to appear, that team forfeits its right to submit evidence. Decisions of the tournament organizers with regard to protests are final, non-appealable and nonjusticiable.

16. BINDING ARBITRATION

In the event the Tournament Organizers / Rules Committee cannot render or refuses to render a final and binding decision with respect to any dispute, protest, claim, difference or controversy under review, the matter shall be resolved by binding arbitration under the commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association. The decision rendered in arbitration shall be in writing and shall be final and binding upon all parties. The parties shall have no further recourse except as provided for by the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Once the decision is rendered it will produce the effect of "res judicata" and the parties shall fully comply with the decision without delay. **The participants hereby specifically waive any right to a trial by judge or jury. Arbitration will occur in East Baton Rouge Parish in the State of Louisiana.**

17. CANCELLATION AND WEATHER

The 2026 Cajun Canyons Fall Invitational is scheduled for fishing from 8:00 AM Thursday, September 17 until 2:00 PM Saturday, September 19, 2026. The tournament is conducted on a **“fish-at-your-own-risk”** basis. In the case of inclement weather, the Tournament Committee may cancel, shorten or reschedule fishing days in its sole discretion. If any portion of the tournament is fished and a team lands a fish meeting the tournament’s eligible species and minimum size requirements, prizes will be awarded. If weather or conditions beyond the control of the Tournament Committee require that the tournament be cancelled in its entirety, refunds will be made within fourteen (14) days in accordance with the refund terms published on the entry form.

18. USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS, AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

All participants hereby grant the Cajun Canyons Fall Invitational and comefishLa.com, Inc. their full and unlimited consent for the use of any photograph, video and/or audio recording taken or recorded in relation to the tournament in which they, or their voice or likeness, may appear. The tournament and comefishLa.com, Inc. may use said photographs, video or audio recordings for any purpose they deem appropriate, including but not limited to advertising and marketing, promotion, resale or the like, without compensation or restriction.

19. LIABILITY RELEASE

Participants agree, to the maximum extent permitted by law, that they are entering and participating at their own risk. By entering and/or registering for the Cajun Canyons Fall Invitational (hereinafter referred to as the “Tournament”), all participants — including but not limited to all registered anglers, Captains, mates and guests (hereinafter referred to as “Participants”) — agree, to the maximum extent permitted by law, to hold the Tournament, the Cajun Canyons Billfish Classic, Bayous and Backroads Tournament Productions, LLC., comefishLa.com, Inc., Cypress Cove Tournament Productions, LLC., Cypress Cove Marina, Inc., Cypress Cove Lodge, LLC., Cypress Cove Peninsula Townhomes, LLC., Venice Marina, DAGTech, Inc. d/b/a CatchStat.com, together with all persons or entities involved with or associated with the Tournament, along with their respective employees, officers, directors, volunteers, agents, committee members, partners, sponsors, advisors and subcontractors (hereinafter referred to as the “Tournament Group”) harmless from any and all claims, demands, or liability of any kind whatsoever relating to the Tournament, including but not limited to any claims for any act or omission, excluding, however, any claims for any intentional or gross fault by any member of the Tournament Group, and any claims for physical injury caused by any member of the Tournament Group.

Participants further acknowledge and agree that scoring, registration, leaderboard, media submission and financial processing services for the Tournament are provided by DAGTech, Inc. d/b/a CatchStat.com as a service provider to the Tournament, that CatchStat.com is not an organizer or judge of the Tournament, and that all scoring and eligibility determinations are made solely by the Tournament Committee.

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comefishLa.com, Inc. · c/o Cypress Cove Marina · 235 Cypress Cove Rd, Venice, Louisiana 70091
Live scoring and registration powered by CatchStat.com