

2026 Marlin Global Challenge Rules

The Marlin Global Challenge is a winner-take-all tournament, and the jackpot will be awarded to the boat that catches the heaviest Blue Marlin in a recognized tournament anywhere in the world between Jan 1, 2026 and October 31, 2026. Only official weights from recognized tournaments are accepted, with the tournament's tackle and angling rules serving as the standard for qualifying those fish. A "recognized tournament" refers to annual, established events that utilize certified scales and are conducted with the presence of a weighmaster and spectator witnesses, included on the [list of recognized tournaments](#). Please e-mail Lacey.Hagler@MarlinMag.com if your intended tournament is not listed. The Marlin Global Challenge reserves the right to determine if a tournament meets the requirements. If you are unsure whether the tournament where you intend to weigh a marlin qualifies, please contact the Marlin Global Challenge tournament committee in advance for confirmation.

ENTRY FEE

The Entry Fee is \$3,000 per boat, with 85% of the aggregate entry fees awarded to the boat who weighs the single heaviest Blue Marlin. This is a "boat tournament," and the award payout will be distributed to the person designated as the primary contact (PC) for the winning boat on Marlin.Catchstat.com. PCs may register multiple boats throughout the Marlin Global Challenge duration; however, they must be registered as separate entries, and the PC must be present on the boat at the time the weighed fish is boated.

The winning boat with the heaviest fish will also receive an invitation to participate in the 2027 Offshore World Championship and will be recognized in a Marlin magazine special feature. The winner will be announced by November 15, 2026.

WINNING FISH

The winning fish must be a Blue Marlin weighing 500 pounds or more, caught in accordance with these rules. In the event of a tie in weight, the heaviest fish weighed first, based on time, shall be the winner. Boats and teams are expected to comply with their recognized tournament's rules and all local, state, and federal regulations regarding licensing, size limits, and other applicable requirements. If the recognized tournament disqualifies the catch for any reason, it is no longer eligible for the Marlin Global Challenge.

REGISTRATION CLOSE DATE AND REFUND POLICY

Boats must register and pay the \$3,000 entry fee by 11:59 PM (in the timezone of the recognized tournament) the day before the start of the recognized tournament in which they intend to participate. Retroactive registrations after a catch will not be accepted. No refunds will be issued under any circumstances.

REPORTING PROCEDURE & VERIFICATION OF WEIGHT

All catches must be recorded on the catch report affidavit sheets. These can be downloaded from the Marlin Global Challenge [website](#) or [CatchStat](#). Affidavits must be received by the Marlin Global Challenge committee within 72 hours of the qualifying catch and must be accompanied by a photo of the fish on the scale at the weigh station. Email submissions to: Lacey.Hagler@marlinmag.com

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

The registered boat's Primary Contact is responsible for prize winnings and must sign a prize disbursement form specifying how funds are to be distributed. If multiple parties are to receive funds, each must complete a form and specify the payment method (check, ACH, or wire). A signed W-9 Form must be provided if applicable. Funds will be disbursed within 30 days from receipt of all necessary documents, provided that all tournament entry fees have cleared the bank. All funds will be paid from a U.S. bank account in U.S. dollars.

PROTEST AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION/POLYGRAPH

Participants may lodge protests against any catch they believe was not made in accordance with these rules. Any protest must be submitted in writing to the Marlin Global Challenge committee within 24 hours of the alleged infraction. All disputes will be ruled on by the Marlin Global Challenge Tournament Committee and the director of the recognized tournament, and their decisions shall be final and binding.

The Marlin Global Challenge reserves the right to require the winning team to submit to a polygraph exam. Failure to comply or failure of the test will result in disqualification, and the winnings will be awarded to the next eligible team.

SPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

All participants are expected to maintain sportsmanlike behavior at all times. Unsportsmanlike or threatening conduct toward tournament organizers or other participants, or any other behavior deemed inappropriate by the organizers, will result in immediate disqualification with no refund of entry fees.

The tournament committee reserves the right to deny tournament entry to any individual, organization or corporation.

The Marlin Global Challenge tournament committee reserves the right to update or change these rules at any time. By entering the Marlin Global Challenge tournament and paying the entry fees, all participants agree to abide by the rules and accept all decisions made by the Tournament Committee as final.

Tournament Contact Information:

MarlinGlobalChallenge.com

Lacey Hagler, Tournament Director – Lacey.Hagler@MarlinMag.com

MARLIN GLOBAL CHALLENGE CATCH REPORT AFFIDAVIT 2026

By signing below, I hereby affirm that the information submitted by me (or on my behalf) in this Catch Report Affidavit is true and accurate. I further attest that I have followed all of the rules of the 2026 MARLIN GLOBAL CHALLENGE and the recognized tournament I am fishing, copies of which were furnished to me and the receipt of which I hereby acknowledge. If asked, I hereby consent to a polygraph test to further validate the representations made in this affidavit. I understand that refusal to submit to a polygraph exam will result in immediate disqualification from the tournament and forfeiture of any prize money.

Affidavits MUST be received by the MARLIN GLOBAL CHALLENGE committee within 72 hours of the qualifying catch. A photo of the angler/team with the fish at the weigh in, must accompany this affidavit. These can be emailed to: Lacey.Hagler@marlinmag.com

Date:

Name of Tournament:

Angler Name:

Boat Name:

Weight:

Length (LJFL):

Local Time of Weigh In:

Girth:

Scale Type/Make:

Date Certified:

Person or Agency that certified the scale:

Tournament Weighmaster Name/Signature:

Weighmaster Phone:

Primary Contact* Name:

Primary Contact Phone:

Primary Contact Email:

Witness Name/Signature:

Witness Phone/Email:

*This is the person listed as the Primary Contact on your CatchStat registration.

Lacey.Hagler@marlinmag.com www.marlinglobalchallenge.com

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AND FULL RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

READ CAREFULLY! This Release affects your legal rights and its completion is a prerequisite for your enrollment and participation in the Marlin Global Challenge tournament (the "Tournament"). Your entry indicates your FULL acceptance of these terms.

By entering the Marlin Global Challenge tournament and paying the entry fee, I AGREE AS FOLLOWS: I am applying to participate in the Tournament; acceptance of my application is at the sole discretion of the Tournament organizers. In consideration of being permitted to apply for, enroll or participate in the Tournament and such activities as may be arranged for me in connection with such application, enrollment and participation (collectively, the "Tournament Activities"), individually for myself and on behalf of my personal representatives, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, and next of kin, and as the vessel's master (if I am the vessel's master):

1. I hereby acknowledge that the Tournament Activities are dangerous and hazardous, and may entail the risk of serious injury, death, and property or economic damage. I understand that the risks include, but are not limited to, dangers posed by inclement weather and the inherent risks posed by game fishing. I hereby fully assume all non-economic and economic risks posed to me by my enrollment and participation in the Tournament Activities, whether those risks are known or not and whether those risks are foreseen or not. I hereby release and discharge the Tournament, its sponsors and Bonnier LLC; each of their respective parent companies, subsidiaries, and affiliated companies; the officers, employees, associates, agents, and contractors of all of the foregoing; all other Tournament participants; and all location owners and operators (collectively, the "Releasees") of and from any and all claims, suits, causes of action, obligations, liabilities, debts, costs, damages, or demands of every kind and nature which I now have or which may arise from or in connection with my enrollment and participation in the Tournament Activities, whether or not caused or contributed to by the negligence of the Releasees or the manner in which the Tournament is conducted by the Releasees. ALL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN THEIR OWN INSURANCE COVERAGE.
2. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Releasees, their heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, assigns, and parent organizations from any damages, costs, expenses, or liabilities, including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees or other professional fees, resulting from or in any way connected with the risk posed by the Tournament or Tournament Activities, and regardless of whether those risks were caused in full or in part by a party indemnified hereunder.
3. I agree that this Release supersedes any other agreements, written or oral, between the parties and is governed by the laws of Florida. I intend this release to be interpreted as broadly as possible, and if any portion of this Release is held invalid, I intend the remainder to continue in full legal force and effect.
4. I acknowledge receipt of the rules of the Tournament and I agree to fully abide thereby. I further agree that: (i) I will abide by and accept all decisions made by the Tournament organizers or any representative of the Tournament organizers in connection with my application, enrollment, or participation in the Tournament; (ii) all such decisions will be final, non-appealable, and in the sole discretion of the Tournament organizers or their representatives; and (iii) any economic or

non-economic consequences to me as a result of such decisions are within the scope of the foregoing release.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS BY ACCEPTING IT. MY ACCEPTANCE AND TOURNAMENT ENTRY IS GIVEN VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE BEING MADE TO ME, AND I INTEND MY ENTRY TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

Participants in Tournaments are advised to obtain their own insurance covering them and their vessel's participation. By entering the tournament, I hereby affirm receipt of the rules of the Tournament. I also affirm that I will abide by and accept all decisions made by Tournament management.

PUBLICITY RELEASE

In consideration for being permitted to enroll and participate in the Marlin Global Challenge tournament (the "Tournament"), I hereby agree to the following terms:

1. I grant the Tournament, Bonnier LLC, and their respective licensees, affiliates, successors and assigns (collectively, the "Licensed Parties") the unrestricted, irrevocable, and perpetual worldwide right to record, copy, reproduce, publish, exhibit, perform and otherwise exploit (collectively, "use"), and license others to use in any and all media now existing and hereinafter developed, without payment of additional compensation, my appearance, name, likeness, voice, and statements that I make in interviews connected with the Tournament, and any photographic, video or audio materials that I create during my participation in the Tournament (collectively, the "Property"), for any purpose, including but not limited to advertising and promotion. I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve any use of the Property or any materials including the Property.
2. The Licensed Parties shall have no liability to me relating to the use or publication, as set forth herein, of the Property for any reason. For myself and on behalf of my personal representatives, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, and next of kin, I hereby irrevocably release and exempt the Licensed Parties from and against all actions, claims and demands that I now have or may have in the future arising from or relating to any such use or publication of the Property.
3. Nothing herein obligates the Licensed Parties to make any use of any of the rights set forth herein. The rights granted shall not revert to me by reason of the Licensed Parties' lack of use, and are irrevocable.

By registering as a participant, you are consenting to our [privacy policy](#) and agreeing to grant Bonnier LLC and The Marlin Group use of your personal information to send you newsletters, surveys, offers, and other emails that may be of interest on behalf of Marlin and our trusted partners. You can opt out or amend your email preferences at any time.