

Rules for the 2009 Seasonal Awards

Each year the Marlin Club takes the time to recognize the offshore fishing accomplishments of its members. We honor them at a seasonal awards banquet where we present them with trophies and plaques to celebrate their achievements. The following constitutes the rules and qualifications for the seasonal awards presented by the Marlin Club.

1. **Fishing Season:** The fishing season begins on January 1st and ends on October 11, 2009.
2. **Catch Reports:** All catch reports must be entered on line at www.ocmarlinclub.com with the only exception being those turned in during OC Marlin Club Tournaments. These are the ONLY reports that will be entered on line for you. All other catch reports must be entered on line (this includes the White Marlin Open). Catch reports must be entered on line no later than ten days from the date of the catch.
3. **Eligibility for Seasonal Awards:**
 - Members: Dues must be paid in FULL prior to fish catches counting towards seasonal awards. Any catch reports received prior to dues being paid WILL NOT count towards seasonal awards. Catches made by Members on Member or Nonmember boats ARE eligible for awards.
 - Nonmembers: Nonmembers are not eligible for Billfish Awards with the exception of the Jr. Angler Awards. Fish caught by Nonmembers are eligible for all other seasonal awards when the fish is caught on a Club Boat and the Member's boat dues are current.
 - Captain and Mates: Members and Nonmembers who receive pay as a professional may qualify for seasonal awards if fishing as an angler and not paid for the day that he/she catches the fish for the seasonal award. Example: A paid captain or mate chooses to charter a boat, become a member or a charter team or fish as a nonpaid guest.
4. **Fish Eligible for Awards:** All fish eligible for awards, must be caught within 100 nautical miles of the Ocean City, Maryland Inlet (Sea Buoy). All catches eligible for Ocean City Marlin Club Seasonal Awards, must depart and return to the OC, Maryland or Indian River inlets. To qualify for seasonal tournament and awards all catches must meet or exceed all Federal Requirements and Marlin Club weights.
5. **Ties:** All seasonal ties will be decided based on the day and time of catch.
6. **Billfish Release in One Day:** For awards given to Most Billfish Released in One Day, boats may leave and return on same day. Fish caught on overnigher trips are eligible and must be reported on the specific day of the overnigher when the fish was caught.
7. **First White Marlin Release:** \$5,000 will be awarded by the OCMC for the First White Marlin Release of the year. The fish may be caught by a

boat from either the OC Inlet or Indian River Inlet by a member or by someone fishing on a member boat.

8. **First Blue Marlin Release:** \$2,500 will be awarded by the OCMC for the First Blue Marlin Release of the year. The fish may be caught by a boat from either the OC Inlet or Indian River Inlet by a member or by someone fishing on a member boat.
9. **Individual Angler Awards:** For awards given to an individual angler the fish must be hooked and caught by the angler, unaided by the boat's crew. Junior Anglers may receive assistance. All Ocean City Marlin Club and IGFA rules apply.
10. **Private/Charter Boats:** Private boats who fish one or more times for pay become Charter boats and are not eligible for awards given to private boats.
11. **Weight Minimums:** During Club tournaments all catches must meet the Club's minimum requirements:

Dolphin	.....	10 lbs.
Shark	.....	150 lbs.
Tuna	.....	30 lbs.
Wahoo	.....	20 lbs.
Swordfish	.....	RELEASE ONLY
Spearfish	.....	RELEASE ONLY
Sailfish	.....	RELEASE ONLY
White Marlin	.....	RELEASE ONLY
Blue Marlin	.....	RELEASE ONLY

Seasonal Tuna award has no minimum weight.

**ALL CATCH REPORTS MUST BE ENTERED ON LINE BY NOON ON
OCTOBER 12, 2009.**