



SSFC SEYCHELLES NATIONAL FISHING TOURNAMENT

22nd – 23rd MARCH 2024

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT ORGANIZERS

Seychelles Sports Fishing Club (SSFC)

TOURNAMENT VENUE

The tournament will be held at Marine Charter Association starting on Friday, 22nd March 2024 at 8:00AM to Saturday, 23rd March 2024 3:00PM.

Tournament lunch prize giving will be held at AT SEA BAR AND GRILLE Sunday 24th March 2024 from 10.30am

TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

Main Sponsor - Heineken

TOURNAMENT ORGANIZERS &

OFFICIALS

Mr. Tarak Patel
Chairman Seychelles Sports Fishing Club (SSFC) – 2522106

Mr. Grant Heyer
Secretary Seychelles Sports Fishing Club (SSFC) - 2519351

Farima Barbier
Executive Secretary Seychelles Sports Fishing Club (SSFC)
-2603041

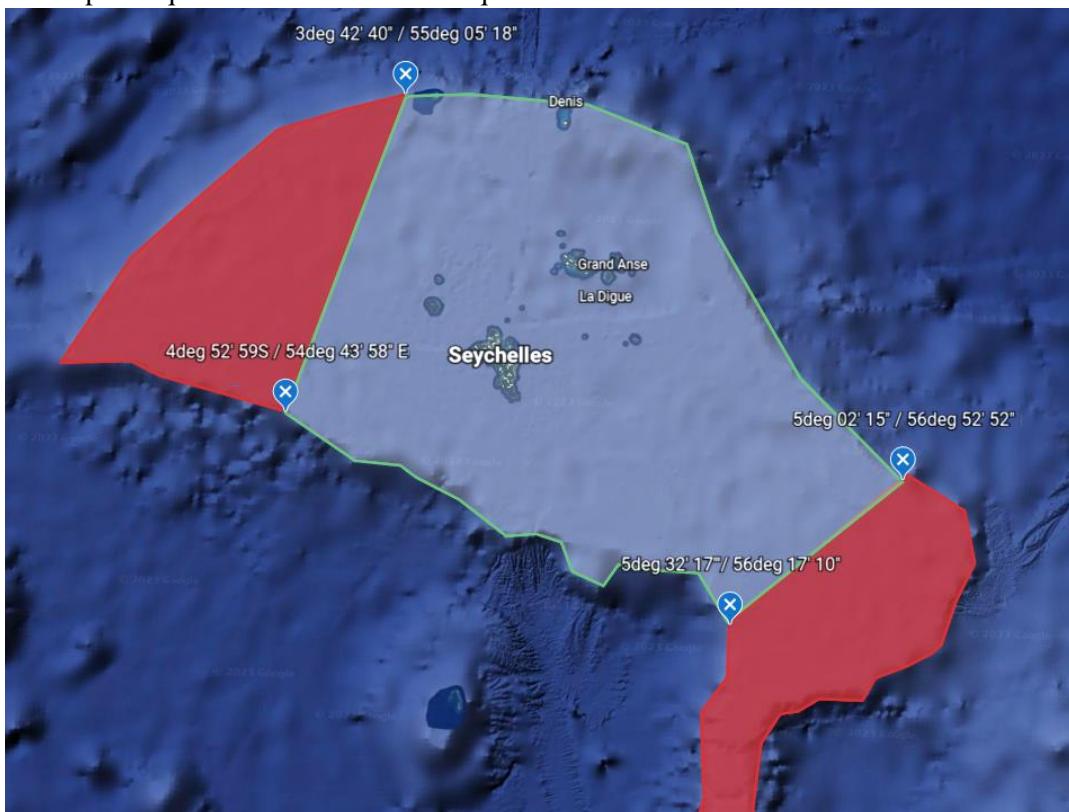
TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Fred Payet and Capt. Alain Khan and Capt. Hoareau – Official WeighMasters



TOURNAMENT RULES

1. **VENUE** – Marine Charter Association - Mahe
2. **STARTING DATE & TIME** – Friday, 22nd March 2024 at 8:00AM from Marine Charter, Providence, Eden Island Marina, Bel Ombre, Mahe, Praslin and La Digue.
3. **ENDING DATE & TIME** –Saturday, 23rd March 2024 3:00PM at Marine Charter Association
4. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** – Skipper’s meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20th March 2024 at 5pm. The final deadline for registration is Thursday, 21st March 2024 at 5:00PM – terms and conditions apply - call Farima. All boats must be inspected before departure including Praslin and La Digue boats.
5. **REGISTRATION FEES** – SR 2,000SR per boat. No refund will be issued once a team has registered. However, a team may switch to another boat prior to the Registration Deadline.
6. **STYLE** - The competition is opened to both Trolling and Bottom Fishing. No more than 5 hooks perline for bottom fishing. Rod & reels or handlines using live or dead bait or artificial lures/jigs. Note that electric reels, winches, drop-lines, nets and traps are not allowed. Popping and jigging is allowed. Tassels are not allowed. **A boat will be disqualified if a tassel is found on any boat.** All participants must fish within the designated grid.
7. **DESIGNATED FISHING GRID:** All teams are required to fish within this fishing grid. Fishing outside of this grid will result in disqualification. Weigh-master may request all teams to show their tracks to verify the team fished within the grid. Failure to display the fishing track upon request can also result in disqualification.



8. **BILLFISH RELEASE CRITERIA – IGFA RULES APPLY** - All billfish must be properly released in order to score points for the registered angler and his or her team. All of these requirements must be captured on video. Uninterrupted video footage should show:

- The last few minutes of the fight including the angler and proof of the billfish species. The video should also show the release.
- At the end of the release, video must capture GPS time on the boat console GPS or handheld GPS. For absence of doubt, the official time of the release will be determined by video captured GPS recorded time on the screen of the boat console GPS or handheld GPS



- IGFA Release Rules stipulate a fish is released when a team member grabs the leader, the swivel touches the rod tip, or the connection (knot, splice, etc.) between the leader and the mainline/double line passes through the rod tip and the billfish being released either by cutting the leader or removing the hook(s).
- Failure to follow IGFA rules will result in disqualification of the fish and the fish will not be eligible for points.

9. **IGFA RULES** - IGFA equipment rules apply to all. IGFA angling rules apply to all except in the following circumstances:

- Once a fish is hooked, the rod can be passed to only 1 angler. Once the rod is passed to the angler, it cannot be transferred to another angler.
- IGFA equipment rules apply but IGFA angling rules do not apply to ladies and juniors.

10. **ANGLERS** – A team must consist of a minimum of 2 anglers.

11. **SKIPPERS MEETING** – Wednesday, 20th March 2024 at 5:00PM at Marine Charter Association. All teams

/Captains shall attend the meeting. Other team members are welcome also. Boats from Praslin or La Digue that enter but cannot attend the Skippers Meeting must contact Farima Barbier for rules review. All boats must be inspected before departure including Praslin and La Digue boats.

12. **FISH – ONLY 2 OF THE TEAMS HEAVIEST FISH FOR EACH SPECIES IN THE TOURNAMENT LISTING WILL BE WEIGHED. SSFC WILL NOT BE COLLECTING FISHTO SELL.** Sharks and rays are not acceptable. All boats shall select their 2 heaviest fish of each species on the fish species list.

13. **DISQUALIFICATION –**

- a. A boat will be disqualified if it arrives outside the area below after the deadline of GPS Time 3:00PM Saturday, 23rd March 2024.



- b. A boat will be disqualified if during the tournament, it receives fuel from another vessel or refuels from a source other than regular fuel depots on Mahe;
- c. A boat must catch, store and return to the weighing station with fish caught by the team members on that boat only, and during the tournament only. A boat will be disqualified if it weighs in fish from any other source, or if it weighs fish caught prior to the start of the tournament.
- d. A boat will be disqualified if a non-registered person other than pre-approved members of the media joins the boat or is discovered on the boat during the tournament.
- e. A boat will be disqualified if a team member joins the boat after the tournament has started. Note that all members of a team must be onboard when the boat departs, and the same team members must be onboard when the boat returns to the weigh-in station.
- f. A boat will be disqualified if a team member disembarks from the boat during the tournament and then rejoins the boat from a different location.
- g. A boat will be disqualified if a team member disembarks from the boat during the tournament. The only exception is when during the tournament, a boat informs the Tournament Organizer that it is offloading a sick or injured team member (or members) or offloading a team member due to an emergency situation. In such cases, the boat will be allowed to continue participating in the tournament without being disqualified.
- h. A boat will be disqualified if it does not return to the weigh station under its own power.
- i. A boat that is disqualified will not be eligible for prizes.
- j. If a tassel is found on a boat, it will be immediately disqualified. If the weigh master determines that tassels have been used, the boat will be disqualified from the tournament and banned from future SSFC tournaments.
- k. A boat will be disqualified if the fishing team fishes outside of the designated fishing grid.

14. **EMERGENCY ON THE OPEN SEAS** - In the event of an emergency, engine failure or where a vessel has requested assistance to be towed back to Mahe, we encourage all boats in the vicinity to respond immediately. Note that any boat providing such assistance to a distressed vessel will not be penalized for arriving past the competition deadline, and the boat will be eligible for weigh-in and prizes.
15. **WEIGH-IN** - Weigh-in shall commence at 12:00PM Saturday 23rd March 2024 on a first-come first-serve basis. Teams will be allowed to weigh their **(2) two** heaviest fish only in each of the eligible categories. Only the Team whose catch is being currently weighed will be allowed to the designated weighing area. The Team Captain will sign the prescribed form after the weighing is completed signifying his agreement thereto. A copy of the weigh-in results will be given to each team captain. Captains are responsible for verifying all written results before exiting the weigh-in tent. No results will be issued during the weigh-in process. No billfish will be weighed at the weigh station unless it will qualify for a Seychelles Record or World Record.
16. **PROTESTS** - All protests must be lodged in writing to the Weigh master's within one hour of the last boat weighing-in on Saturday 23rd March 2024. A deposit of SR 2,500 must accompany the protest. If the protest is determined as valid, the SR 2,500 will be refunded. The WeighMasters will consult with the tournament officials and their decision will be final and only announced at the prize-giving ceremony.



17. **PRIZE CATEGORIES** – There are Twenty-Nine (30) prize categories in total in the tournament.

CATEGORIES	1st Place Points	2nd Place Points	PRIZES (For heaviest fish)
Trolling Fish Categories			
1. Barracuda (any type)	5	3	Trophy
2. Bonito	5	3	Trophy
3. Dorado	5	3	Trophy
4. Kingfish	5	3	Trophy
5. Marlin – RELEASE ONLY	5	3	Trophy
6. Rainbow Runner	5	3	Trophy
7. Sailfish/Spearfish – RELEASE ONLY	5	3	Trophy
8. Tuna Dogtooth	5	3	Trophy
9. Tuna Yellowfin	5	3	Trophy
Bottom Fish Categories			
1. Bordomar	5	3	Trophy
2. Bourgeois	5	3	Trophy
3. Capitaine Blanc	5	3	Trophy
4. Capitaine Rouge	5	3	Trophy
5. Carangue			
6. Croissant	5	3	Trophy
7. Job Gris	5	3	Trophy
8. Job Jaune, Kalkal or Lelou	5	3	Trophy
9. Saumon	5	3	Trophy
10. Vara Vara	5	3	Trophy
11. Vieilles Platte	5	3	Trophy
12. Vieilles Makonde	5	3	Trophy
13. Villes Other	5	3	Trophy
14. Monsieur Hangar	5	3	Trophy
Special Prize Category with Tournament Points			
1. Best Average Catch	5	3	Trophy
2. Most Species Caught	5	3	Trophy
Special Prize Categories without Tournament Points			
			PRIZES
1. Best Total Trolling Catch			Trophy
2. Best Total Bottom Catch			Trophy
3. Best Total Overall Catch			Trophy
4. Runner-Up			Trophy
5. Best Team Winner			Trophy

Only 2 fish of each species will be weighed and will count for the Total Catch, Average Catch, Best Trolling, Best Bottom categories.

18. SPECIAL PRIZE CATEGORY – WITH TOURNAMENT POINTS

- **Best Average Catch** – 5 points will be awarded to the team with the highest average catch per team member on board with 3 points awarded to the runner-up. Best Average Catch is calculated by total weight of the 2 heaviest fish weighed in categories 1-4,6,8,9 Trolling and categories 1-15 Bottom divided by the total number of people onboard the boat.

19. SPECIAL PRIZE CATEGORY – WITHOUT TOURNAMENT POINTS

- **Best Total Trolling Catch** - Awarded to the team with the best total weight for the 2 heaviest fish for each species weighed in the Trolling Fish Categories 1-4,6, 9;
- **Best Total Bottom Catch** - Awarded to the team with the best total weight for the 2 heaviest fish for each species weighed in the Bottom Fish Categories 1-14;
- **Best Total Overall Catch** - Awarded to the team with the best overall total weight for the 2 heaviest fish for each species weighed in the combined trolling and bottom fish categories 1-4,6,8, 9 Trolling and categories 1-14 Bottom.

17. BEST TEAM (TOURNAMENT WINNER) & TOURNAMENT RUNNER-UP

The Tournament Winner (Best Team) and Runner-Up will be determined on a point-base system to be calculated as follows:

- Points will be awarded as per the above chart for heaviest & second-heaviest fish in each category.
- A team will be awarded the points for both 1st and 2nd places if they have caught the 2 heaviest fish in that category. **Exception to this rule is Category 5 Marlin and Category 7 Sailfish. As an example, should a team releases 2 sailfish and no other team releases a sailfish, the team will only be awarded 5 points for 1st place and there will not be a winner for 2nd place. Same applies to category 5. Should there be a tie for Category 5 and 7, the winner will be decided based on the earliest GPS time of the tying fish.**
- Should there be a tie in weight/points for a first-place finish, each team shall be awarded 5 points for categories 1-4,6,8,9 Trolling and categories 1-14 Bottom. No second place points will be awarded.
- Should there be a tie in weight/points of a second-place finish, each team shall be awarded an equal number of points (3 points for categories 1-4,6,8,9 Trolling and categories 1-14 Bottom).
- If two or more teams are tied with the same number of points at the end of the tournament, the team with the most first place finishes in the 1-9 Trolling and categories 1-14 Bottom Fish Categories will win the tiebreaker. If there is a further tie due to the same number of first place finishes, then the team with the Best Total Overall Catch shall win the tiebreaker. Then it's a coin-toss!





TEAM NAME		BOAT NAME		REGISTRATION NO.
TEAM CAPTAIN		SAT PHONE NO.		TEL NO.
SKIPPER'S NAME		TEL NO.		TOTAL ON BOARD
OTHER ANGLERS		TEL NO.	OTHER ANGLERS	TEL NO.
1				
2				<i>(Incl. crew)</i>
3			11	
4			12	
5			13	
6			14	
7			15	
8			16	
9			17	
10			18	

REGISTRATION FEE

Rs 2000 per boat

PRIZE-GIVING

AT SEA BAR AND GRILLE – Sunday 24th March 2024

We have read and fully understand the rules governing our participation in this competition and agree to abide by them. In the event of a matter arising that is not covered by the rules, we accept that "fair play" shall apply and that the subsequent decision of the tournament officials shall be final.

All boats registered do so at their own risk. By registering as an angler in the tournament, the angler holds harmless the Tournament Committee, Tournament Judges, Organizers, Sponsors and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Tournament from any liability for libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, injury, or death suffered by any participant, entrant, sports fisherman, their companions, boat captains, crew members, family, vessels and equipment which occur during or in conjunction with the Tournament.

TEAM CAPTAIN

TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL