



## Rules + Regulations

1. It is mandatory that all Captains attend the scheduled Angler/Captains' Welcome Meeting and signs off on the official tournament rules. If the Captain does not attend, their team will be disqualified from the event.
2. Registered teams may add and drop crew as long as the Captain of the registered team does not change (unless loss of Captain is due to reasons deemed acceptable by RFTB rules committee at its sole discretion). Registered teams may not exceed six anglers per day.
  1. All Team members must fill out liability waivers.
3. Participants must possess a valid British Columbia Tidal Water fishing license for the duration of the tournament. Anglers checked by DFO without a valid B.C. fishing license will disqualify the entire team from the tournament. To avoid delays and other problems, it is highly recommended you obtain a valid B.C. Saltwater license before arrival.
4. Boats are required to fly the official RFTB tournament flag
5. Entry fees cover registration for the event only, accommodation, moorage, ice and fuel are separate purchases.
6. **Official tournament channel is 78A.**
7. Shotgun Tournament Start
  1. Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00am
  2. Boats must be behind the official starter boat before 6 am
8. Daily Official Boat Checks + Weigh-ins
  1. Daily Boat Checks
    - September 12<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> at Tofino Resort + Marina docks

- Visual boat checks will be starting at 5 am daily at Tofino Resort + Marina.
    - **September 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:30am**
      - You may not leave TRM docks without signoff from RFTB staff
2. Daily Weigh-ins
    - Sept 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> at 5-7pm at the Marine Adventure Centre at Tofino Resort + Marina. No fish will be weighed after 7pm.
    - **September 19<sup>th</sup> the final day of the RFTB tournament weigh-in will be from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. No fish will be weighed after 5pm.**
  3. Maximum four tuna will be weighed per day, per registered team.
  4. It is the team's responsibility to decide which fish to consider before bringing them to the weighing area.
  5. No fish can be brought about for weigh-in by another boat, whether in the tournament or not.
  6. The official minimum weight for Albacore tuna, 10 pounds in the overall competition.
  7. Mutilated fish in which the fish's ability to fight has been compromised will not be weighed in. The derby master will make the final decision, with no protests allowed since it is a visual judgment call.
  8. All fish being weighed will be inspected by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) biologist and are the property of Race for the Blue until released.
  9. Fish with a missing starboard longfin will be disqualified.
  10. Fish not deemed to be appropriately bled & iced will be disqualified (see catch handling guide).
  11. Fish that are considered to be to be frozen or previously frozen will be disqualified as will team from Shoot-Out and all future Shoot-Outs.
  12. By order of the fisheries department, all team members must present their fishing licenses at the weigh-in when bringing a fish to the scale. They will be returned at the scale area before leaving (make sure you have them for all fishing days).
  13. All boats that weigh in fish are subject to a thorough boat inspection at the dock by a tournament representative.

## 9. Prizes

1. The team that catches the aggregate four largest Albacore tuna over the tournament wins \$25,000.
2. Daily Prize of largest tuna
3. In the event of a tie in the overall tournament, daily top tuna, or jackpots, the derby master will determine the winner by the largest fish between the two interested parties. If still a tie, the tie will be broken by which team weighed their fish first. If no eligible fish are caught during a day, the prizing rolls into the following day and so on. In the unlikely event that no suitable fish are seen over the tournament, refunds of the entry amount (minus \$500 tournament

operation fee) and jackpot amounts (minus 20 percent tournament operation fee) will be given, via mail.

4. All prizes must be won and accepted by a team captain.
5. In the event of a carry over the winning team will get one choice in order of day prize followed in order by other daily prize winners. Once all winnings teams make their first pick any carry over winner will pick in order of day prize.
6. All winners will be subject to a lie detector test at the discretion of the derby master. If any angler declines to be tested, his team is automatically disqualified from receiving any monetary awards. The lie detector test will be used as one of the sole determining factors in any decision by the derby master and the advisory board.

## 10. Safety

1. The derby master reserves the right to alter starting and finishing times or cancel fishing if deemed necessary to protect all anglers' safety.
2. All boat must check-in with the derby master via text message (marina@tofinoresortandmarina.com or 2502039752 before leaving Tofino Resort + Marina for all fishing days with the planned fishing area and estimated time of return or the team will be disqualified for that day's fishing.
3. Any vessels not returning to Tofino and not weighing in fish must report via text message when they arrive at their destination port.
4. Boats deemed operating in an unsafe manner will be disqualified from that tournament and is at the sole discretion of the RFTB tournament organizing committee.
5. **Weather calls pertaining to fishing will be at the sole discretion of the Race For The Blue rules committee and will be announced nightly for the following day of fishing after the 9:30pm Environment Canada report. RFTB officials reserves the right to adjust the call the following morning after the first forecasted report at 4:30am**
6. Safety is No. 1. No boats on the shotgun start shall "shoot" between each other. The disqualification of a team or teams is up to the discretion of the derby master.

## 11. Tackle (there are few restrictions on tackle)

1. **Fish must be taken on hook and line, using rod and reel.**
2. **No handlines are allowed. If you are caught using handlines or a hard-line attached to the boat, you will be disqualified from the tournament.**
3. There is no restriction on bait fishing
4. Rods may touch the boat railing during the fight. Use of outriggers, teasers, downriggers, spreader bars, kites, and balloons are allowed.

5. The use of the Green Stick/Joe Pole, a commercial rolling method with a mast, a "bird" attractor, and multiple clips from the mainline are not allowed. If found to be using this equipment on your boat, you will be disqualified.
6. More than one angler may fight the fish, and anglers may assist other anglers by touching the mainline during the fight.
7. No spotter planes are allowed to assist teams in any way for the duration of the tournament.

## 12. On the water

1. **Fishing American waters is an automatic disqualification.**
2. **Vessels entered in the tournament may not be involved in the handing off or receiving of anything from another boat, whether that vessel is entered in the tournament or not.**
  - The derby master may choose to grant special permission in advance to a team to waive this rule if someone's safety or health is at risk.
3. No disabled boat can be towed back to Tofino Resort + Marina so that a fish can be weighed in on time.
4. Two overnight trips per boat are allowed. These trips must be declared to the derby master before departure.
5. **All vessels must depart and return only from Tofino Resort + Marina docks. Any vessel stopping at another port or vessel will be immediately disqualified from the tournament. No mooring at any other marinas on overnight trips**

## 13. Protests

1. All verbal protests and supporting evidence must be presented to the tournament director(s) immediately upon returning to Tofino Resort + Marina, followed by a written protest no more than 30 minutes after the verbal protest. Evidence will be ruled on by both the derby master and the advisory board prior to the next day's events. Any verbal or physical abuse or threats from entrants to Race For The Blue staff will be grounds for a team's disqualification.
2. Race for the Blue reserves the right to deny any teams' or individual's entry. Also, note that the above rules are subject to change before the tournament.
3. All grievances on rules interpretations requested by anglers will be made ONLY by the derby master and advisory board will be deemed final.

## 14. **Have fun, be safe, treat all anglers, crew, and staff with respect (Easiest rule of all)**