

Halifax Tuna Tournament Society

Fishing Challenge – proceeds to IWK

2023-Results

HNSITT 2023 – Sept 20 – Sept 24

Hi everyone, the registrations and Captains Meeting for the 2023 Halifax Nova Scotia International Tuna Tournament took place at **GARRISON BREWERY, 1149 Marginal Rd, Halifax between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. with a Team Roll Call at 7 p.m. on Tuesday the 19th of September.** Each team had at least one person present for the Roll Call check and to pick up necessary registration items so they can legally fish. The boats from Cape Breton and one local boat from HRM were moored on the Halifax waterfront on Tuesday evening preparing for the start tomorrow.



Nijinski



Jacobite



Blind Strike



Lilah Sophia



Mad Dad

Registration commenced at 6:30 to pass on Tuna Tags, ICCAT forms, vessel trackers and detailed instructions on communications and tuna landing procedures to all teams. Pizza arrived at 7:00 and was donated by The Embroidery Edge and a cash bar was available for socialising with the all of the team members. 11 Teams have entered this years tournament (listed below). The Registration packages including their initial tuna tag, ICCAT forms along with the DFO license conditions and log forms to be filled out and returned to DFO at completion of the tournament. In addition there were vessel tracker units provided and updated instructions for the tournament.



Vic and Biruta Heniss along with Fred Voegeli manning the Registration Table

At 7:00 pm Fred Voegeli gave his normal presentation about the rules for the tournament and explaining the requirements for DFO hail out and hail in procedures after the roll call (sorry no photo this year). Overall a good time was had by all and good luck to all the fishers for this years tournament.



More Captains and Crew at Garrison's



Captain's and Crew



Garrison's Brewery Captains meeting



Good times 2023

The Halifax Tuna Tournament Society Board members included Vic Heniss (President) and wife Biruta as master organisers for the tournament and Fred Voegeli (Vice President) to explain the rules and details of this years program. Additional Board members Greg Mombourquette, Dave Edgecomb and John Lewis (webmaster) were present as well. Chris Purcell of Oceanview Fisheries who graciously provides our tuna handling requirements was also present at the meeting.

Tuna landings will be at the Oceanview Fisheries docks in Sambro throughout the tournament with the Captain and crew allowed off the vessel to complete necessary documentations and photos. There will be no public viewings.

Note to Teams: Please send photos and any comments and good fishing stories to HIIT@bluefintournament.ca so that I will be able to update this 2023 results page as the tournament progress's. Thanks from the webmaster.

Teams Entered 2023 year:

Team Name	Captain	Vessel Name
Rubber Boots Bandit	Cory Irons	Miss Jaimie Lynn
Blind Strike	Gerard Mombourquette	Blind Strike
Viking	Mark Wilbur	Nijinski
Edge	Dave Edgecombe	Blu
Ripley's Believe It	Calvin Ripley	Ripley's Believe It
Tunament	Michael Martell	Jacobite
Inventive Marine	Jamie Judge	Canavac
Mad Dad	Roddie MacCuspig	Mad Dad
Dragon Slayer	Blaise Bolland	Newfie Rocket
Chasing Tail	Don Cameron	Reel Life
Lobster's R Us	John Martell	Lilah Sophia

2023 Results Summary:

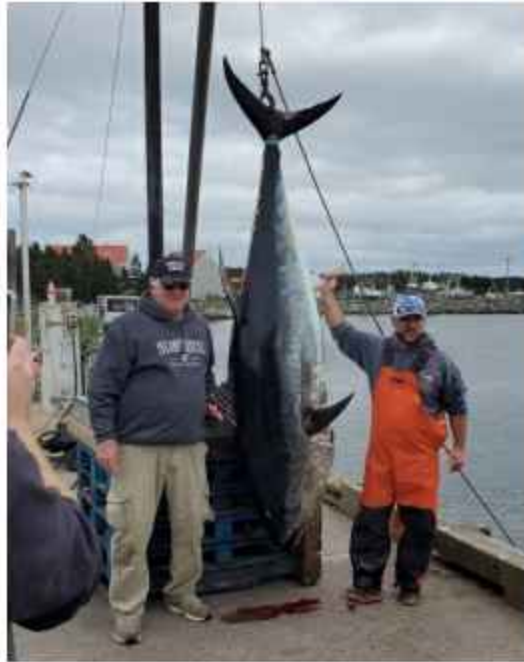
Team Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Rubber Boots Bandit		547	311		

Blind Strike	467				
Viking	283		579		
Edge	474				
Ripley's Believe It		413			
Tunament	513				
Inventive Marine					
Mad Dad	625		645		
Dragon Slayer					
Chasing Tail	679				
Lobster's R Us	527		445		
Daily Totals (lbs)	3568	960	1980	0	0
Tournament Totals (lbs)					6508

Day 1 – Wednesday (20th) Result

On day one of the tournament the day started with partially cloudy skies and a Marine Warning with 'Strong' winds of 20 to 30 knots from the WSW occurring or expected to occur in this marine area off Halifax. Seas were about 2 m with a wave period of about 9 seconds. 9 of the 11 boats have ventured out this morning and joined by a 10th boat at noon. Around 10 a.m. John Martell of Team Lobster's R Us reported a hook up. About 10:30 Cory Irons of Rubber Boots Bandit hooked up but lost that fish. Around 11:30 Lobster's R Us secured their fish and began the bleeding/cooling process before heading into Sambro. Around noon Rubber Boots Bandit hooked up again. About 13:30 Team Edge reported that they had secured a fish and were swimming it to cool it down.

At 14:36 Lilah Sophia with Team Lobster's R Us landed the first fish at Oceanview Fisheries in Sambro. The fish weighed in at 527 lbs.



Team Lobster's R Us – John Martell with their 527 lb. first fish

At 15:46 Team Blind Strike – Gerard Mombourquette delivered a 467 lb tuna to Oceanview.



Team Blind Strike – Gerard Mombourquette with their 467 lb tuna

At 17:23 Team Blu with Captain Dave Edgecombe delivered a 474 lb tuna to the Oceanview dock. At roughly the same time Team Viking (Nijinski) with Captain Mark Wilbur also delivered a 283 lb tuna.



Team Blu with Captain Dave Edgecombe and crew delivered a 474 lb tuna.



Team Viking (Nijnski) with Captain Mark Wilbur delivered a 283 lb tuna.

At around 18:50 Team Mad Dad with Captain Roddie MacCuspic delivered a nice 625 lb tuna to Oceanview.



Team Mad Dad – Captain Roddie MacCuspic with their 625 lb tuna

Shortly after Mad Dad's arrival around 19:45 team Tunament (Jacobite) with Captain Micheal Martell arrived with a 513 lb tuna.



Team Tunament (Jacobite) with Captain Micheal Martell and their 513 lb tuna

At about 22:00 Team Chasing Tail with Captain Don Cameron finally made it to the wharf at Oceanview Fisheries to deliver their 679 lb tuna as the last and biggest tuna of Day 1.



Team Chasing Tail with Captain Don Cameron and Crew and their 679 lb tuna

Day 2 – Thursday (21st) Results

Day 2 started out with clear skies and light winds. Following the 2nd fish rules of the tournament only the boats who had not caught fish on day 1 were allowed to go out fishing. As of 08:00 three boats were out on the fishing grounds and at 10:00 they were joined by Newfie Rockets.

As of this morning we have received two additional tuna tags for the tournament as a generous donation by Marshall Boutilier who has supported us in previous years as well.

At 12:10 Ripley's Believe it reported being hooked up off the Sambro Ledges and at about 15:00 delivered a nice 413 lb fish to the Oceanview Fisheries dock for the tournament.



Team Ripley's Believe it and Captain Calvin Ripley with their 413 lb tuna

About 17:15 Team Rubber Boots Bandit (Miss Jamie Lynn) also delivered a 547 lb tuna to Oceanview.



Team Rubber Boots Bandit with Captain Cory Irons and their 547 lb tuna

Thus ended Day 2 of the tournament with only one of the original 10 tags left and 2 donated for charity tags along with only two boats that haven't yet caught fish. The Board has decided to allow all registered boats to fish on Day 3 to hopefully catch the three remaining tags to maximize the donations for the IWK.

Day 3- Friday (22nd) Results

Day 3 started out with crisp fall airs and clear skies with light winds. Ten boats hailed out this morning and the hunt was on for the last 3 available tags.

At 10:33 Mad Dad hailed in with the first fish secured which was the 10th fish caught and officially closed the tournament. Two additional fish were caught covering the two charity tags and fishing was over at 16:00 as all our available tags had been caught.

At 14 30 Team Mad Dad with Captain Roddie MacCuspic delivered a nice 645 lb tuna to Oceanview Fisheries in Sambro.



Team Mad Dad with Captain Roddie MacCuspic delivered a nice 645 lb tuna

At 14:38 Team Rubber Boots Bandit with Captain Cory Irons delivered a 311 lb tuna as well.



Team Rubber Boots Bandit with Captain Cory Irons delivered a 311 lb tuna

Finally at 16:00 Team Lobster's R Us (Lilah Sophia) with Captain John Martell delivered a 485 lb tuna to Oceanview Fisheries.



Team Lobster's R Us (Lilah Sophia) with Captain John Martell delivered a 485 lb tuna

This completed the 2023 Nova Scotia International Tuna tournament for another year as all of the initial ten DFO provided tournament tags and the two additional donated tags have been filled. The tournament is over.

So ends the official 2023 Halifax Nova Scotia International Tuna Tournament. We hope everyone enjoyed their fishing endeavours. Thanks to everyone for participating for good times and a good cause.

Day 4- Saturday (23rd) Results

Day 4 – No fishing.

Day 5- Sunday (24th) Results

Sunday – No fishing.

Closing Ceremonies:

Due to shipping delays this year only the Chronicle Herald, Wayne Hoskins and a representative loaner prior first place trophy were available at the closing ceremonies and the new trophies will be distributed as soon as they arrive.



2023 short list trophies

Update on the trophies. They arrived a few days after the closing ceremonies and have been distributed to the winners.



Late arriving trophies

Closing ceremony gathering was held on Sunday Sept 24th from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Best Western Plus, Chocolate Lake Hotel, 250 Saint Margaret's Bay Road.

Representative from 4 teams were present for this years closing as again most of the Cape Breton crews had sailed back to Cape Breton and were not able to attend the closing ceremonies. Even so there was a nice period of socialising before the commencement of the event with around 25 team personnel present.



Teams Rubber Boots Bandits and Team Viking before the ceremonies



Team Chasing Tail socialising prior to the ceremonies.



Venue and social gathering

Fred Voegeli acted as the Master of Ceremonies for this years closing.

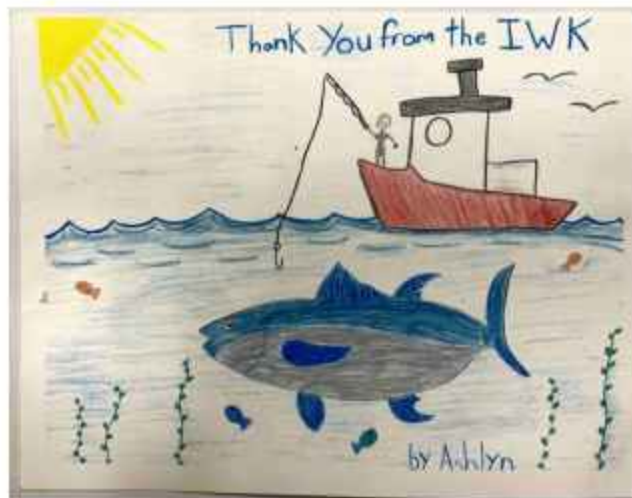


Fred Voegeli preparing to begin the closing ceremony along with Greg Conner of ACD and Biruta Heniss

Two representatives from the IWK were present for this years closing, Victoria Reid and Katherine Thomas. Fred introduced Victoria to the gathering who gave a very nice commentary on how the proceeds of our tournament help out the IWK along with an explanation of the young patient at the IWK by the name of Ashlyn who has produced a wonderful little post card of thanks to our tournament from the IWK.



Victoria Reid thanking the Halifax International Tuna Tournament for our support to the IWK



Thank You from Ashlyn

Following the opening remarks from Fred and the nice presentation from Victoria it was time to eat and a very nice Prime Rib Carvery meal was provided to the gathering by the great chefs and personnel of the Best Western Plus Hotel.



Prime Rib Carvery



Deserts Yum!

Following a great meal Fred Voegeli again took to the podium to continue with the awards ceremonies.



Presentations

Wayne Hoskin Memorial Trophy

The Wayne Hoskin Memorial Trophy is given out each year to the Team that lands the first Bluefin to be secured and logged in by call in to Atlantic Catch Data (ACD) for donation to the IWK.

The winning team of the **Wayne Hoskin Memorial Trophy** was Team: Lobster's R Us with Captain John Martell and team members Jeff Martell, Jerry Martell, Aubrey Landry, Blaire Martell and Janelle Martell. The presentation trophy was accepted by our IWK representative Victoria Reid as the team had returned to Cape Breton and was not available for the closing ceremony.



IWK REP Victoria Reid accepting the Hoskin trophy for Team Lobster's R Us

First Place: Team Chasing Tail with a 679 lb Tuna

Captain Don Cameron and team members Erick Gaudet, Keith Sawlor and Tyler Rutledge.



First Place – Team Chasing Tail

Second Place: Team Mad Dad with a 645 lb Tuna

With Captain Roddie MacCuspic and team members Shaun MacLeod, Caleb Madden, Chris Gracie, Maynard MacCuspic and Dylan MacCuspic. The Team was not able to be present at the ceremony and the Trophy was accepted by Reagan Henneberry as a stand in.



2nd Place Team Mad Dad with Reagan Heneberry accepting the trophy

Third Place: Team Mad Dad with a 625 lb Tuna

With Captain Roddie MacCuspig and team members Shaun MacLeod, Caleb Madden, Chris Gracie, Maynard MacCuspig and Dylan MacCuspig. The Team was not able to be present at the ceremony and again the Trophy was accepted by Reagan Henneberry as a stand in for the second time.



3rd Place Team Mad Dad with Reagan Henneberry accepting the trophy

The first place winning Team also received a 1st place Halifax Nova Scotia International Tuna Tournament keeper trophy along with an invitation to the **Offshore World Championship Tournament** in Quepos, Costa Rica which will be held April 14th to 19th, 2024.



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2023 QUALIFYING EVENT



Team Chasing Tail with invitation to the 2023 Offshore Worlds in Costa Rica



Don Cameron with his trophy and invitation certificate to the Offshore World Championship

Special thanks to Oceanview Fisheries for Tuna landing facilities, bait, fish processing and marketing as well as to all of our sponsors and donors for their support.

Particular thanks to our volunteers: Vic Heniss, Biruta Heniss and Fred Voegeli for their effort at the Captain's meeting and closing ceremonies and throughout the tournament. Also special thanks to Greg Connor who is our board Treasure as well as the President of ACD for both his HTTS society work and also his ACD roll of logging in the fish as required by DFO with related costs donated to the tournament and the IWK.

Info

Below are the fish proceeds results for the 2023 catch. Oceanview Fisheries handled marketing and shipping of all fish with a minimal charges for out of pocket costs to maximize donations to the IWK. Net Price per Pound is market less the averaged shipping and handling cost for all fish.

Team	Tag	Product	Round Weight	Dressed Weight		Price		Total
Blind Strike	Tag #2201	Bluefin Tuna "Japan"	467	381	lbs	\$12.60	lb	\$4,800.60
Tunament	Tag # 2202	Bluefin Tuna	513	399	lbs	\$8.75	lb	\$3,491.25
Mad Dad	Tag #2203	Bluefin Tuna	625	478	lbs	\$7.23	lb	\$3,455.94
Ripley's Believe It	Tag #2204	Bluefin Tuna	413	324	lbs	\$11.25	lb	\$3,645.00
Chasing Tail	Tag # 2205	Bluefin Tuna "Japan"	679	529	lbs	\$5.98	lb	\$3,163.42
Team Viking	Tag #2206	Bluefin Tuna	283	223	lbs	\$9.25	lb	\$2,062.75
Team Edge	Tag # 2208	Bluefin Tuna	474	348	lbs	\$11.70	lb	\$4,071.60
Rubber Boots Bandit	Tag # 2209	Bluefin Tuna	547	423	lbs	\$7.23	lb	\$3,058.29
Lobsters R Us	Tag #2210	Bluefin Tuna "Japan"	527	421	lbs	\$12.30	lb	\$5,178.30
Lobsters R Us	Tag # 2212	Bluefin Tuna	485	364	lbs	\$10.25	lb	\$3,731.00
Team Viking	Tag #2215	Bluefin Tuna	579	456	lbs	\$7.36	lb	\$3,356.16
Mad Dad	Tag # 2221	Bluefin Tuna	645	533	lbs	\$7.03	lb	\$3,746.99
Rubber Boots Bandit	Tag # 2224	Bluefin Tuna	311	242	lbs	\$11.25	lb	\$2,722.50
			6548	5121	lbs			\$46,483.80

Total proceeds including the Cash donations, Bait Sales and the portion of Registration Fees donated to the IWK amounted to **\$62,844.15** for the 2023 tournament. *(when available)*

Announcement:

Presentation:

This brings the HTTS 13 year cumulative donations to a total of **\$668,558.23** from the running of the Halifax Nova Scotia International Tuna Tournament. We wish the IWK all the best and thank all participants, volunteers and sponsors for their hard work and generosity to make this year another great success.