



EJW Wahoo Challenge Rules

Tournament Dates:

Registration closes Friday September 25th

Fishing Days Sat Sept 26th – Fri Oct 2nd

Awards Saturday October 3rd

The 2026 EJW Wahoo Challenge tournament will take place Friday September 25th through Saturday October 2nd 2026.

Fishing days will be Saturday September 26th through Friday October 2nd. This is a Captain's choice tournament and the boat is eligible to fish 2 out of 7 days.

Entry fee for the EJW Wahoo Challenge is \$500 to be paid along with your completed Registration form by Friday September 25th 7:00PM. Entry fee can be paid by cash or check. Please make checks payable to EJW Outdoors. If you choose to mail in your Registration form and entry fee, mail to EJW Outdoors 4060 Arendell Street, Morehead City NC 28557.

10% of all tournament fees will be held back and donated to charity.

Final Registration and Rules Review meeting will take place on Friday September 25th from 5:30 – 7:00pm under the tent outside of EJW Outdoors. One representative from the boat must attend in order to be eligible for any prize money. All participants in the Tournament are responsible for knowing all Tournament Rules, including any changes to the Rules that may take place at the Rules Meeting.

Fishing days are September 26th through October 2nd. You may choose to fish a maximum of 2 out of these 7 days. **The Captain must declare their fishing day no later than 7pm on the day before by notifying the tournament committee by email or text.**

Email: EJWwahoochallenge@gmail.com

Text: 252-515-0432

The Awards banquet will be under the tent outside of EJW Outdoors on Saturday October 3rd starting at 6pm. Payout for the top 3 heaviest wahoo will be 50% for first place, 30% for second place and 20% for third place.

Coordinates for this tournament are between North 40275 and South 39075. To be eligible, fish must be caught within the boundaries.

Tournament competition is limited to motorized boats only. The Captain, mate and/or angler listed on the registration form must be on the boat registered for the tournament on a declared fishing day when the wahoo is caught in order for the fish to be eligible to weigh in. There is no restriction as to the number of people allowed aboard each boat during competition hours.

All participants must comply with NC Wildlife laws and USCG regulations. This is a sporting event. All fish must be taken on a rod and reel. All wahoo submitted for weigh in must be in fresh, edible condition and caught that tournament day. No mutilated fish will be accepted for weigh in. No frozen fish will be accepted for weigh in under any circumstances. Attempted weigh alteration of any wahoo will be subject to disqualification and automatically disqualify the boat from the tournament. IGFA rules apply regarding mutilated fish. The EJW Wahoo Challenge reserves the right to cut open any fish for inspection of suspected weight altering efforts such as inserted weights, ice, water etc.

A boat may be substituted for mechanical repairs only by notification to the tournament committee before fishing begins that day.

Each boat may weigh in one wahoo per fishing day. It is the sole responsibility of the crew aboard each boat to off-load and present its catch for weigh in. All fish must be brought to EJW Outdoors and be accompanied by at least one representative from the boat to weigh in their wahoo by 7pm when the scales close. The weight announced by the Weigh Master during weigh in is final.

The EJW Wahoo Challenge will payout the top 3 heaviest fish for first, second and third prizes. A boat can only win one cash prize per tournament. All winnings will be made payable to the registered Captain.

In the event that two or more wahoo are the same weight, the winner shall be determined by the earliest weigh in day and time.

Any dispute must be made in writing to the tournament board no later than one hour after the last fish has been weighed and shall be accompanied by \$500 cash. The tournament committee will decide any dispute, with its decision being final.

This is a Captain's choice tournament. Each Captain is solely responsible for the safety of his or her vessel and crew at all times. Captains and crews are responsible for following any federal, state and local fishing and boating laws. We encourage all Captains to heed any weather warning or dangerous weather conditions, as safety is paramount. It is up to each participant to determine whether their craft is seaworthy for the conditions of any given fishing day.

Any advertiser, board or committee member entering the tournament in compliance with these rules is eligible for any and all prizes.

Information entered on the registration form is official and any changes must be initiated by the participant before registration closes on Friday September 25th at 7:00pm.

All tournament rules are subject to modification prior to the tournament start date. These modifications will be announced at the Rules Review meeting on Friday September 25th.

Any breaking of the rules will result in disqualification from the tournament. Disqualifications will result in forfeiture of winnings. The Tournament committee will determine or interpret all rules. The tournament committee reserves the right to refuse an entry into the tournament.