



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

## News Release

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

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### **SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL FISHING TOURNAMENT ON JULY 13-14, 2024**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** - The Saipan Fishermen's Association will hold the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament on July 13-14, 2024, in The Marianas.

Game fish categories are: Grand Prize (Biggest Billfish), Bill Fish (1st -3rd), Yellow Fin (1st-3rd), Wahoo (1st -3rd), Mahi Mahi (1st-3rd), and Skipjack Tuna (1st-3rd). Prizes will also be awarded for total weight. A special prize of \$10,000 will be awarded to the record-breaking Bill Fish weighing more than 942 lbs.

“The Saipan International Fishing Tournament is a weekend of camaraderie, as well as competition,” said SFA President Tony Scragg. “Last year we over 90 boats and close to 400 fishermen and fisherwomen, and this year, our 40<sup>th</sup> year of competition, we are looking forward to an even stronger turnout.”

Tournament registration is \$150 per boat, inclusive of a captain and one crew member. Each additional angler is \$35. Registration will be held on July 12 from 4-6 p.m. at Smiling Cove Marina. A briefing on tournament regulations will be given, followed by a blessing over all boats.

Tournament time on July 13 and July 14 is from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and all boats must launch from Smiling Cove Marina.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Unit will again conduct courtesy boat safety inspections. Participants may contact the Boating Safety office at 1.670.233.9120 or via email at Jcruz@dps.gov.mp to arrange for an appointment prior to event day.

Tournament sponsors are Marianas Visitors Authority, Mobil, Budweiser, DOCOMO Pacific, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Paradise Dental, Hawaiian Rock Products, Matson Navigation, Coca Cola/Foremost, Pacifica Insurance, Century Insurance, RNV Construction, Bridge Capital Investments, United Management International, JEM Mobile Stations, Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods Store, Pacific Basin Insurance, and Tinian Shipping.

The SFA awards ceremony will be held on July 15 from 6-10 p.m. at Pacific Islands Club Saipan. Banquet tickets are \$35/person. Tournament entry forms, rules, and schedule of events are now available at Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods Store on Beach Rd., Chalan Kanoa, Saipan or at [www.sfacnmi.com](http://www.sfacnmi.com).

As part of its fundraising efforts this year, SFA is also raffling off a Roland Johnson/Micronesia Marine 15-foot boat, engine, and trailer with free delivery to Tinian, Rota or Guam. Raffle tickets are \$100 and will be available for purchase by calling 1.670.783.1472.

For more information about the tournament, contact SFA President Tony Scragg at 1.670.483.4597 or visit [www.sfacnmi.com](http://www.sfacnmi.com).

The Marianas is an archipelago of 14 islands - including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota - in the Western Pacific. The Marianas are home to indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people, as well as over 20 different ethnicities from around the world who live and work in this harmonious tropical paradise. Ancient latte stone limestone monoliths, traditional nature-based ocean navigation not reliant on modern technology, and a culture seasoned by East and West influences are just a few of the experiences found in The Marianas, where pristine sea, sand, and skies are only a 3-4-hour flight from major Asian gateway cities. From South Korea, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights to Saipan from Seoul-Incheon. United Airlines flies three times a week from Tokyo-Narita, Japan, and daily from Guam. Hong Kong Airlines flies twice weekly from Hong Kong. Interisland travel between Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is provided by Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com), Facebook/VisitTheMarianas, or Instagram @themarianas.

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