



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Trisha Howarth

[patriciah@bhisland.com](mailto:patriciah@bhisland.com)

910-457-3723

**BALD HEAD ISLAND FISHING RODEO ATTRACTS CREWS  
FROM ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA  
Winning Team Reels In Combined Weight of 295.26 Pounds  
Proceeds benefit Old Baldy Foundation**

**Bald Head Island, N.C.** – Bald Head Island's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Fishing Rodeo, held May 29 – May 30 on Bald Head Island, attracted 22 boats and crews from across North Carolina to compete for the top prize. Competitors fished for wahoo, tuna and dolphin.

"This year's fishing rodeo was full of surprises and good will," said Trisha Howarth, Hospitality Sales and Marketing Director for Bald Head Island Limited. "The weather, fun-fill socials and delicious cook-outs served to once again make Bald Head Island's tournament one of friendly competition and island-style camaraderie."

Captain Chris Bailey and crew from Wrightsville Beach, fishing aboard the *Lane Choice*, reeled in the first-place prize of \$7,920. The winning team caught a combined weight of 295.26 pounds.

Second-place winner Captain David Marshall and crew aboard *Musicman* won \$3,960 for a total catch of 283.92 pounds. Third-place prize of \$1,320 went to Captain Austin Eubank and crew, fishing aboard *Sandy Beach*, for a 197.49 pound total catch.

Lady and Junior Anglers compete in their respective categories for heaviest fish. Ashley Nifong aboard *Fish Hooker* took the Lady Angler trophy by reeling in a 45 pound wahoo. Michael Meredith aboard *Lane Choice* earned the Junior Angler trophy by reeling in a 20 pound wahoo.

Catches from the two-day event totaled 1,925.07 pounds combined in all categories. The average weight of the 92 fish caught during the tournament was 20.92 pounds.

Special recognition to Captain Josh Baxley of *West End Girl* for his charitable catch contribution. Tournament rules state that all fish that get weighed-in belong to the tournament; however, Captain Baxley's crew, who did not make it back before scale closing, decided to donate their catch even though it had not been weighted.

This year's catch and release bill fish winner was Angler Skip Dickens aboard *Turbulence*. His blue marlin catch earned him 100 points and \$2,520.

The success of the event will benefit the preservation of Old Baldy, North Carolina's oldest lighthouse. A donation from the proceeds of the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Rodeo will be made to The Old Baldy Foundation.

Sponsored by Bald Head Island Limited, the annual Bald Head Island fishing rodeo has become one of the area's top-rated tournaments. Next year's Bald Head Island Fishing Rodeo will be held on June 3-5.

Bald Head Island is a vacation and second-home destination located two miles off the southeastern coast of North Carolina. Bald Head Island is a 20-minute ferry ride from Indigo Plantation and Marina in Southport, NC. Open to the public, the island features 800 homes, including condominiums and single-family residences, and nearly 200 year-round residents. The island also includes a 10-acre marina and a championship golf course in one of the East Coast's most pristine cape island environments. To experience the exceptional nature of Bald Head Island, visit [www.baldheadisland.com](http://www.baldheadisland.com).

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