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PRESS RELEASE
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2022 VIRGIN ISLANDS GAME FISHING CLUB'S DOLPHIN DERBY TOURNAMENT SET FOR MAY 14

Go fish and win prizes too! The Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club (VIGFC) will host its annual Dolphin (Mahi-Mahi) Derby Tournament on Saturday, May 14. Catch the largest dolphin fish over 55-pounds and win $20,000. No whopper, no worries! Cash prizes will be awarded to anglers catching the three largest dolphin by weight, to the Best Female Angler, Best Junior angler (age 15 and under), and Best Boat, the latter determined by the total weight of dolphin fish caught.

"We've moved the tournament to Saturday, so anglers don't have to worry about getting up and going to work the next day. Plus, we've pushed the date to May. The last few years the bite has run a little later in the season, so we hope we're lucky this year," says Karl Gartner, tournament co-director with Kevin Haddox.



Photo: Capt Joshua Bourg (far left), Top Angler Francis Smookler (far right) with VIGFC tournament co-director Karl Gartner in the background - Credit Dean Barnes

Register online at www.vigfc.com. Early bird registration is $300 per boat until May 7 and goes up to $350 on May 8. The entry fee includes 4 rods. Extra rods are $50 each, with no limit on extra rods.

The Captains Meeting takes place on Friday, May 13, starting at 7 p.m., at the VIGFC in Red Hook, St. Thomas.

On May 14, lines-in is at 6:30 a.m. All boats must be in at the St. Thomas Yacht Club by 4 p.m. for their fish to qualify. The Awards Ceremony will take place at 5 p.m., immediately after weigh-in.

Last year, the catch of a 39.5-pound dolphin fish earned St. John's Francis Smookler the Largest Dolphin prize. Smookler was fishing aboard the St. John-based 42-foot Liberty, *Just Fish*, with Captain Joshua Bourg at the helm.

Looking ahead, the Club will host its Wahoo Windup on October 15 and its Kid's Fishing Tournament on October 29.

For more information, call (340) 775-9144, Email: usvigfc@gmail.com, or visit: www.vigfc.com

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