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PRESS RELEASE
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2022 VIRGIN ISLANDS GAME FISHING CLUB'S WAHOO WINDUP TOURNAMENT SET FOR OCTOBER 15 - $25,000 CASH PRIZE FOR WAHOO 75-POUNDS-PLUS

Pocket a $25,000 prize for the catch of a wahoo weighing 75-pounds plus! That's the Top Prize in the Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club's Wahoo Windup Tournament, set for October 15 at IGY's American Yacht Harbor (AYH) marina. Early Bird registration is $300 per boat by Wednesday, October 12. Fishing is in U.S. Virgin Islands waters only. No whopper wahoo, no worries. Prizes will be awarded to anglers catching the 10 largest wahoo by weight. The Best Boat award is determined by the total weight of wahoo caught.

"The wahoo are starting their run here, having come up from the south in Antigua and St. Croix. We're seeing some nice 30 and 40-pounders coming this way," says Kelvin Bailey, Jr, tournament director and president of the Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club. "After a nice run at the St. Thomas Yacht Club, we're back to our regular location with weigh-in on Saturday at AYH and an Awards Dinner at the Club on Sunday. We're inviting everyone to enter. It's a great time for fishing, fun, and camaraderie."



Photo: 2021 Largest Wahoo, 57.5-pounds, caught by Lawrence Aubain (far left holding fish), with captain Hugo Prada (right, holding fish) during the Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club's Wahoo Windup. Credit: Dean Barnes

Register for the Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club's Wahoo Windup online at www.vigfc.com. Early bird registration is $300 per boat until October 12 and goes up to $400 between October 13 to 14. The entry fee includes 4 anglers and 6 rods. The Captain's Meeting will be on Friday, October 14, at 6 p.m.

On October 15, lines-in is at 6:30 a.m. All boats must be in at IGY's American Yacht Harbor Marina by 4 p.m. for their fish to qualify. An Awards Ceremony takes place on

Sunday, October 16, at 6:30 p.m., at the Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club's clubhouse in Red Hook.

It's not impossible to catch the tournament's Top Prize of $25,000 for the catch of a single wahoo over 75-pounds.

Three anglers in tournament history have reeled in a whopper wahoo. In 2003, Mike Kuszewski, fishing aboard Capt. Jim Estraca's St. Thomas-based charter boat, *Black Pearl*, landed a 94.1-pound wahoo. Then, in 2012, Clive Mahabir aboard St. John-based charter boat, *Mixed Bag*, with Capt. Rob Richards at the helm, caught a 91.3-pounder. Five years later in 2017, Adrianne Baird Butler, boated a 76.3-pound wahoo from aboard Capt. Colin Butler's St. Thomas-based charter boat, *Silver Fox*.

The Virgin Islands Game Fishing Club appreciates the support of IGY's American Yacht Harbor.

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