

# IFC ShortCast

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Dear Members,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season!!!

Now that season is here and with the Holidays behind us, we can all look forward to a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many members for their generous contributions to our Christmas Bonus Pool. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

It **has been** our pleasure to have served you this past year.

Sincerely,

**Vinnie, Jeff, Chef David, Sandy E,**

**Connie, Annie, Sandy G, Jennifer, Lilly,  
Diana, Charlie, John, Russ, Charlie, &  
Cheyenne**





**\$25000.00**

**WINNER TAKE ALL**

**Attention Captains, Anglers & Mates,**

**Don't miss your chance to win up to \$25,000.00 in prize money!**

**The Islamorada Fishing Clubs Sailfish Tournament kicks off on**

**January 24th with fishing on January 25th.**

**This is the final leg of the Gold Cup series and space is filling rapidly.**

**So grab your fishing buddy and sign up today.**

**This one day all release sailfish tournament is limited to 30 boats.**

**With a full field the prize money may be increased to \$30,000.00.**

**The tournament entry fee is \$2,500.00 and \$250.00 for a 3rd angler and includes 3 social tickets for each night.**

**Don't miss out! Call the Club to enter today!**

**305-664-4735**

**[www.theislamoradafishingclub.com](http://www.theislamoradafishingclub.com)**

**For entry forms**

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# IFC Sailfish Tournament

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## Entry Form

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Boat Name:

### Captain and Mate

<b>Captain Name:</b>	
Address:	
City, ST Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Shirt Size:	
Signature:	

<b>Angler1 Name:</b>	
Address:	
City, ST Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Shirt Size:	
Signature:	

<b>Mate Name:</b>	
Address:	
City, ST Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Shirt Size:	
Signature:	

<b>Angler 2 Name:</b>	
Address:	
City, ST Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Shirt Size:	
Signature:	

<b>I authorize IFC to charge my DEPOSIT AMOUNT of \$1000.00 to:</b>	
Card Type:	AmEx Visa MC
Card Number:	
Exp. Date:	
Name on Card:	
Signature:	
Today's Date:	

<b>Angler 3 Name:</b>	
Address:	
City, ST Zip:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Shirt Size:	
Signature:	

**The Event's Entry Amount is:**

**\$2500 for two anglers**

**\$250.00 for 3rd angler**

**(all fees include applicable sales tax).**

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Please make checks payable to:

**Islamorada Fishing Club**

and mail to:

Islamorada Fishing Club

PO Box 22, Islamorada, FL 33036

To contact the Tournament Committee  
with any questions:

**IFC: 305-664-4735 or**

**[vinnie@theislamoradafishingclub.com](mailto:vinnie@theislamoradafishingclub.com)**

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**Kick-Off: Wednesday, January 24, 2018**

**Fishing: Thursday, January 25, 2018**

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# Member Dues and Food & Beverage Minimums

Member Annual Dues & Minimum amounts are billed automatically according to membership categories:

Resident Dues — \$1100.00 Annually **plus \$1100.00 Food & Beverage Minimum**

Non Resident Dues — \$750.00 Annually **plus \$750.00 Food & Beverage Minimum**

Spouse Privilege Dues — \$550.00 Annually **plus \$550.00 Food & Beverage Minimum**

Guides Dues — \$250.00 Annually **plus \$250.00 Food & Beverage Minimum**

Intermediate {21-35} Dues—\$375.00 Annually **plus \$375.00 Food & Beverage Minimum**

Corporate/Equity– Resident Dues— \$1900 **No Food & Beverage Minimum**

Corporate/Non Resident Dues— \$1900 **No Food & Beverage Minimum**

**If the Food & Beverage minimum is not met upon renewal of your annual dues, the minimum left will be automatically charged to your account. Minimums do not include sales tax or gratuity**

*Please be sure we have the most recent E-Mail, Home address, updated credit card information as well as a contact Telephone number on file at the club.*

*If you are not currently receiving E-mails from the club. It maybe that we need an update or that you need to check your "Spam Filter"*

# CAPTAINS CORNER

Hello, Fishermen!

Things are getting closer to normal here in the Upper and Middle Keys. A lot has been done with the clean-up process since the storm. There has been great progress to get our beautiful Keys back to what they once were. The entire tourist industry has taken a huge hit, as well as the charter fishing fleet. However, we are Keys Strong and will get over this hump. The storm did help our fishing in several ways. I have noticed a major increase in the quality bottom fish up and down the reef edge since Irma. I have also noticed that the invasive bottom algae in the channels was displaced and removed by the strong currents. We now have clean bottoms for the natural grass beds and corals to hopefully regrow. The overall fishing has been very good. A good variety of species has shown up in our waters the past few months. The cold fronts started about a month ago, and have cooled off the water and jump started the winter fishery. In fact, last month we started to get in on the sailfish bite up and down the reef in the Upper Keys. With the strong cold front pushing into the area this week, I expect a lot of things to change. The temperature drop will help push lots of bait out towards the warmer waters of the reef. This past month, we had some great action chasing ballyhoo showers. It is one of the most exciting ways to target sailfish in the Florida Keys.

The colder weather has also produced some good wahoo fishing the past few weeks. There are two ways to target these speedy, great-eating fish. The easiest and most common way is to high-speed troll. The local tackle shops can help you get the right lures and set-ups to help get you started. I know that the Islamorada Tackle Center has a large variety of great wahoo lures that are already rigged and ready. You can find a good selection at World Wide Sportsman as well. The next way to target wahoo is with live bait. I think that the two best baits are speedos and cigar minnows. We use number 5 or 6 wire with small number 2 or 4 treble hooks. We have also had good luck switching over to using wire with a circle hook. The advantage is that the circle hook helps to prevent the wahoo from kinking the wire off on its initial runs.

Another species that I love to target during the colder days of winter are the cobia. I have already heard of one nice school of fish being found, and the good conditions haven't even started. The colder water temperatures should push a large number of cobia to the south, seeking the warmer waters here in the Keys. The best way to get in on the cobia action is to find them on the large mud rays in Hawk's Channel. It is such an adrenaline rush when you pull up on a sting ray with a dozen big cobia floating on top, just waiting for you to feed them a bait. The cool thing about cobia is that they are super aggressive and will eat a large variety of artificial baits as well as live baits. We typically like to use a sturdy 30 lb boat rod with 60 to 100lb leader and a 7/0 hook.

Over the last few months, we have mainly targeted bottom fish. It has been great! The wrecks and rock piles have had good numbers bottom fish on them post Irma. We have had a large variety of snappers to target ranging in sizes. The biggest surprise has been the number of nice mutton snappers and genuine snappers showing up on the deeper reefs and wrecks. We have been averaging five to ten of these larger snappers each trip, which is much more than usual. Most of the time, we stick with a 3 hook chicken rig with a variety of dead bait and maybe a small live bait. Daniel and I have been using more single hook leader rigs to help target the larger individual fish. It definitely has helped increase our grouper and big jack bites as well. Tight lines!!!

Capt . Brian Cone





***Congratulations***

***David Goldfinger***

***December's Outstanding Catch***

***10# Bonefish On Fly***

***David was fishing***

***In The Bahamas***

***Nice Catch David***

# January 2018

	1	2	3	4	5 Fri	6
					Happy Hour	Prime Rib Night
7	8	9 Sail-Fly Tournament Closed	10	11 Sail-Fly Tournament Closed	12 Happy Hour	13 Prime Rib Night
14	15	16	17	18	19 Happy Hour	20 Prime Rib Night
21	22	23	24 Chamber Lunch Closed  Gold Cup Sailfish Kick- Off Club Closed	25 Gold Cup Sailfish Awards Club Closed	26 Happy Hour	27 Prime Rib Night
28	29	30	31			