

November 13, 2017 – for immediate release.

With 49 boats registered in this year's Dust'em Off Sailfish Warmup, a multi inlet tournament, we set new attendance and payout marks and surpassed last year's marks. With a purse of 89k+ on the line, the fleet fished out of various ports up and down the FL coast with some boats as far north as Jupiter inlet and as far south as Islamorada. Although there were some windy conditions, fishing was generally slow with the fleet releasing a total of 71 sailfish. Capt. Gerrard Weigold was able to lead his crew on the 33' Contender Double Diamond to a hard fought victory this past Saturday with 7 sailfish. In second, the MDALA captained by John Hagen caught 6 sailfish. Third place was taken this year by Fish Tales lead by Capt. Cap Hinckley with angler/owner Alex Vazquez also taking top overall angler with 3 sailfish. With the record number of boats this year we were able to extend the overall payout to four places and fourth place was taken by Outnumbered, a 55' Viking captained by Capt. John Melton with 4 sailfish.

This year's charter boat division consisted of 4 boats. Capt. Mike Puller on his Key Biscayne based charter boat Lisa L lead his crew to the victory with 4 sailfish. Capt. Jimmy David on L & H secured second with 3 sailfish followed by the Imagos captained by Christian Sanchez with 3 sailfish. The Lisa L also had the top junior angler, Carlos Saladriges, who caught one of their 4 fish. Top Female angler was taken by Jessica Ocasio with 2 sailfish who fished aboard the Bar Bill with Capt. Quinton Dieterle. Top funfish was a 13.6 lb. kingfish caught aboard the No Problem/Lady Pamela who took home a cool \$6,600 for their fish.

This year's tournament set an example on how there can still be affordable, yet lucrative tournaments held in South Florida. The continued growth over the last 4 years show that there is a competitive thirst that not only seasoned tournament teams have, but also guys that would be considered recreational anglers have as well. The Dust'em Off Warmup will strive to continue with a fun first direction in the years to come. The goal of the tournament is to not merely be an early season option but a tournament that all anglers consider as **THE** mandatory kickoff to their tournament season. On behalf of the tournament I would like to thank all the anglers, sponsors, and staff involved in making this tournament a success for the last 4 years!

Sincerely,

Capt. Ben Sharpe - Tournament Director

#### **RESULTS**

#### Overall

- 1 Double Diamond 7 **\$23,400**
- 2 MDALA 6 **\$33,500**
- 3 Fish Tales 5 **\$18,450**
- 4 Outnumbered 4 **\$600**

# Charter

- 1 Lisa L 4 **\$640**
- 2 L&H 3 **\$160**
- 3 Imagos 2

# **Top Captain**

Gerrard Weigold – Double Diamond

# **Top Angler**

Alex Vazquez – Fish Tales 3

# **Top Female**

Jessica Ocasio – Bar Bill 2

# **Top Junior**

Carlos Saladriges – Lisa L 1

# **Funfish**

No Problem/Lady Pamela - Kingfish 13.6 lbs. \$6,600

# **PHOTOS**













For more high resolution press photos please visit:

 $\underline{https://endlessimagery.smugmug.com/Fishing-Tournaments/2017/DustEm-Off-Sailfish-Warmup}$ 

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