

Atlanta Saltwater Sportsman's Club

Elbow Cay, Abaco Bahamas June 1-8, 2013

To ensure t-shirts, applications must be faxed by 4:00 PM May 19, 2013

Captain's Name: _____ Boat Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Home: _____ Work/Cell: _____

In Case of Emergency, Contact: _____

Boat Manufacturer/size: _____ Registration #: _____

Where will you be staying during the tournament? _____

Is this your first ASWSC tournament? YES...NO

ANGLERS (Please designate jr. anglers)

ASWSC Member

Captain: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No
Guest/Angler: _____	Phone: _____	Yes	No

Entry Fees;

Total Shirts

T-Shirts (indicate quantity and size) XXL____, XL____, L____, M____, S____ [____] X \$ 20.00 = \$ _____

Golf Shirt (indicate quantity and size) XXL____, XL____, L____, M____, S____ [____] X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Long sleeve Shirt (indicate quantity and size) XXL____, XL____, L____, M____, S____ [____] X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Tournament Fee **\$50.00**

TOTAL \$ _____

FAX Application to Norman Bowen 404-649-9540 Make check payable to:
ASWSC, mail to: Norman Bowen, 7265 Anglers Rest Rd, Dawsonville, GA 30534

The club is not providing food for this event. Guests not fishing may attend Captain's Meeting & Award Dinner. All food and drinks are each individual's responsibility.

ASWSC Release and Indemnification Agreement

(Attention: Please Read Carefully—Your Signature Indicates Agreement with These Terms)

By signing this document, I do hereby agree and understand that the Atlanta Salt Water Sportsman's Club, (hereinafter referred to as "The Club", is acting as a sponsor of various club activities (including, but not limited to fishing tournaments, picnics, meetings, etc.) and I do fully release, indemnify and hold The Club harmless from any negligence, contractual and intentional tort liability caused by or the fault of any person or entity. The Club is hereby released from any responsibility whatsoever for any decision, action or inaction of entrant, boats of other participants in any Club activities.

To the fullest extent provided by law, my team, my crew, my guest, and I hereby agree to indemnify and hold The club harmless from any and all claims, suits, obligations, liabilities, losses, damages, cost or expense suffered by, arising out of, resulting from, any act of mine or any member of my crew during my and their participation in Club sponsored activity, including any and all claims, suits, obligations, liabilities, losses, damages, cost or expense caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or negligent omission of The Club, regardless of my vessel, it's passengers crew participants and equipment, in conjunction with any activity sponsored by The Club. Said photographs may be used by The Club in promotional and/or advertising material or in any other way otherwise not unlawful, and consent of the vessel, it's owner and persons photographed is hereby acknowledged.

This agreement shall take effect as an instrument under seal, and be binding upon and inure to the benefit of my and my team's and crew's heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

Signature _____ Date _____

ATLANTA SALTWATER SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

Elbow Cay, Abaco Bahamas

June 1-8, 2013



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for world famous casinos, five star restaurants, and dancing in the disco all night long? Well, you won't find any of that in Abaco. You'll have to settle for miles of the most beautiful beaches in the world, snorkeling and diving on the third largest barrier reef in the world, relaxing, and a friendly laid back out island experience. **Elbow Cay** is a six-mile long cay in the Abaco Islands of the Bahamas. Originally populated by British loyalists fleeing the newly independent United States of America in 1785, it has survived on fishing, boat building, and salvage. Its main village of Hope Town surrounds a protected harbor with a noted red and white striped 120 ft lighthouse built in 1863. Most of the club will be staying on the south end of the island, from White Sound south to Tahiti Beach.

Getting there by boat: This is not a trip recommended for small single engine boats. Also keep in mind that weather can significantly affect sea conditions in the gulfstream as well as our crossing date. Flexibility on both ends of the trip is required. We will need to trailer the boats to south Florida by Thursday, May 30. Several are planning to leave Atlanta on Wednesday. We will depart from Ft. Pierce Inlet Friday, May 31, at daybreak. The first leg is across the gulfstream from Ft. Pierce Inlet to White Sand Ridge (62 nm). Now on the Bahama Bank, the course takes us north of Mangrove Cay and south of Great Sale Cay then to Spanish Cay (86 nm) where we will clear customs. After lunch and refueling we will continue on to Elbow Cay. This is a 200 nm boat ride (about 230 statute miles); expect a long day of travel.

Ft. Pierce Marina/Trailer Storage: Harbour Isle Marina, 801 Seaway Drive, Hutchison Island, will allow us to store our trucks for the week as long as we keep our boat in their marina the night before we depart. Slip rate is \$1.00 per foot per night. A rental agreement is required as well as \$500K liability insurance. Contact the marina office, 772-461-9049, for specific details. Trailer storage will be at a nearby lot.

Ft. Pierce Hotel: Dockside Inn, 1160 Seaway Drive, is very close to Harbour Isle Marina. Rates range from \$99 for a basic hotel room up to \$129 for an apartment. Dockage is \$30 per night and can accommodate up to 36'. Mention you are with ASWSC. If we reserve 5 or more rooms we qualify for a 15% discount, Phone 800-286-1745.

Getting there by plane: There are no direct flights to anywhere in Abaco from Atlanta. You'll need to make flight arrangements to Miami, Ft Lauderdale, or West Palm Beach and take a regional airline to Marsh Harbour (MHH). The best option I have found is ATL to PBI on Delta then PBI to MHH on Bahamasair. Another option is to fly direct from Atlanta to Freeport, Bahamas, then Bahamasair to Marsh Harbor. From the Marsh Harbour airport take a 10 minute taxi ride to the Elbow Cay ferry dock (about \$15). You can have your cab driver stop at the grocery store and wait for you for another \$10 plus tip (discuss rates with your driver first). You can coordinate to pick up your crew there or have them take the ferry. Albury's Ferry Service leaves Marsh Harbour every couple of hours up to 5:45 PM. The fare is \$17 one way. Most of the club will fly in on Saturday and out the next Saturday. <http://www.alburysferry.com/aboutus.html>

Captain's Meeting: A safety meeting will be held at Harbour Isle Marina, 7:00 PM on Thursday, May 30. We will cover the buddy boat system, communications, routes, safety checks and departure times.

Abaco Marina Facilities: Sea Spray Marina, Elbow Cay. <http://www.seasprayresort.com/> Full service marina with slips with power and water; diesel and gasoline; laundry service; restaurant and rental cottages. Some rental homes have private docks, some are shared. Discuss with your rental agent. There are public docks that are free to use on a first come basis and are intended for smaller boats such as a rental boat.

Lodging: The club trip is scheduled in the peak of the high season. Make your reservations early! Hopetown Hideaways, <http://www.hopetown.com> or Elbow Cay Rentals, <http://www.elbowcayrentals.com> are probably your best bet. Rental homes from VRBO, <http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/caribbean/bahamas> is another option however most homeowners rely on one of the local real estate services for their reservations process. Abaco Inn, Hopetown Hideaway, Sea Spray, or Firefly are other resort options. <http://www.abacoinn.com> , <http://www.fireflysunsetresort.com/RentalSearch/gallery.aspx> , <http://www.seasprayresort.com/>

Boat Rental: If you choose to fly in you can rent a boat for the week. Rental boats are approved for ASWSC tournaments. The Sea of Abaco is protected and can generally be navigated in a small boat. Be aware that most rental agencies do not allow rentals to run at night and some will not allow passage outside of the Sea of Abaco. Discuss offshore use with the rental company before making your reservation. Your house rental agent can also recommend rental boat companies or arrange to have them delivered to your dock.

Golf Cart Rentals: Golf carts are the primary mode of transportation on the cay. <http://www.hopetown.com/AboutUs/ConciergeServices.aspx>

Tournament Format: ASWSC Points Matrix. Best two days fishing; you pick 'em.

Weigh-In: Tahiti Beach Dock

Awards Dinner: Will be Friday, June 7, location and time TBD.

Tournament Fees: The tournament cost is \$50 per boat plus \$20 for each t-shirt, \$25 for golf shirts or long sleeve t-shirts. Please note that meals are not included in the tournament fee. **Applications due no later than 4:00 PM, May 19, 2013.**

Return Trip: Boats will depart Elbow Cay early Saturday, June 8. The plan is to run back to Ft. Pierce however we'll make a weather evaluation once we are near West End, Grand Bahama. If passable we'll continue on to Ft. Pierce; if not we'll overnight at Old Bahama Bay and continue on Sunday. Upon arrival back in the US we (everyone on the boat) will need to immediately go to the US Customs and Border Patrol office at the Ft. Pierce Airport, 2990 Curtis King Blvd, Ft. Pierce, FL (772-461-1733). Hours are 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. You will need to have your passport and ID with you.

Club Contact: Norman Bowen, 321-696-6431, Norman.bowen@sprint.com

Other important information:

- A valid US passport and photo ID is required for everyone going. A birth certificate and drivers license is no longer valid.
- Every boat should have a copy of *The Cruising Guide to Abaco Bahamas* by Steve Dodge. The guide contains waypoints and routes throughout all of Abaco; charts; photos; business directory and other very valuable information.
- Boats entering the Bahamas should have and fly a yellow quarantine flag until you clear customs. There is a required cruising fee: \$150 for boats under 30' and \$300 for boats 30 and over and covers departure tax for three people. There is a \$20 per person departure for each additional person. There is no departure tax for children under 6. You will also need to request a sportfishing permit (no additional fee).
- Returning to the US everyone on the boat must report together, with passports, to the US Customs and Border Patrol Point of Entry for a face to face interview and to clear back into the country.
- Check with your insurance company. Most boat insurance policies do not cover the Bahamas unless specifically stated. You may have to purchase a rider. Most companies will not insure a single engine boat under 25' at all.
- Renew your Tow Boat US tow insurance. There are two operators in Abaco.

- The Bahamian currency is based on the US dollar and US cash is accepted. Major US credit cards are accepted in most establishments but be aware your card company may charge a 3% or higher “international exchange” fee. Local merchants may also charge an additional fee for using credit cards.
- Pack light. Most air carriers limit baggage weight and charge hefty fees for over weight baggage. Bring half the stuff and twice the cash. There are markets on most Cays that carry fresh breads, cheese, and vegetables. Rum is cheap and beer is expensive (\$50/case); pack accordingly. The larger grocery stores are in Marsh Harbour. If you are flying into Marsh Harbour you may want to have your taxi driver stop for provisions. Negotiate the rate before you stop. There is one market on White Sound and several in the settlement.
- Bring flashlights and VHF radio. VHF is used in place of telephones by most businesses. Hail on channel 16 then switch to another channel. Channel use is different in the Bahamas. Use channel 11, 13, 14, 15, 68 or 69. Hailing a taxi on Marsh Harbour is on CH 06. Channel 72 is reserved for the Hopetown Fire Department.
- The Cruisers Net. At 8:15 AM on VHF CH 68 The Cruisers Net broadcasts weather update and local happenings and announcements.
- Water is scarce in Abaco so please conserve. There are no natural springs or wells. Rain water is collected in cisterns and filtered for use or brought in by boat from the mainland which is very expensive. The water is usually okay for drinking, but bottled water is available at all of the markets (about \$25 a case).
- Handguns are permitted. The captain must report the make/model/serial number, and number of rounds of ammo. The gun must be secured and locked at all times – no exceptions. Penalties for violations result in jail time. The gun MAY NOT leave the vessel for any reason.
- Medical facilities are very good in Nassau and Freeport. Beyond that, transport will be required from more remote locations. Travelers should check with their medical providers to ensure their insurance will be accepted in the Bahamas – in many cases it does not and the traveler will be expected to pay for services when rendered. Travel insurance, which includes evacuation, is available from a host of companies at minimal expense. Note: even where western quality health care exists, blood for transfusions is always in critically low supply in the Bahamas.
- Penalties for crimes in the Bahamas can be quite serious compared to the same offense in the U.S. A recent American tourist was found to be in possession of a bullet, left over from a previous trip, and he is now serving 2 years in prison.
- Up to date information in regard to safety and security in the Bahamas can be found at the State Department web site, or by calling 1-888-407-4747.
- Pirated Goods are readily available in the Bahamas. These items are most often identified when the traveler by boat returns to the U.S. Being in possession of Pirated or stolen goods can result in fines and imprisonment.
- Read the links and forums listed. There is so much more that cannot be covered here.

Links and Resources:

<http://www.drralph.net/index.html>

<http://www.abacoadventure.com/>

<http://www.flysoutheast.net/>

<http://up.bahamasair.com/>

<http://www.abacoforum.com/forums/index.php>

<http://www.wspress.com/shop/index.php?cPath=22>

<http://www.alburysferry.com/>

<http://www.oldbahamabay.com/bahamas-luxury-resort-marina.aspx>

<http://www.bluewaverentals.com/>

<http://www.seahorseboatrentals.com/home>

<http://www.nippersbar.com/>

<http://www.grabbersatsunset.com/>

<http://www.abacodoradoboatrentals.com/>

<http://flyislandwings.com/>

<http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/fl/5204.xml>