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Bimini Wahoo Smackdown VIII Set for Nov. 10-13, 2016

Early Bird registration open until Sept. 15, save \$150; Stay 4 nights, receive \$300 Instant Resort Credit

ALICE TOWN, BIMINI—AUGUST 22, 2016—The historic Bimini Big Game Club Resort and Marina continues its tradition of hosting topnotch fishing tournaments by announcing Wahoo Smackdown VIII, slated for November 10-13, 2016.

This year the authentic Bahamian offshore tournament is led by longtime Bimini Big Game Club dockmaster Captain Robbie Smith, who has been greeting thousands of boaters and anglers at the docks over the last 28 years. Capt. Smith, a 2015 Bahamian Icon Awards finalist, is certified by the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) as an official Weigh Master.

“Bimini’s great fishing has attracted anglers from around the world for decades,” said Capt. Smith. “And chasing wahoo in November has become a tradition—one full of surprises and one that doesn’t disappoint the sports fishermen who relish the hunt of this feisty and tasty speedster.”

Wahoo Smackdown VIII will kick off November 10 in the Hemingway Lounge with a captain’s meeting and will conclude on November 12 with an awards gala, poolside.

Registration fee is \$1500 per boat (includes four anglers, tournament shirts and entry to social events). Additional anglers (over four) are \$250 each. Extra social tickets are \$150 each. Total payout is \$25,000 with a 25 boat minimum. Weekday room rates will be offered for the weekend. Registration fee is 100% refundable if the tournament is canceled due to weather.

Early Bird registration by September 15 will save \$150 on the tournament fee. Additionally, a \$300 instant credit will be issued for entries that book both hotel and boat slip for a minimum of a four consecutive nights. The \$300 credit can be used in the restaurant or applied to the total resort bill.

Current Wahoo Smackdown sponsors include artist David Dunleavy, Bahamian Brewery and Beverage (Sands), Bost Lures, Faro Blanco Resort and Yacht Club, Flanigan’s Seafood Bar and Grill, Sysco, and Tito’s Vodka.

The registration deadline for Wahoo Smackdown VIII is October 27. To register, visit www.biggameclubbimini.com. For sponsorships, contact Beth Watson at BWatson@biggameclubbimini.com.

Big Game tournaments and Bimini are synonymous said Capt. Smith. The International Annual Bacardi Rum Billfish Tournament originally had its roots in Bimini. Over the years Bimini was a Mecca for big game anglers and was host site to numerous fishing competitions including the Frankie Brown, The Hemingway, and the famous Cat Cay tuna tournaments.

The Big Game Club, opened for business in 1947. Owner Neville Stewart saw the promise and allure of fishing and personally developed and encouraged tournaments. He sold his interest to Bacardi, which over 30 years grew the tradition with many memorable tournaments helping to build Bimini's title as "Sportfishing Capital of the World." The current owners, the Southern California-based Hankey Group— put the iconic fishing resort back in play in 2010 and are completing a multi-million-dollar renovation, that includes numerous capital improvements to the rooms, restaurant and lounge, landscaping, new pool and a renovated 75 slip marina, including docks and seawall.

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About The Bimini Big Game Club Resort & Marina

The Bimini Big Game Club, a legendary outpost for fishermen and host to numerous major sportfishing tournaments for more than half a century, officially re-opened in 2010. The 75-slip marina, 51-room boutique property recently completed phase 1 and 2 of a \$5.6 million renovation, which included the demolition and building of a brand new, larger freshwater pool, marina updates (rebuild of docks A, B and C), and other capital improvements, including landscaping, painting of interiors and exteriors, and new windows, sliding glass doors and ceiling tiles. Resort amenities include complimentary Wi-Fi, three on-property dining experiences, a fully outfitted watersports facility and the onsite Neal Watson's Bimini Scuba Center. For information on the Big Game Club Resort and Marina. go to www.biggameclubbimini.com.

PHOTOS

1. Wahoo Smackdown artwork by David Dunleavy.
2. Wahoo Smackdown logo.
3. Big Game Club aerial.
4. Smackdown Tournament wahoos coming in weigh-in. Photo credit: Kent Krebeck.
5. Wahoo Smackdown weigh-in. Photo credit: Kent Krebeck.