



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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9th Annual Budweiser Mahi Fishing Derby set for March 16

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Saipan Fishermen's Association (SFA) is pleased to inform the general public that the 9th Annual Budweiser Mahi Fishing Derby will set sail next Saturday (March 16) from Smiling Cove Marina. The derby will start promptly at 6 a.m. and will conclude at 5 p.m. the same day.

Organizers expect between 30 to 40 boats and over 100 anglers this year. First to fifth place winners will be awarded.

The registration fee is \$100 for one captain and three crewmen, with \$25 assessed for each additional angler. Pre-registration is set for March 15 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Smiling Cove Marina weighing station. Derby officials from the SFA will briefly explain the rules and regulations of the competition.

Spectators are invited to see the day's catch as fishermen begin returning to Smiling Cove Marina at approximately 4 p.m. on March 16. Event organizers are reminding participants that no catch will be weighed in and entered after the 5 p.m. deadline. The awards party will immediately take place after the derby at Smiling Cove Marina starting at 6 p.m.

Interested applicants may pick up registration forms, rules & regulations and schedule of

events at the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) office or download via the MVA Calendar of Events under the event date at www.mymarianas.com.

For more information about the derby, contact Ed Diaz at MVA at 1.670.664.3200/01 or via e-mail at ediaz@mymarianas.com.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served regularly from Shanghai, Guangzhou and seasonally from Beijing. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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