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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Port Vila Game Fishing Club of Vanuatu Wins 52nd Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament

Marlin Parker Top Charter Boat Captain

KONA, HAWAII—"Stop fishing, stop fishing, stop fishing," rang out at exactly 4:30pm for the final time this week, and with those iconic words the 52nd Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament came to a close.

The fifth and final day of this prestigious Tournament generated plenty of fishing action, keeping judges and scorekeepers alert as 28 teams battled for points.

"Every year, the Big Island of Hawaii extends such warmth and aloha to the anglers and their families. HIBT thanks this community for 52 years of aloha," said HIBT founder Peter Fithian. "All 28 teams putting points on the scoreboard really emphasized Kona's internationally acclaimed reputation for great sportfishing. 2011 proved to be another fantastic year at HIBT."

Port Vila Game Fishing Club of Vanuatu prevailed and took the HIBT Governor's Trophy and first place. Although this HIBT rookie team did not score today, their lead going into Day 5 was strong enough to hold off several other teams high on the scoreboard. **Port Vila Game Fishing Club of Vanuatu** finished this five-day Tournament with an even 2,000 points. "We were following radio reports all day and keeping track of how other teams were doing," said a very happy team of anglers. "We are thrilled to be in Kona and to compete at HIBT for the first time. We'll be back next year. In fact, our wives are already making plans."

New Zealand's Bay of Islands Swordfish Club #2 claimed second place with 1,570 points. Though the team did not score today, they were awarded 100 bonus points for catching the largest Pacific blue marlin of the tournament.

A third team from the southern Pacific rounds the top three at the 52nd Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament. Game Fishing Club of South Australia moved into third place with 1,219 points after angler and team captain Rolf Czabayski satellite tagged and released an estimated 150-pound Pacific blue marlin on 50-pound test line in just 15 minutes. This satellite tag is now part of the Great Marlin Race, a collaboration between HIBT billfish anglers and Stanford University marine biologists to track the movement of marlin across the ocean.

Marlin Parker Wins Top Captain

Marlin Parker, captain of the 54-foot *Marlin Magic II*, reeled in the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament's coveted Henry Chee Award. The Henry Chee Award was established in 1965 by the Tournament Board of Governors recognize the charter boat captain with the highest number of Billfish points scored on his boat during the five days of Tournament fishing. Captain Chee was a pioneering captain and throughout his lifetime set an unprecedented number of game fish catch records that helped make his favorite fishing grounds, the Kona Coast, world famous. This is Captain Parker's third Henry Chee Award.

Captain Marlin Parker grew up fishing in the world-famous waters off the Kona coast. His father, Captain George Parker, is credited for his visionary commitment to building Kona's sportfishing fame and was inducted into the International Game Fish Association's Hall of Fame in 2007. Great fishing was Marlin Parker's destiny. Marlin grew up with the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament and has been one of its strongest supporters. He is a seven-time recipient of HIBT's prestigious Richard Boone Award and now a three-time winner of the Henry Chee Award.

Next year's 53rd Annual Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament is scheduled for August 12-18, including five days of tournament fishing August 13-17. Anglers and teams are invited to apply early as full tournament participation is anticipated. Log onto www.hibtfishing.com for details.

DAILY CATCH (FRIDAY)

10 Pacific blue marlin tagged & released
3 Short nose spearfish tagged & released

HIBT CUMULATIVE WEEK TOTAL

54 Pacific blue marlin tagged & released
5 Pacific blue marlin weighed
1 Striped marlin tagged & released
18 Short nose spearfish tagged & released
3 Ahi boated
81 TOTAL

TOP TEAM STANDINGS

| Place | Team | Points |
|-------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Port Vila Game Fishing Club | 2,000 |
| 2 | Bay of Islands Swordfish Club #2 | 1,570 |
| 3 | Game Fishing Club of South Australia | 1,219 |

TOP CAPTAIN STANDINGS

| Skipper | Boat | Points |
|---------------|------------------------|--------|
| Marlin Parker | <i>Marlin Magic II</i> | 1,920 |
| Tim Hicks | <i>Last Chance</i> | 1,851 |
| Rob Ellyn | <i>Lightspeed</i> | 1,600 |

*Note: in the event of point ties, place standings are determined by the time the fish is boated.