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Michael Jordan caught a dolphin to capture an early lead in a \$3.4 million fishing tournament in North Carolina



Michael Jordan on his boat, "Catch 23." [Grace Bell Photography](#)

- **Michael Jordan brought his boat to the Crystal Coast for the 2021 Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament.**

- **The NBA legend and his "Catch 23" crew hit the leaderboard on Day 1 by catching a 25-pound dolphin.**

- **Jordan and company are competing for a \$3.4 million purse in the top North Carolina fishing event.**

Michael Jordan's gone fishin' — and he came back with a dolphin.



Michael Jordan's 80-foot Viking Yacht named "Catch 23." [Grace Bell Photography](#)

The NBA legend broke out his boat — an 80-foot Viking Yacht named "Catch 23" in a clever play on Jordan's iconic Chicago Bulls jersey number — for the 63rd annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament. Jordan and his crew made a splash on the first day of this year's fishing competition, reeling in a 25-pound dolphin to land on

the leaderboard early in the contest.



The "Catch 23" crew poses with its 25-pound dolphin. [Grace Bell Photography](#)

This isn't Jordan's first run in the well-known event, which runs along North Carolina's Crystal Coast. Last year, His Airness and company hailed in a massive, 442-pound blue marlin — the fourth-biggest catch of the day across all 204 participating boats.

This time around, the "Catch 23" crew is one of 270 contenders competing for the tournament's \$3.4 million purse. And so far, Jordan and his eight crewmates haven't had much luck outside of their dolphin heist. Though they were hooked up on Tuesday afternoon, their catch was the wrong species and promptly released back into the water, a representative for the tournament told Insider.



Michael Jordan. [Grace Bell Photography](#)

Still, Jordan looked to be all smiles in photos released from the event. He and his team have until Saturday to hook something big and climb back onto the competition's leaderboard.

And given that the six-time NBA champion and five-time league MVP is known as one of the most competitive athletes in all of sports, he'll almost certainly do everything in his power to reel in a winner.