



# 2018 Saltwater Angler Classic

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

**All rules stated below will remain in effect for the 2018 Saltwater Angler Classic. All decisions made by the tournament director and/or tournament officials will be final in all matters. The tournament director and/or the tournament officials can make a change when the safety of a contestant is in question or by a unanimous decision by the tournament committee.**

**Any changes to the rules will be posted on the website [www.saltyangler.com](http://www.saltyangler.com) and communicated to the tournament members in the pre-tournament meeting before the tournament.**

**Warnings, penalties and disqualifications will be determined by the tournament officials. A signature on one set of rules and regulations is applicable for the Saltwater Angler Classic event and may be used as an acknowledgement for such.**

### RULES

*Each participant ("contestant") must read and acknowledge the following rules and indicate so by signing an entry form. A "team" shall consist of two to 4 contestants depending on division entered.*

*1) Applicable Laws: Federal, State and Local laws shall be obeyed by contestants at all times. Contestants choosing to fish outside of Texas waters shall adhere to the local and state laws of the venue in which the contestant is fishing, including purchasing and possessing a valid fishing license for that state effective for the dates of competition. Violation of any federal, state and/or local laws shall result in the disqualification of the individual and his team from the Saltwater Angler Classic event.*

*2) Tournament Eligibility: Contestants under 18 years old must fish with their legal guardian as their teammate, or another adult approved by the minor's legal guardian. The Saltwater Angler reserves the right to refuse participation in any event to any individual and/or team at the discretion of the tournament director.*

*3) Alcoholic Beverages and Illegal Drugs: Consumption of any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during tournament hours is prohibited and will result in disqualification. Alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs may not be in the possession of any team member or on board a participating boat during the hours of tournament competition.*

*4) Sportsmanship: Saltwater Angler Classic participants are expected to follow the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and ethics. Un-sportsmanlike and unethical conduct will result in disqualification. Please refer to the Texas Boating Safety Rules.*

*5) Permitted Tournament Fishing Waters: Contestants may fish in any inshore public water accessible by boat. "Inshore" for this series is defined as the navigable, tide consumable coastal waters, bays, rivers, and wetlands, extending to the inside of the passes to The Gulf of Mexico. Contestants may not fish beyond the furthest point of a pass extending into the Gulf of Mexico.*

*Offshore Division: Beyond Jetties*

- No fishing is allowed within 500 yards of any ferry landing.*
- Contestants shall not fish in any area which has been "closed" by a governmental agency.*
- Wade fishing is allowed, but contestants must remain within 300 yards of the boat or kayak.*
- Participants are not allowed to fish within 150 feet (50 yards) of another anchored boat or wade fisherman unless they are invited in by that team. An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by an anchor, a weight, push pole, Power-Pole, or other "anchoring" mechanism with the trolling motor in the up position. If a team invites another team into the inviting team's 50-yard area, any tournament participant is also allowed within the waived area.*
- The boat / kayak anchored in an area first has the right to 150 feet radius of the area.*
- If the boat does not have a trolling motor the definition of anchored still applies.*

*6) Permitted Fishing Methods: All tournament fish shall be taken by rod, reel, and artificial tackle, only for the Redfish Boat and Kayak Division. Contestants shall not "harass" fish, to include such antics as "burning" or corralling of schools with a boat. Prior to and during the tournament, contestants shall not "cork" or otherwise mark fish or schools of fish for identification for the purposes of locating fish during tournament hours. Wade-fishing is allowed. Teams who wade-fish must remain within a 300-yard radius of the team's boat. However, contestants may not leave the boat to net a fish hooked while the contestant or his partner is in the boat. A wade-fisherman must net his own fish. Teams shall not have one participant fishing from the boat with the other teammate wade-fishing; both teammates must be fishing in the same manner. Both team members*

must be in the boat before the combustion engine is started.

Pot-Luck fisherman may use live, dead, or artificial baits. All tournament fish shall be taken by rod, reel.

Offshore, may use Live, Dead, or artificial for the Offshore Species.

7) Weigh-in times for all divisions will be between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Contestants who are not at the official checkpoint area at the appointed time will be penalized at the rate of one-half (1/2) pound, per minute, which will be deducted from the team's total day's weight. Any contestant more than fifteen (15) minutes late will be disqualified from entry. Teams who are not able to check in due to equipment failure or other unforeseen circumstances are responsible for contacting the tournament director before the official check-in is over in order to determine an acceptable solution. **Ron Henne (361)438-7572**

Redfish Boat & Kayak Division will be able to launch at safe daylight, at the launch site of their choosing. **Weigh-in for all divisions is from 2:00pm – 4:00 pm. (Must be in line by 4:00pm)**

Pot-Luck Division will be able to launch at safe daylight, at the launch site of their choosing if fishing by boat. **Weigh-in all divisions is from 2:00pm – 4:00 pm. (Must be in line by 4:00pm)**

8) Polygraphs: By signature on the official tournament entry form, each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph test and be bound by its interpreted results and conclusions. Any team, person, or contestant in each event shall be subject to a polygraph examination and will not receive any award until the test has been administered and determined to be non-deceptive. Polygraph tests may be issued at the discretion of the tournament director/committee for any reason, and each contestant hereby acknowledges and consents to the examination. The results and interpretations of the polygraph are final and each contestant hereby knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily waives any review of said test result, including any judicial process seeking to overturn, amend or otherwise negate the finding of the test administrator.

9) Insurance and Liability: It is the responsibility of the boat owner to carry liability insurance covering the vessel. The Saltwater Angler Classic will not issue liability coverage for its events. All tournament participants are required to sign a waiver absolving all tournament officials, officers, participants, sponsors and co-sponsors from any responsibility for damage or personal injury sustained as a result of the contestant's participation in the tournament or its related activities, and the contestant's signature on this form shall constitute an alternate release in the instance the member fails to sign the official DECLARATION, WAIVER, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT.

10) Pre-Tournament Captain's Meeting: Tournament Registration for the Saltwater Angler Classic will be the Friday evening before the tournament date between **5:00 PM and 8:00 PM at 15820 Park Road 22, in Corpus Christi, Texas 78418**. A pre-tournament meeting will be held following registration at 7:00 PM. At least one member of each team shall attend the Pre-Tournament meeting. Participants may be excused from the Friday night meeting if arrangements are made with the Saltwater Angler Office. Participants must have written documentation from the Saltwater Angler office and present it upon registration if the participant is excused from the Friday meeting. If a contestant fails to attend the registration and pre-tournament meeting without written permission from the Saltwater Angler office, a one (1) pound, per fish, per day penalty, will be assessed against the team's fish at weigh-in.

11) Communication: No communication via multi-media methods, social networking, cell phone, e-tablet, laptop, radio, pager or any other device will be allowed from outside sources or tournament participants during tournament hours that will give a team or contestant any advantage from data or information regarding fishing the event. Purchasing of information and/or hiring of services from local experts or guides will not be permitted within 7 days prior to the competition. Face-to-face information shared between teams during tournament hours may not be used to give either team an advantage over other teams. If a team has an emergency, a mechanical problem, or needs immediate assistance, teams may contact local authorities, emergency services, the Coast Guard or the tournament director. Teams must notify the tournament director immediately if these circumstances exist. **\* in other words, don't be calling your buddies to find out if they are catching, and where.**

12) Entry Fees, Tournament Registration and Identification: The entry fee for the event is \$300.00 per, two-person Redfish team. Kayak Team Division \$200.00 per Team, Pot-Luck is \$50.00 per species entered, and \$500.00 for the Offshore Division for 2 man Team, \$100.00 per additional up to a total of (4) persons on a boat. **\$100.00 Big Fish pot for Pro-Redfish Division and Kayak Division are combined.** The entry fee is non-refundable. Teams must have 100% of the tournament's entry fee paid in full 7 days prior to the event date. A late fee of \$25.00 per person will be assessed to teams who pay after the deadline. All entry fees and deposits are non-refundable, and are in consideration for holding a team's spot and calculation of projected winnings for tournament officials.

13) Boat, Motor and Horsepower Regulations: All boats shall be a minimum of 15 feet in length and be equipped with a minimum of 25 hp motor. Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. In addition, each boat must have a properly aerated live-well, which is one that is reasonably likely to sustain the life of three REDFISH under the circumstances. The Tournament Director shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is adequate. Live-wells will be inspected upon checkout on the morning of the tournament. **ALL BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH AN OPERABLE IGNITION KILL SWITCH.** The kill switch device must be attached to the driver's body anytime the combustion engine is operating. Anytime the combustion engine is operating and in gear, there must be a driver in the driver's seat in full control of the boat. Any fuel tanks that are not installed by the boat manufacturer are prohibited. Fuel may be carried only in factory installed (built-in) fuel tanks. Any additional fuel used during the tournament day must be purchased from a retail facility open to the public.

14) *Safety: Safe boating will be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to properly wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal floatation device anytime the combustion engine is engaged, and also Kayakers are to wear (pfd) at all times while on the water. Tournament days may be shortened or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. The decision to shorten or to cancel will be left totally to the discretion of the tournament director/committee. A 4-hour period shall constitute a day of fishing. It is the competitor's responsibility to communicate with the Tournament Director if cancellation of the event is suspected. Cancellations will be communicated via VHF radios on a channel decided at the Pre-Tournament Meeting. If conditions are not safe on the tournament day, the Saltwater Angler reserves the right to reschedule the tournament on the following day (Sunday). If conditions are not favorable the following day (Sunday), an alternate date will be published on the Saltwater Angler website, [www.saltyangler.com](http://www.saltyangler.com)*

15) *Tackle and Equipment: Redfish Boat, and Kayak: Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait, dead bait or prepared bait will be permitted. Only one rod and reel may be used at any one time per angler in the Pro Redfish, and Kayak Divisions.*

*Offshore and Pot-Luck Participants may use live, dead, and artificial baits.*

16) *Fish: A team's or Kayak Angler Team tournament weight will consist of TWO red drum ("redfish"), measuring no less than 20 inches and no more than 28 inches, in length, each. Each angler may possess up to three (3) redfish while wading; however, only two (2) redfish may be retained in a team's boat at any given time. Cumulatively, in no instance may a team possess an amount of redfish over the team's limit. In other words, the amount of redfish possessed by a team in total, whether on a contestant's person while wading, or in the team's boat, may not collectively add up to more than six. (e.g. a team cannot have two fish in a live-well, then go and catch three more redfish, each, and bring them back to the boat for comparison to the ones in the live-well because the team, collectively, would possess 8 redfish.) Live fish may be culled; teams must keep (retain) dead fish. Contestants are responsible for keeping their REDFISH alive. Any dead fish tendered for weight will be assessed an eight-ounce penalty. No altered, mutilated or iced fish will be accepted. REDFISH will be inspected for alterations in size, length and weight. Any altered fish shall result in the disqualification of the team weighing the altered fish, and may result in a perpetual ban from the Saltwater Angler.*

*Kayak fisherman bringing in (2) LIVE Redfish will receive an 8 oz. Bonus for each live redfish.*

*Offshore: Heaviest weight of any of the following: Kingfish, Red Snapper, and Ling "Cobia"*

*Pot-Luck Participants: (1) Redfish 20" – 28" (1) Speckled Trout 16" or above, (1) flounder 15" or above.*

*All fish must be within the TPWD regulations.*

17) *Scoring: Tournament standings, auxiliary awards and final winners shall be determined by the total weight of each team's catch during the tournament consisting of two (2) redfish, measured in pounds and 100ths of a pound. Only redfish at least 20 inches in length, but less than or equal to 28 inches in length may be weighed-in. All redfish must be brought to the weigh station in a live weigh-in tournament bag provided by the Saltwater Angler. Fish may not be brought to weigh-in on a stringer or in a basket. Redfish shall be weighed with the equipment provided by the Saltwater Angler.*

***\*Pot-luck & Offshore: entrants may bring their fish to the weigh station in an ice chest, or basket.***

18) *Ties: If two or more teams have identical weight in the tournament, it will be considered a tie. In the event of a tie, the prize money from the consecutive places will be combined and split between the teams. For example, if two teams tie for fourth place, the amounts designated to fourth place AND fifth place will be combined, divided by two, then distributed to the teams, equally.*

19) *Protest Procedure: All protests must be submitted in writing, along with a \$100 cash deposit. Protests must be submitted to the tournament director no later than 15 minutes following the weigh-in of the last fish. All decisions will be made by the tournament director and committee, and are final. If the protest is upheld, the cash deposit will be returned to the person submitting the protest. The protester agrees that by filing a protest, he may be subject to a polygraph test.*

20) *Permission to be filmed for Television: All participants agree to be filmed, photographed, taped, interviewed, quoted or otherwise revealed, without compensation, by the Saltwater Angler or its assigns. This includes but is not limited to the official photographers, writers, hosts, or sponsors of this event under the conditions authorized by the Saltwater Angler Classic organizers. Each contestant, by their signed tournament waiver, hereby gives the Saltwater Angler, and its assigns, the right to use (without compensation) the contestant's name, picture, likeness, quotes, and biographical information, whether audio or visual, before, during and after the period of an individual or team participation in an event.*