

# 2019 MAKO MANIA RULES and REGULATIONS

- 1) At least one representative **MUST** attend the Captains meeting (Friday June 14th 2019 at 6:30PM) to register and receive pertinent tournament information.
- 2) All boats **MUST** display Tournament numbers on the port and starboard sides of their vessel.
- 3) A boat may fish up to (4) of the available (4) days of the Tournament, Captain's choice, (1) day fishing or a boat may fish up to (4) days. The entry form and fees **MUST** be turned in at the Captains Meeting (Friday June 14th). Separate numbers (one for each day of fishing) will be assigned to any boat fishing multiple days.
- 4) Mandatory check-out will be required between 5 AM and 7 AM on the morning(s) you intend to fish. Check out will be via text message to 732-899-7707. The text message must include your boat name and assigned number, time and the inlet you are leaving from. Videos may be used as a backup to insure no early departures.
- 5) Boats **MUST** start the tournament fishing from Manasquan Inlet, Shark River Inlet or Barnegat Inlet to qualify for prizes.
- 6) All boats, regardless of the Inlet from which they depart must return through the Manasquan Inlet and weigh-in at Captain Bill's Landing in Point Pleasant (gas dock on Inlet Drive) to qualify for prizes.
- 7) The weigh Station will be open from 4 PM to 7 PM on all fishing days of the tournament. No sharks will be weighed prior to 4 PM. Weigh-in will end no later than 7:15pm. If however a vessel with an eligible sharks entered the inlet by 7:pm but is unable to get to the scale because of a backup of boats, then the weigh-in can be extended an additional 15 minutes, in sole discretion of the Tournament Committee, to accommodate that weigh-in.
- 8) Any boat that intends to weigh-in a shark must pass through the mouth of the Manasquan Inlet (between the rock jetties) prior to 7 PM on the day(s) they elected to fish. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Any contestant that intends to weigh-in a shark but has not entered the mouth of the Manasquan Inlet by 6:30PM **MUST** call in with boat name, assigned boat number and their location to the Tournament Committee on VHF Channel 69, but must still enter the Manasquan Inlet no later than 7: pm
- 9) To qualify for prize money, Eligible Sharks-only Shortfin Mako and Threshers are eligible sharks. Must meet the following minimum size for this tournament and be measured according to and in the manner mandated by the federal rules implemented by NOAA/NMFS. Mako (Male) 71" (FL), Mako (Female) 83" (FL) Threshers All 66" (FL). Any shark that does not meet these minimum requirements shall be disqualified. Each eligible sharks will be judged against its specific species by weight only.
- 10) **Measurement**, (FL) (fork length) means the straight-line measurement along the length of the fish from the tip of the upper jaw to the fork of the tail. Title 50 CFR 635.2. Each Captain and angler shall be responsible for complying with all federal and state regulations relating to the lawful landing of an eligible shark. Failure to comply with regulations implemented by NOAA/NMFS or the N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife shall result in disqualification.
- 11) Mako Mania is a Mako Shark First Tournament however if no eligible Mako shark is caught then an eligible Thresher shark will count in 1st to 4th places and ALL Calcutta's. An eligible Mako will always take precedent over an eligible Thresher. Thus for example If an 86" (FL) Mako is weighted in and an 87" (FL) Thresher, The eligible Mako will always count first over an eligible Thresher even if the Thresher may be larger.
- 12) All sharks **MUST** be caught on rod and reel, 130 pound class maximum. (use of circle hooks is mandatory.)
- 13) There will be a maximum of six anglers per boat and a maximum of six lines in the water at one time. Non-fishing passengers are not considered anglers.
- 14) Boats **SHALL NOT** fish within one half mile of another boat. While underway please avoid passing through chum slicks and pass other vessels engaged in shark fishing on the up-wind side.
- 15) Positively **NO TRANSFERRING** of sharks between vessels at the dock or at sea prior to weigh-in.
- 16) All sharks to be weighed-in shall be in their natural state. No jaws may be wired, nor may a shark be otherwise altered or weighted.
- 17) Boats may only retain and weigh-in one eligible shark per day as per National Marine Fisheries Service regulations.
- 18) All fishermen shall comply with all State and Federal laws relating to fishing for sharks. Including but not limited to, the required use of circle hooks by all HMS Shark Permit Holders compliance with minimum sizes and bag limits and permitting requirements. Any unlawful fishing practice or regulatory violation will be directed to and dealt with by Federal or State Conservation Officers and the courts. The Tournament Committee will defer to any such action. If a summons is issued against an individual or a vessel during the tournament fishing days that have weighed-in a contending shark, that participants money for that place will be held until a Court has determined whether or not the shark was caught or retained unlawfully or in compliance with the law. If the court determines that it was not caught lawfully or in compliance with the law that participants money shall be forfeited and distributed as follows; if no summons is issued a resolution of any alleged violation of or non-compliance with the law shall be determined by and sole discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- 19) In the event legal action is pursued regarding Tournament Committee decisions or prize money, whether filed by Mako Mania and/or GPPCBA or by a participant, Mako Mania and/or GPPCBA shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, which shall be paid out of the prize money in dispute. If the prize money in dispute is insufficient to pay Mako Mania and/or GPPCBA reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, each participant in the litigation shall be jointly and severally liable to pay Mako Mania's and/or GPPCBA reasonable attorneys' fees and cost. In no event shall Mako Mania and/or GPPCBA be liable to any person for any attorneys' fees or costs. Each participant agrees to this term as a conditions of entering the tournament.
- 20) The Tournament Committee has the right to retain any eligible sharks for internal inspection by the Tournament Committee, a marine biologist and/or pathologist.
- 21) VHF Channel 69 will be the official Tournament channel for all tournament communications. Please keep it clear, in the event of excessive radio traffic, Channel 70 will be designated as first alternative channel.
- 22) All contestants, participants and/or passenger on a contending vessel agree to submit to a poly-graph examination if so requested by the Tournament Committee.
- 23) All boats **MUST** report any Mako caught, Male 71" (FL) and over, Female 83" (FL) and over, and any Thresher caught 66" (FL) and over to the Committee via VHF Channel 69, immediately after the shark has been landed.
- 24) Any boat assisting a disabled vessel **MUST** report the circumstances immediately to a Committee person via VHF Channel 69.
- 25) **ALL PARTICIPANTES, PARTICIPATE, FISH AND SAIL AT THEIR OWN RISK!** Fishing for sharks and boat operation in any weather condition but particular inclement weather, can be inherently dangerous. The captain and crew are solely responsible for deciding whether or not to sail on any given day based on his or hers evaluation of the boat and sea conditions. The captain hereby agrees to inform all participants who will be on the vessel any fishing day of the inherent risk of shark fishing as well as boat and sea conditions and shall provide any and all necessary information with each participant so that he or she can make an informed decision as to whether or not he or she will participate.
- 26) There is no "WEATHER DAY". Any Captain concerned about the safety of his crew and vessel due to severe weather conditions may apply for a refund from the Tournament Committee. Request for a refund will only be accepted at the Captains Meeting or up until 6 AM Saturday June 15th. Refunds are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee on entry's fees and HRC and Whale Calcutta's are refundable less a 10% charitable donation to GPPCBA Ship Sinking Fund and the Lustgarten Foundation.
- 27) The Tournament may be altered, canceled, postponed or extended to other dates by the Tournament Committee if deemed necessary or advisable by the Tournament Committee, but this discretion in the tournament committee shall not be a substitute for the decision to participate or not by the Captain, owner or participants.
- 28) In the event the Tournament is canceled, entry fees minus a \$50.00 administration fee will be refunded. Traditional Calcutta and the Shark-Man winners will be determined by drawing from a hat. **THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS.**
- 29) The High-Roller and the WHALE Calcutta's less a 10% Charitable donation to GPPCBA Ship Sinking Fund and the Lustgarten Foundation will be refunded if no eligible sharks are caught or if the Tournament is canceled.
- 30) In the case of a tie, Mako shall take first prize. In the event that two Makos tie, then the first shark weighed in will take the position.
- 31) To win the 2019 Chevy Silverado Truck, the N.J. State Record for short fin Mako shark must be exceeded (currently 856 pounds). The heaviest Mako Shark, approved by the NJDEP Div. of Fish and Wildlife Record Fish Program and Insurance Company will be considered for the prize. Only one vehicle/ prize will be awarded to the heaviest record breaker. The truck title will be issued to the individual that is listed on the Tournament registration application form unless a note signed by the entrant depicts otherwise. Federal and N.J. Sales Tax is the responsibility of the prize winner.
- 32) In the event all four places are not filled, the remaining prize money will be divided proportionately amongst the winners.
- 33) In the event 300 hundred boats are not entered, a proportionate percentage of the prize money will be awarded.
- 34) There will be **NO REFUNDS FOR ANY REASON**, including for mechanical failures one hour after the start of the first day of fishing.
- 35) If a controversy occurs, a formal protest may be submitted to the Tournament Committee for determination and decision using the approved protest form. The protest must be made in WRITING and be accompanied with a check for \$200.00 (made out to GPPCBA) BEFORE MIDNIGHT to the Tournament Committee Representative on the day the alleged infraction occurred. A protest form, with applicable instructions, will be in each Captains Bag provided at the Captains meeting. Any protest submitted after the day and time limit set forth herein will not be considered. If the protest stands the \$200.00 will be refunded. Decisions on a protest shall be made in the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee, and each Captain and participant agrees to be bound by that decision.
- 36) All Tournament Committee decisions are final!
- 37) All winners **MUST** submit their Social Security number or Corporate I.D. number prior to the award of any prize or Calcutta money.
- 38) Checks will be made out to the entrants name listed on the application form unless a note, signed by the entrant directs otherwise. The appropriate tax forms must be filled out accurately by person receiving the prize prior to the check being issued.
- 39) Every boat contending **MUST** be equipped with a working VHF radio, all USCG mandatory safety equipment and EPIRB. It shall be the captain's obligation to assure that all equipment on the participating vessel is in good working order.
- 40) Your Captains Bag (received at registration) will contain any additional rules, regulations and check-out procedures.