

Red Fish Jackpot

HISTORIC ST MARYS FISHING CLASSIC RULES

Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to the Tournament Director. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director may impose such sanctions, as he deems appropriate, including, without limitation, disqualifications, forfeiture of prizes and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. Decisions of the Tournament Director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal, and are not reviewable by any court of law. The Tournament Director reserves the right to make needed changes to these rules in order to ensure the safety, welfare of the anglers, and/or the public and preserve the integrity of the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic. Any rule changes will immediately supersede all previously published copies of rules. It is your responsibility to read and understand the rules and how you, are affected by not complying with the following rules. Every competitor will be required to sign a liability release/permission form for use of image/agreement to the official rules prior to the First Day's competition.

1. ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENTS: An Entry Fee of \$100 per boat is required to fish the event. There will be a big fish pot that will cost \$20 if you wish to participate. This will be a winner take all event.
2. REGISTRATION AND CAPTAIN'S MEETING: Captains Meeting to be held June 7, 2019 at Wee Pub 2603 Osborne Rd. St. Marys @ 6pm. Registration will be from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM local time the day before the event at the Captain's meeting, or registration is available on the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic web site. All teams are expected to attend the Captain's Meeting, but it is not mandatory. In addition you must contact the Tournament Director if you are unable to attend the Captain's Meeting. Teams agree that it is their own responsibility to find out what was discussed at the Captain's Meeting.
3. FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAWS: All competitors are expected to obey all applicable federal, state and local regulations and laws. Violation of such rules may result in your disqualification from the tournament. Repeated or flagrant violations will result in said competitors being banned from future participation in Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic tournaments.
4. SPORTSMANSHIP: Competitors in the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic tournaments are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors who may be on tournament waters. Any act of a competitor, which reflects unfavorably upon the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic's effort to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters, and courtesy, shall be reason for disqualification. Evidence of chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or other crimes involving moral turpitude or other conduct reflecting unfavorably upon the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship and compliance with tournament rules shall be grounds for rejecting any application for participation and for disqualification. Any act deemed by the Tournament Director that gives a team or angler an unfair advantage not specifically covered under this set of rules shall be grounds for disqualification.

Any violation by an angler deemed intentional or preconceived by the Tournament Director to gain an unfair advantage, would be grounds for permanent disqualification.

5. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY: Participation in the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic tournament is and open to the general public. Any person under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or legal guardian. The Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic reserves the right to refuse participation in any or all events to any individual or team at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

6. SAFETY: Safe boating will be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to wear a fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal floatation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation. 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. A 4hour period shall constitute a day of fishing.

7. ALCOHOL AND DRUGS: The consuming or transporting of any alcoholic beverages or drugs (other than prescription or OTC drugs) during official tournament hours, on any tournament angler's boat is prohibited, and angler or anglers will be disqualified from this and possibly all future tournaments.

8. BOAT AND MOTOR: Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. In addition, it must have a functional bilge pump and live well space, properly aerated to adequately maintain a live limit catch of Redfish by both contestants. The Tournament Director shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is "proper and adequate". For the safety of all contestants, ALL BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH SOME TYPE OF OPERABLE IGNITION SHUTOFF DEVICE. This ignition SHUTOFF 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.

9. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS: All Redfish must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. Artificial lures, live, and dead bait may be used during competition. Only one fishing rod may be used at a time per angler. A cast must be fully retrieved before an angler may pick up another rod. Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. Foul hooked fish shall not be weighed during competition. A foul hooked fish is defined as a fish that does not have at least one hook in its mouth, and it must be released. Competitors may not catch fish or weigh in fish that have been caged or confined in an area prior to the tournament.

10. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Competitors may fish anywhere on tournament waters accessible to the public by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by private ownership or local, state and federal officials. Competitors may not fish within 50 yards of a competitor's boat, which was in a location first, and anchored. (An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight, push pole, Power Pole, etc. with the trolling motor in the up position). If the boat does not have a trolling motor the definition of anchored still applies.

11. INFORMATION: Tournament competitors may share information with each other up to and after competition hours. However, no communication between teams whatsoever is allowed via cell phone,

VHF radio, pager or any electronic device during competition, except for medical emergency as allowed under rule #19, or boat breakdown under rule #12. Teams are prohibited from discussing any fishing related information with anyone via electronic means during the tournament hours. Use of social media, websites, or photo uploading is prohibited.

12. COMPETITORS MUST REMAIN IN THE BOAT: All angling must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing water. Failure to render assistance, when requested in an emergency is cause for immediate disqualification.

13. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINTS: There will be two official checkpoints in the afternoon. There will be no lines in the water until 6:00 AM on Saturday June 8. All boats must inside the check-in point (green marker in St. Marys Harbor) by 5:00 PM Saturday, June 8. You will be allowed to trailer your boat to Howard Gilman Park and must be in the official weigh in line by 5pm.

14. LATE PENALTY: Competitors who are not at the official check-in area at the appointed time will be penalized at one (1) pound per minute deducted from the total weight including any weight to be counted toward a big fish award. Any competitors more than fifteen (15) minutes late will not receive credit for the day's weight.

15. TEAMS: The tournament is a team event, but if an angler chooses to fish alone he will required to weigh in 4 fish. A team consists of two (2) anglers, one of which must be designated as the captain.

16. SCORING: Tournament winner shall be determined by the total weight measured in pounds and 100th of a pound of each teams catch during the tournament. Only Redfish/Red Drum will be weighed and the limit shall be 4 fish per team. The prevailing rules as set forth by the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic along with federal, state and local statutes and regulations bind all competitors. Competitors will at no time have in their possession in the live well more than the tournament limit of fish. Tournament official length for Redfish will be according to the STATE LAWS of Georgia. All Redfish will be measured with a pinched tail with mouth closed. Any fish that appears to have been panned, mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will not be weighed at the discretion of the tournament director. Redfish must NOT be placed on a stringer at any time during the tournament.

17. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Artificial lures may be used, and "live bait" or "prepared bait" will be permitted. Only ONE casting, spin casting, spinning rod and reel or fly rod (10foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) may be used at any one time per angler. Be prepared to show your current fishing license, at registration, from the state in which the tournament is being held.

18. LIVE FISH: Every effort must be made to keep redfish alive. An 8 ounce penalty will be deducted from the weight for one dead redfish presented for weigh-in. A 2 pound penalty will be assessed for 2 or more dead fish. No mutilated or iced fish shall be accepted. Any alteration of length or weight of redfish is prohibited and team will be banished from any future tournaments.

29. TIES: Ties shall be broken by the Largest Fish for the Event. The team with the heaviest single fish shall receive precedence. The team with the most weight will be deemed as the winner.

20. POLYGRAPH: Each competitor who fishes the Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic event agrees to submit to a polygraph examination at a time and location as determined by the Tournament Director following the end of the competition and abide by its conclusion. Failure to pass the polygraph will result in disqualification.

21. PROTEST AND REPORTING PROCEDURE: All protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director or designated tournament official. The Tournament Director's decision on the protest will be final. Each competitor agrees to report any rule violation to the Tournament Director immediately upon discovery of the violation.

