

# **Bluewater Charity Classic DRAFT TOURNAMENT RULES**

## **Registration**

You must be registered before participating in this fishing tournament. Registration must occur by the end of the Captains meeting on Friday June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Registration Information: Phone Number – 850.896.4930 or 850-229-1100

You may register at any of our participating registration locations during their normal working hours.

## **Registration Locations**

Bluewater Outriggers

Port St Joe Marina

## **Registration by Mail**

To Register by Mail, please print a copy of the registration form from our website [www.BluewaterCharityClassic.com](http://www.BluewaterCharityClassic.com). Print the form and mail it with a check or money order for \$175.00 to Bluewater Outriggers 121 West Hwy 98 Port St Joe, FL 32456

Each registration must be accompanied with either check or money order. Make checks payable to Bluewater Outrigger Charity Classic. On mail receipt – we will maintain your copy on file for weigh-in. Mail in registrations must be received by 5/23/09.

Fishing in this tournament starts after the Captains meeting and ends on June 6th.

**Entry:** Tournament entry fee will be \$175.00 per boat. This does not include any optional cash awards entries. Entry fees are not refundable. Upon receipt of your entry form, and your tournament entry fee's – you are then eligible to enter fish for weigh-in at this tournament. **After 6/1/09 entry fee will be \$200.00.**

At registration, each boat captain will be given a registration sheet to be turned in when presenting fish for weigh-in. If you register by mail, the tournament office will have your registration sheet on file. Only officially registered boats can compete in the tournament. A registration form must be presented, or on file at weigh-in to weigh a fish in this tournament.

## **Optional Cash Awards**

\$50.00 or \$100.00 entries per boat for heaviest grouper

\$50.00 or \$100.00 entries per boat for heaviest kingfish

\$50.00 or \$100.00 entries per boat for heaviest Spanish mackerel

\$50.00 or \$100.00 entries per boat for heaviest red snapper

Awards will be for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in each category of optional cash awards. Optional cash award money will be paid to the winning teams at the conclusion of the weigh-in of the Bluewater Outrigger Charity Classic, with 15% taken for the Taunton Family Children's Home prior to payouts. The optional cash awards will be handled by a non-tournament official.

## **Location**

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This tournament expects that fishermen will either fish in waters around Gulf, Franklin and/or Bay county Florida.

Departure points: Tournament entrants must depart from port along the portion of the Gulf of Mexico coastline from Apalachicola in Franklin County to Mexico Beach in Bay County.

Boundaries on water: Providing stated limits on points of departure are observed, there are no boundary restrictions on the waters tournament entrants may fish.

### **BASIS OF AWARDS**

Fish category winners will be for the three heaviest fish in each of the four species. An entrant can be a winner in only one (1) place within a species. Winners may be subject to polygraph examination. All cash and merchandise awards will be made to the tournament entrant.

### **TYPES OF AWARDS**

Cash awards of \$2500.00 will be awarded to top category winners. Second prize is \$500.00 and third prize is \$250.00. You do not have to be present at the awards ceremony to receive your winnings. If you are not present, your winning awards will be mailed to you within 14 days to the address supplied on your entry form. A tax statement will be issued for all winners as required by the IRS. Each team shall designate a representative for payouts and provision of applicable tax information.

### **FISHING RULES**

All tournament fish must be caught by mouth on rod and reel. Tournament management reserves the right to modify/change the rules prior to any tournament. Any fish frozen, mangled, injected, containing foreign matter, mauled, or showing signs of preservation such as discolored eyes, gills or soft flesh will be disqualified at the prerogative of the tournament director.

Expressly prohibited fishing methods for purposes of this tournament include: mounted winch devices ("one-armed bandits"), motor-driven longlines, spearing, gigging, netting, shooting (including use of bangsticks), or any method of catch in violation of State or Federal laws. Evidence of prohibited methods will disqualify the catch and all entrants fishing aboard the vessel on which such rule violations were committed.

All fish weighed in may be subject to random gutting after weigh-in. Failure to allow a tournament committee member to gut a fish will result in the disqualification of the fish in question.

This tournament will be fished in accordance with the Department of Natural Resources rules for size and catch limits for the state of Florida. Undersized fish will not be weighed, bottom fish will be measured in inches with a pinched tail, and pelagics will be measured to the inside of the fork per Florida laws.

Any state law or United States Federal law that conflicts with these rules shall override these rules, and all anglers are responsible for knowing and abiding by state laws and United States federal laws governing fishing in this tournament.

### **POLYGRAPH**

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All participants in the tournament are subject to a polygraph at the request of the tournament management. Failure to successfully pass such an examination may result in automatic disqualification of entrant. This is at the sole discretion of the tournament management.

### **WEIGH IN**

**You must present your registration form at the time of weigh-in.** If you registered by mail – we will maintain a copy in our office. You may call our registration office at 850.227.1100 to confirm your registration. No fish will be weighed without this form. A photograph of each fish weighed will be taken by the weigh master.

Fish must be presented to the weigh master before 6:30 pm EDT to be weighed. Any vessel within the confines of the Port St Joe Marina and in radio contact with the Tournament Director or weigh master on VHF channel 11 will be weighed in. Confines of the marina are defined as a line drawn across the mouth of the PSJ marina entrance from the sea wall to the jetty. A tournament official will be standing at the site to record the end of weigh in and boats meeting this requirement. Any fisherman bringing a fish for weigh-in other than by boat must present the fish to the weighmaster at the Port St Joe marina by 6:30pm edt.

### **REQUIREMENT OF ELIGIBLE FISH**

All fish must be of legal length to be considered in this tournament. Participants are expected to follow all applicable laws pertaining to the taking of marine fish.

The weigh-master reserves the right to hold and examine internally and externally any fish weighed in as a tournament catch to determine if the fish is eligible for an award. Any fish that has an unnatural material in or on the fish will be disqualified. If it is determined that the fish was caught prior to the start of the tournament start time – the fish will be disqualified.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP & SAFETY**

This is a one day tournament with no plans for cancellations due to weather. The Tournament Director, however, reserves the right to make a decision to cancel or alter the event due to inclement weather. We discourage fishing in unsafe conditions and are not responsible for actions of fishermen during this tournament.

Participants are expected to follow all applicable laws and rules for safe boating, including those regarding USCG equipment requirements.

All participants will exercise good and courteous sportsmanship whether at the dock, underway, or fishing. Any participant who exhibits threatening behavior or who otherwise engage in disorderly, illegal or improper conduct of any kind is subject to immediate disqualification by the Tournament Director.

Willful violations of marine laws or other violations of safe and proper conduct may lead to disqualification.

### **AMENDMENTS**

The statement and rules contained herein may be amended by additional verbal instruction and/or printed matter distributed by the tournament management.