

BLACKWATER ANGLER FESTIVAL & FISHING TOURNAMENT

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES & GUIDELINES

Built Around the Nature Coast, For the Nature Coast.

The following rules and guidelines are intended to ensure a safe, fair, and professional tournament experience for all anglers.

1. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- Individual Angler Competition
- Scoring format is based on a 1 Redfish + 5 Trout aggregate.
- All fish must comply with FWC regulations.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- All anglers must complete registration and payment.
- Participants under 18 require parent or guardian approval.
- Valid fishing licenses are required unless exempt.

3. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- All boats must comply with U.S. Coast Guard and FWC safety requirements.
- Kill switches must be used while vessels are on plane.
- Unsafe operation may result in disqualification.

4. SPORTSMANSHIP

- Respectful conduct is required at all times.
- Cheating or unsportsmanlike conduct results in disqualification.

5. FISHING RULES

- Fishing must comply with all FWC laws.
- Fish must be legally caught by rod and reel.
- No fish may be transferred between anglers.

6. WEIGH-IN RULES

- Fish must be presented at the official weigh-in.

- Late arrivals may result in penalties.
- Tournament officials have final authority regarding scoring.

7. WEATHER POLICY

- Tournament officials may delay or suspend the event for safety reasons.
- All weather decisions are final.

8. LIABILITY RELEASE

- Participation involves inherent risks.
- Participants assume responsibility for injuries, accidents, or losses.

9. MEDIA RELEASE

- Participants authorize use of photos and video for promotional purposes.

10. RULE INTERPRETATION

- Tournament officials reserve the right to interpret and enforce all rules.
- All official decisions are final.

ANGLER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to follow all tournament rules and guidelines.

Angler Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____