

Salt and Fresh Water Fishing Tournament Rules

1. THE MOST ENPORTANT RULE: Colors for a Cause Summer Day of Hope Fishing Tournament is about getting people and kids out in the name of fun and competition! Our goal as host is to work hard to ensure a fair and balanced playing field. With that being said, if any of the rules need altering to ensure the safety of all participants, we reserve the right to alter them at any time, without formal notice. To stay up to date with rules, prizes and general information please reference colorsforacause.org and our Facebook page.

2. WHO CAN ENTER: Anyone with or without a boat.

3. REGISTRATION AND FEES: We wanted to provide a low-cost tournament with extra special service, food, prizes, and fishing action. \$25 per person

Payment can be made on the colorsforacause.org web site by credit card or in person with credit card, check, (made out to CFAC) or cash at any time before the Friday night pre-registration meeting.

- Full payment, registration forms, signed waiver, and obtaining special icon must be completed to participate.

4. SCHEDULE: Please visit the tournament web page at colorsforacause.org for full details.

- Friday Evening: Pre-Tournament check in and packet pickup. 6- 8p.m.
- Saturday: Tournament with awards ceremony, prizes
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5. ELIGIBLE WATER: All public waterways. Salt and Fresh

6. PRE-TOURNAMENT CHECK IN:

What is covered at the pre-tournament meeting?

- Discussion on local fishing laws and safety
- Questions and answer time - Tips and pointers
- Photo submissions, camera equipment/compatibility check and approved measuring devices
- Special icon distribution
- Review and signing of liability waiver.

7. SCORING: We are using the "Catch-Measure-Photo-Release" method. That is once you catch the fish, use a digital camera or smart phone to take a photo of the fish on the standard measuring device with special icon, then release the fish back to the water.

- For approved measuring devices go to the "Photo Rules" located below.
- We prefer participants to sign up (free) to use the TourneyX scoring system. It will auto cull your catches and display live scoring during the tournament. It will also allow you more time to fish since you would not need to be back at the tournament officials prior to your deadline. If you are not able to use TourneyX, you can also email photos or use a camera with removable storage (i.e scandisk or memory card). If you go with a removable storage option, please bring an appropriate cable to sync with the officials' laptop.
- If you email photos (colorsforacause.la@gmail.com) or submit via removable device, you must go through your pictures and ONLY submit your top 5 fish for scoring.
- The "special icon" for the tournament must be present in photo to qualify for scoring.
- The tournament officials will review all photos to verify validity and length of fish for determining place winners.

8. Standards of Measuring:

- Anglers may score up to 5 fish. Fish are scored based on length (inches) and the longest combined length will take first place, second longest combined length will take second place, and so on.
- The nose or lip must be touching the front of the measuring device, and this must be visible in the picture.
- The tail can be "pinched" or "natural" and the mouth can be open or closed.
- The fish must be facing to the left when measuring.
- The fish must be on an "approved" measuring device with the front of the device, and the measuring scale beyond the tail, shown in the photo. Be sure the longest point of the tail is lying over a measuring scale mark, so it is visible in the picture. A list of approved measuring devices can be found on the web page.
- Submitted fish measuring the same length must have distinct differences in appearance or angler may be disqualified.
- Length is rounded to the nearest quarter of an inch.

9. General Scoring Rules

- The tournament is set up so that each participant will have about the same number of hours to fish. Variations will not change photo submission times and you **MUST** submit your photos by your deadline or penalties will apply.
- The photo submission deadline is **1:30pm** and must be adhered to. The deadline time means your photos are RECEIVED by the tournament officials by that time. Not the time your fish was caught, or your picture was sent. Do not wait till the last minute to submit and assume the officials have your photos. Please plan accordingly. If your submissions are late there will be penalties; 01 to 15 minutes after your check in time equals a 5-inch penalty, 16 minutes and beyond is a disqualification.
- Ties: Ties will be viewed by officials and if they can be broken by looking at how the fish were rounded, the officials will place the competitors accordingly. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by the best of three Rock/Paper/Scissors officiated by tournament officials.

10. ELIGIBLE FISH: This is the Colors for a Cause Summer Day of Hope Salt and Fresh Water Tournaments. So, all species of salt and fresh water are eligible.

11. ELIGIBLE FISHING METHODS: All fish must be caught:

- Alive on a conventional rod and reel in a sporting manner.
- An intentional foul hooked fish may not be scored. If a fish misses your lure and gets hooked in the side then so be it, but if you are sight fishing and foul hook it then that fish cannot be scored. 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.
- Anglers may not catch fish or measure in fish that have been caged or confined in an area prior to the tournament.
- All fish must be caught during the hours of competition.
- No cast nets allowed.
- More than one rod can be in use at a time as long as it is in compliance with LA fishing rules and regulations.

12. SAFETY: If boating safety will be observed at all times. During competition each contestant is required to comply with all state boating and fishing laws. The tournament may be canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. The decision to cancel will be made by midday on Friday, the day before the tournament. All participants will be notified immediately via the tournament page and Facebook page. If you have any concerns about the weather call Colors for a Cause phone 337-317-1455.

13. COMMUNICATIONS: We encourage you to unplug and really enjoy the Wild and scenic stretch of the use of mobile communication devices such as cellular telephones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, or any electronic device to communicate fishing information during tournament hours is strictly prohibited. Communication among anglers is allowed on the water or bank only by non-electronic methods. Emergency calls may be made. Using social media to post your highlights, or lowlights, during the event is allowed but please use the hashtag #Colorforacause

14. AFTER TOURNAMENT AWARDS CEREMONY & PARTY: Starting at **2 pm**, we will have the awards ceremony followed by festivities. Food, drinks (nonalcoholic) and live music will be available.

Awards for the following finishes.

- *BIGGEST (single fish) 1 salt water and 1 freshwater fish will win a special prize plus entry into individual prizes if qualified.
- *INDIVIDUAL (most inches of 5 fish): 1st and 2nd salt water and 1st and 2nd freshwater.

*Prizes are subject to change up to tournament start.

**By accepting a prize, we expect you to pose for pictures to be sent to our generous sponsors.

15. SPORTSMANSHIP: This is all about having fun and raising money for kids fighting cancer. It is important that all anglers adhere to a high standard of sportsmanship that portrays our sport in a positive light.

- All anglers will sign a statement of honor that they will abide by all the rules. If found guilty of intentional, predetermined cheating or in violation of the statement of honor, they are subject to be disqualified.
- Proper river etiquette should be adhered to while competing. Please be always courteous of other anglers.

16. PHOTO/VIDEO RIGHTS: All photos, video, data, audio, and angler profile information shall be used by Colors for a Cause indefinitely and may be used by any of its tournament partners in future projects, promotions, articles, or media releases. There will be no compensation for such use of these photos, video, voice, or data. Anglers will be allowed to keep their photos/videos and use how they please as well.

17. FINAL DECISIONS: Any decisions that need to be made in relation to the event will be done so by the tournament committee and their decisions are final.

18. RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE: all participants must sign a waiver, release of liability, and covenant not to sue before competing in any tournament. It is required that all participants take responsibility for themselves while participating in event activities.

19. HAVE FUN: Remember, winning is not something you can completely control, because there is no way to play defense in this sport. All you can control is your fishing and your attitude....so relax, have fun, and enjoy your time on the water.

Photo Rules

The keys to correct measurement of a fish is as follows:

- Get a system down, and practice if you can, to:
 - Control the fish from flopping around too much.
 - Develop a way to hold your camera to take pictures directly over the fish that include all the needed aspects and are IN FOCUS
 - You can put the fish on a stringer or keep it hooked to ensure that you do not lose it
 - Be sure your picture is good before letting fish go in case you need to take multiple pictures in order to submit a good picture.
- Measure it consistently to the following rules:
 - Put the fish's head facing to your left as seen in the first photo.
 - The fish's mouth can be open or closed just as long as some part of the nose/lip is touching the end of the board and it is visible in the photo.
 - The tail can lay natural OR it can be pinched. Get the most out of the fish!
 - Make sure the tail is laying over your measuring devices scale, so the size is easily determined.
 - Make sure the special photo icon is visible in each picture.
- Approved measuring devices:
 - Any stiff commercially sold ruler-board with a right-angle end sticking up so the fish's nose/lip can touch up against it. The measuring scale must be easily read in pictures.
 - Some examples are Hawg Trough, Frabill bump board, Norhtland ruler scale board, Rapala tournament ruler, etc.