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# **Hell's Bay Owners Tournament 2021**

## **CATCH AND RELEASE**

Hell's Bay Owners Tournament is strictly a catch and release fishing tournament.

## **LOCATION**

The Flats of the Florida Keys that are of poling depth.

## **ELIGIBLE SPECIES**

Tarpon, Bonefish, Permit, Redfish, Snook

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

There will be a tournament Grand Champion, Runner-up, Top-Junior Angler and Largest fish awards for each species. Anglers will be awarded 5 points for each eligible fish caught and bonus points for fish caught on artificial and fly. Two of the five eligible species must be caught in order to win the Grand Champion and Runner-up awards.

Anglers may use bait, artificial lures, or fly to catch the eligible species. Artificial lures must be cast by the angler on a spinning or plug rod and retrieved by the angler's manual manipulation of the tackle. Trolling by boat is not permitted. Artificial lures may not be sweetened by the addition of any natural bait. Chumming is prohibited.

In the event of a tie, the team or individual that catches the last eligible fish first shall be the winner.

The largest eligible fish awards shall be awarded to the anglers who catch the largest eligible fish in each of the five eligible fish divisions. There shall be no maximum lengths for this award and no tackle bonuses.

## **BONUS POINTS FOR FLY AND ARTIFICIAL DIVISIONS**

For the fish entered in an eligible fish category, there shall be a bonus awarded for fish caught on fly or artificial. Points for each fish caught on fly will be multiplied by 1.5 and

for fish caught on artificial the multiplier shall be 1.25.

## **FISHING HOURS**

Thursday – September 16, 2021, 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

All anglers must sign in at Fishers Inn Resort and Marina prior to departure.

Each angler must return the photos and catch card to the tournament scorers located at the Fishers Inn Resort and Marina on Thursday 16th between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

All measuring devices must be returned with the catch card in order to enter the day's catches.

## **ANGLERS**

Every angler must have a current Florida fishing license, unless exempt by Florida law, or fish on a vessel whose captain has a current boat fishing license.

## **LINE TEST**

The maximum line test/tippet allowed shall be 12-lb. test. Line test shall be determined by the line manufactures stated line test.

## **LEADER**

Leader, including double line, shall not exceed the length of the angler's rod. For anglers fishing with a fly rod, the leader and tippet length shall comply with IGFA rules.

## **HOOKS**

Anglers fishing with bait or fishing with a fly rod must only use single hooks.

## **RODS**

Anglers may only use or work one fishing rod at a time.

## **IGFA RULES**

Every angler must hook, fight and bring the fish to the boat unaided by any other person. Gaffing shall not be allowed.

All IGFA rules shall apply except leader length and gaffing as specifically stated herein. It is the responsibility of each angler to know, understand and abide by the IGFA and these rules.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Anglers must provide a digital camera with memory card or phone. Each fish entered on a scorecard must be photographed with the camera at the time the fish is caught. The photograph must clearly show the head of the fish against the end of the measuring device and clearly show the entire fish and the total length of the fish, without obstruction of hands or fingers. Tails may be pinched according to Florida state regulations. For fish larger than the measuring device, the photograph must clearly show the total length of the fish on the tournament tape measure. All photos must include the official tournament marker provided.

## **PROTESTS**

Only registered angler may protest any other registered angler's catch by filing a written protest to the tournament committee by 5:00 P.M. of the day of the protested catch. The judge's committee will settle any protest and their decision will be final.

## **COMPLIANCE**

Each angler shall be responsible for accurately and completely filling out and signing the scorecard and timely returning the scorecard and camera to the tournament committee. Failure to comply with any rule or regulation of the tournament, or law, rule or regulation of Everglades National Park, may cause the disqualification of an angler or the angler's catch.

## **WEATHER**

All anglers will fish at their own discretion and at their own risk. If bad weather causes the cancellation, the judges' committee shall be responsible for making the decision.

## **INDEMNITY**

All anglers will fish at their own risk. All anglers agree to indemnify and hold harmless all members of the Tournament Committee, Directors, Sponsors and their agents and employees from any and all liability, loss or damage they may suffer as a result of this fishing tournament.

## **CAPTAINS/ANGLERS MEETING**

All captains/anglers or their representatives shall attend the Captain's Meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 @ 6:30pm – Fishers Inn Resort and Marina. Each angler shall pick up scorecard & measuring device.

## **CELL PHONES/RADIO CONTACT**

The use of cellular phones or radio communication with non-registered anglers, for fishing information, during tournament fishing hours is strictly prohibited.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

The tournament committee reserves the right to refuse the registration of any angler.