



# 2019 The Parish Cup Redfish Championship

## Rules and Regulations

The decision of the Tournament Director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal. By participating in The Parish Cup Redfish Championship hereinafter referred to as “The Parish Cup”, each contestant agrees to be bound by the rules stated herein. “The Parish Cup” reserves the right to prohibit continued participation by any contestant for any reason. Rules and Regulations are subject to change without notice. However, “The Parish Cup” will make every effort to adequately notify all participants of the change. Any rule changes, declared by the Tournament Director, will immediately supersede all previously published copies of rules.

### Participation:

A team must consist of two (2) anglers so long as one angler is at least 18 years of age. Teams may have up to two (2) adults [16 years of age and older] and up to one (1) youth angler [under 16 years of age]. All adult team members must have a valid Louisiana fishing license and all anglers are required to follow all applicable federal, state and local regulations and laws. Any violation of said regulations and laws during tournament hours will result in disqualification from the tournament. NO EXCEPTIONS shall be made to any laws.

### Entry Fees, Registration & Pre-Tournament Meeting:

Regular tournament entry fees will be \$350 (USD) per team for pre-registering online by 11:59 PM CST on Monday immediately preceding the Saturday tournament. Late registration is defined as registering online or in person after 12:00 AM CST on the Tuesday immediately preceding the Saturday tournament and late registration will be \$400 per team. Late registration may be completed in person on the morning of the tournament until 6:00 AM - paid in cash only, no exceptions. BOTH team members (for pre-registered teams as well as onsite registrants) must check-in with tournament staff to sign waivers and release forms and to receive team numbers prior to blast off. A team is not completely registered until all payments and forms have been satisfactorily completed. There will be a mandatory Captain’s safety meeting held the Friday evening prior to the Saturday tournament blast off. All teams must have a representative present. If a team is not represented at the Captain’s safety meeting, that team is automatically disqualified from competing in the tournament. All teams will be assigned boat numbers according to the order of a random drawing at the Captain’s safety meeting. Once a boat number is drawn, it may not be changed, traded, or sold to another team. It is the team Captain’s responsibility to know his or her boat number, official tournament time and check-in time. Failure to go through the checkpoint will result in disqualification for that day’s tournament. Every boat must go through the blast-off checkpoint, IN ORDER OF BOAT NUMBER, with ALL livewells open for inspection by tournament staff. Boat numbers will be called in order over the VHF Marine radio on working channel 69. At the conclusion of the day’s fishing, every boat must return to the blast-off checkpoint, regardless of if the team has fish to weigh in. This is for safety and accountability reasons. Once a boat has checked in, that team will not be allowed to return to fish during the day’s competition and that team’s day of fishing shall cease. Check-in times will be between 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM depending on the team's boat number. Contestants who are not at the official checkpoint area at the appointed time will be disqualified from the tournament’s weight entry. Teams who are not able to check in, due to equipment failure or other unforeseen circumstances, are responsible for contacting the Tournament Director before the official check-in is over in order to determine the safety of contestants.

### Fish, Fishing Methods, and Locations:

During "The Parish Cup", all fish must be wild and caught by rod and reel utilizing conventional methods during tournament hours only. Only artificial lures may be used for and during competition. No chumming allowed and no angling within 100 yards of another boat chumming. Teams may not tender any fish for competition that has been pre-caught, caged, dammed, iced, or confined in any way. Foul hooked fish shall not be eligible for competition. Contestants may fish on tournament waters accessible to the public by boat. Any fish taken from private or other waters not legally open to recreational fishing or accessible to the general public will not be eligible for entry (areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by private ownership or local, state and federal officials). Contestants may not fish in any private water not equally accessible to all other anglers, or in any body of water owned or controlled by a third party who will not permit every public angler, including non-tournament anglers, access to the area. 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. Contestants may exit their boats while refueling, and/or in the case of an emergency or other necessary non-fishing purpose only. No tournament boat may be loaded on the trailer before the weigh-in except with the permission of the Tournament Director. In the event of equipment failure, anglers must call the designated Tournament Director's Phone number to report their situation and need for calling towing assistance. There will be only two permitted methods of returning to the official check-in: (1) by all partners remaining in their boat and being towed by water (Sea Tow may be utilized, or another team may tow a fellow competitor). (2) By one or all competitors entering the boat of another tournament contestant (fishing by all competitors involved in the rescue must cease at this time). Teams that elect to return to the official check-in by any other means than cited above will forfeit their day's catch for the tournament. Any team returning to the check-in point will be eligible to restart and resume competition under the supervision of the Tournament Director. It is the sole responsibility of teams to locate the Tournament Director to request a restart.

### Scoring & Live Fish:

Tournament standings and winners shall be determined by the total weight, less any penalties, measured in pounds and 100th of a pound of each team's catch during the tournament. Only Red Drum hereinafter referred to as "Redfish" (two over 16 inches and up to 27 inches) side note: if it touches the 27 black line, it is legal; if it goes into the silver past the 27" mark it is disqualified for the purposes of "The Parish Cup". All Redfish will be measured on a Check-It Stick brand "hands free board system." Fish tendered for competition will be measured from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail fin utilizing a 4" channel "tail pincher" stopping at the 26" mark on the measuring board. The fish will be placed on the hands free board facing belly to belly with the Weigh-Master. Fish tendered for competition shall be individually measured and weighed a maximum of three times. If a fish is measured three times, it will be on the same side of the fish; the fish will not be flipped to its left side and re-measured. Fish with abnormal, damaged or deformed tail fins will not be accepted for competition under any circumstances regardless of the length. Any fish measuring outside of the slot three times will be disqualified from the competition. Any fish that appears to have been iced, penned, mangled, caged, distressed, mashed, mauled, cut or otherwise altered will not be accepted for competition. All Redfish presented to the Weigh Master must be alive. Alive/dead determination will be made by the Weigh Master at the bump-board only while the fish is being measured. A 1.0 (one) pound penalty will be deducted from the total weight for one dead fish, a 2.0 (two) pound penalty will be deducted from the overall weight of two dead fish. The independent decisions of the Weigh Master/Tournament Director are final, not subject to appeal, and shall not be overruled. Payout matrix will be determined by the number of entries utilizing the one spot paid out for every 7 (seven) boats entered. The heaviest slot Redfish will pay out a cash bonus, as long as both anglers

meet the criteria from the Sponsor for the Big Fish category. In the event of a tie, the team that entered their fish first will be declared the winner for that day.

#### Youth Division (less than 16 years of age):

Youth anglers will be allowed to weigh in one (1) Redfish under 27 inches per event caught by, and only by, the youth angler and must follow all previously stated rules. Youth anglers' Redfish are eligible for the team competition, however; there is still a maximum of 3 anglers per team allowed. This can be a combination of two adult anglers and one youth angler, where the youth weighs in his/her own Redfish, or a combination of one adult angler and two youth anglers, where the adult angler weighs-in one Redfish and one of the youth angler's Redfish contributes to either the team weight or is weighed-in separately in the youth division. The top three finishing youth anglers in the tournament will receive "The Parish Cup" youth trophies, and all youth anglers will be recognized, regardless of whether they weigh-in any Redfish or not.

#### Payout:

The payout is 1 in 7 with a guaranteed 100% payback (minus a small administrative fee of \$125 to each of the tournament staff: Bump Master, Fish Boss, Director of Operations, Director of Fish Logistics, Chief Records Officer, and Weigh Master and a guaranteed \$10,000 to win (with 50 boat field or more). Polygraph fee will also be included in the administrative fee.

Ties: If two or more teams have identical weight in the tournament, it will be considered a tie. In the event of a tie, the team who presented the single heaviest Redfish of their two Redfish team weight will be declared the winner of that spot. Secondary tie-breaker will be whichever team registered first wins the tie-breaker.

#### Awards:

The top three places will receive trophy's replicating "The Parish Cup's" perpetual trophy. The winning team will have their names permanently engraved on the Cup, which will be prominently and permanently displayed at Hopedale Marina. Plaques for 4th through 10th place will be awarded.

#### Safety:

Safe boating shall be practiced at all times. Each participant shall be required to wear a fastened (USCG approved) personal flotation device any time the combustion engine is in operation. Each boat must have all required USCG safety equipment. For the safety of all contestants, all boats must be equipped with some type of operable ignition shut-off device. This ignition shut-off (Kill Switch) must be attached to the driver any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear. Tournament day will consist of 9 hours of fishing (sunrise 06:00AM to 15:00PM); however, at the discretion of the Tournament Director, tournament days may be shortened or canceled due to unsafe conditions. The tournament will not commence under NOAA "Small Craft Advisory" conditions forecast for Breton Sound waters, or if fog reduces visibility to less than ¼ mile forecast for Breton Sound. All participants are responsible for the operation, maintenance and safety of their vessels, themselves and their fellow team members. No action by "The Parish Cup" should be construed as an endorsement or representation concerning safety pertaining to leaving the safe harbor or to continue fishing at any given time. "The Parish Cup" will not give advice or recommendations to teams concerning weather conditions.

#### Sportsmanship:

All participants in "The Parish Cup" are expected to follow and practice high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, ethics, safety, and conservation. Unsportsmanlike and unethical conduct will result in disqualification (at the Tournament Director's discretion). Participants are not allowed to fish within a 150

feet radius of another boat. Please refer to the Louisiana Boating Safety Rules. The following, but not limited to, will not be tolerated: cutting off or impeding other tournament boats, waking or traveling through an occupied area at excessive rates of speed, “burning” shorelines, flats, or other waters that are occupied by other tournament and/or weekend anglers, etc. Navigation in proximity to the shoreline, at idle speeds, while not on plane, does not constitute burning. Burning of ponds, bays, and lake shorelines will be banned for a two-week period up to and including the event. The commercial fishermen of St. Bernard Parish will be tasked with reporting, via video, any activity they observe during the closure period which they feel constitutes burning of shorelines. The commercial fishermen will present video footage to St. Bernard Parish officials and they will review and then present the footage to “The Parish Cup” Tournament Director for final review. The boat registration numbers will be reviewed and the owner of that vessel in violation of the two-week burning closure, and the vessel in violation, will not be allowed to participate in “The Parish Cup” and will forfeit any paid entry. Additionally, the owner of the boat in violation and the vessel in violation, will not be allowed to register or participate in the subsequent year’s Parish Cup. “The Parish Cup” is promoting high standards of conservation and will not contribute to the further destruction of habitat. The practice of pond burning is leading to the sport of Redfishing tournaments getting a bad reputation and contributing to the increase in restricted access of waterways.

#### **Communication:**

During competition tournament hours, communication between teams and or outside sources is strictly prohibited. On the water updates are strictly prohibited on anglers’ or teams’ personal or private social media channels during the official times of the tournament hours. Violations will result in automatic disqualification. If communication is found to have occurred after prize winnings have been awarded, the violating team will forfeit and return all winnings and the tournament winnings will be adjusted as appropriate.

#### **Boat & Horsepower Regulation:**

Maximum horsepower for all vessels used in tournament competition will not exceed the horsepower limitations stated on the USCG rating plate, installed by the vessel manufacturer. All competitors shall agree to submit his or her boat and/or motor to inspection prior to, during, or after the competition. Fuel may be carried only in primary fuel tanks, no portable gas cans or fuel bladders. Any additional fuel used during the tournament day must be purchased during tournament hours from a retail facility open to the public. No tiller hand motors allowed.

#### **Liability:**

Participation of Contestants in “The Parish Cup” is voluntary and at their own risk. By virtue of participating, Contestants agree to protect, defend, indemnify, save and hold harmless, “The Parish Cup”, Parish Cup Redfish Championship, Hopedale Marina, Sea Tow New Orleans, it’s Sponsors, it’s Commission, and all officers, agents, servants, employees, and volunteers thereof, from and against any and all claims, damages, expenses, and liability arising out of injury or death to any person or the damage, loss or destruction of any property which may occur, or in any way grow out of, any act or omission of Contestant in connection with participation in “The Parish Cup”, or any and all costs, expenses and/or attorney fees incurred by Contestant as a result of any claims, demands, suits, or causes of action arising out of participation. Contestant agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for and defend any such claims, demands, suits, or causes of action at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claims, demands, suits, or causes of action are groundless, false or fraudulent.

**Insurance and Liability:**

Each boat entered into “The Parish Cup” shall have a minimum of \$100,000.00 liability insurance coverage. It is the responsibility of the boat owner to carry liability insurance covering the vessel. All tournament participants are required to sign a waiver absolving all tournament officials, officers, participants, sponsors and co-sponsors from any responsibility for damage or personal injury sustained as a result of the Contestant’s participation in the tournament or its related activities; however, the language of the waiver is incorporated herein for all purposes, and the Contestant’s signature on this form shall constitute an alternate release in the instance the member fails to sign the official DECLARATION, WAIVER, RELEASE, LIKENESS AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT.

**Protest Procedure:**

All protests must be submitted, in writing, along with a \$500 cash deposit. Protests must be submitted to the Tournament Director no later than 15 minutes following the weigh-in of the last fish. All decisions will be made by the Tournament Director and are final.

**Alcoholic Beverages and Illegal Drugs:**

Immediately preceding the tournament or while on the boat, use of any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during fishing is prohibited and shall result in disqualification. If the Tournament Director deems any person to be under the influence that participant’s team is automatically disqualified. No exceptions.

**Polygraph:**

By signature on the official tournament entry form, each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph test and be bound by its interpreted results and conclusions. “The Parish Cup” reserves the right to select a polygrapher to administer polygraph examinations. The first place team in each event and any other team as chosen by “The Parish Cup” Tournament Director shall be subject to a polygraph examination and will not receive any award until the test has been administered and determined to be non-deceptive. Polygraph tests may be issued at the discretion of the Tournament Director/Weigh Master for any reason, and each contestant hereby acknowledges and consents to the examination. The results and interpretations of the polygraph are final and each contestant hereby knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily waives any review of said test result, including any judicial process seeking to overturn, amend or otherwise negate the finding of the test administrator. All decisions will be made by the Tournament Director/Weigh Master and are final. “The Parish Cup” reserves the right to prohibit continued participation in the series by any contestant for any reason.

It is mutually covenanted and agreed by and between the parties as follows:

- (1) That this Agreement shall be construed under the laws of the State of Louisiana.
- (2) That the captions of the Articles of this Agreement are inserted for identification only, and shall not govern the construction, nor alter, vary, or change any of the terms, conditions, or provisions of this Agreement or any Article thereof.
- (3) Each provision herein shall be deemed separate and distinct from all other provisions, and if any one of them shall be declared illegal or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the legality or enforceability of the other terms, conditions, and provisions hereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_