

## Police & Fire Games Trash Can Fishing Tournament

There will be a Trash Can Fishing Tournament based out of Fort Pierce City Marina located at One Ave A. The Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 25, with a **mandatory** Captain's meeting (at least one person from each boat must attend) on Friday, June 24, at 7 P.M. at the Fort Pierce City Marina. This is a boat based offshore fishing tournament with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place payout.

This tournament will begin on Saturday, June 25, with vessels leaving the Ft. Pierce Inlet at 6:30 a.m., checking out of the inlet with the committee vessel to be located in the Inlet on the Southside by Mangrove Matties. Vessels must display their boat number and verbally be acknowledged by the committee boat prior to leaving the Ft. Pierce Inlet. Marine VHF radio frequency being used by the committee boat will be Channel 78. Lines in at 7:00 a.m. and all vessels must be back in the inlet and clear the committee vessel by 3:00 p.m. This must be by verbal acknowledgement. Time of check in will be the tie breaker on any identical weights. The weigh in will begin at the Ft. Pierce City Marina at 12 noon.

This tournament will be a one-day offshore tournament with anglers utilizing a rod and reel to catch three (3) species of saltwater fish. The species are defined as Barracuda, Bonita, and Jack (any variety). In order to win the tournament, the angler will have to catch all three species of fish and weigh them in. The highest combined weight of all three species will determine the winner. Should there not be three anglers that catch all three species of fish, the highest combined total weight of two species of fish will determine the other winners.

All vessels fishing this tournament must abide by the following:

1. Range limits of the Atlantic Ocean: 45 miles North, South or East of the Ft. Pierce Inlet.
2. All vessels must have current vessel registration.
3. All vessels must have all Coast Guard required safety equipment on board.
4. At least one of the persons on board the vessel must be active duty, retired or reserve status firefighter or law enforcement.
5. There will be no contact with any vessel in this tournament with any other vessel after leaving the inlet until vessel has weighed their catch. Emergency situations will be taken into consideration by the tournament committee.
6. Should a tournament vessel have to return to dock prior to weigh in, tournament committee will be notified as to the reason.
7. All persons fishing must be properly licensed for salt water fishing in Florida.

## Rules

A. **LINE:** Monofilament, multifilament, braided and lead core multifilament lines may be used. Fluorocarbon line may also be used. Wire lines are prohibited.

B. **LEADER:** The use of a leader is not required, but if one is used it must meet the following specifications: Single strand, multi-strand and braided wire leaders are acceptable. Fluorocarbon leaders may also be used. There is no length restriction on the leader or shock leader. There are no requirements on the strength of the leader or shock leader.

C. **ROD:** Rods must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of a rod, but rods giving the angler an unfair advantage will be disqualified. The rule is intended to eliminate the use of unconventional rods. There are no restrictions on the length of the rod or type of material in its manufacture.

D. **REELS:** Reels must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Power driven reels of any kind are prohibited. This includes motor, hydraulic or electrically driven reels and any device, which gives the angler an unfair advantage. Special consideration for physically impaired members will be given upon request. This rule does NOT apply to power driven kite reels providing the fishing line is attached via a release clip so the fish is not fought on the power driven reel. It also does NOT apply to power driven downriggers, providing the fishing line is attached via a release clip so the fish is not fought using the power driven downrigger. Ratchet handle reels are prohibited. Reels designed to be cranked with both hands at the same time are prohibited.

E. **BAIT, HOOKS, AND LURES:** Considerable latitude shall be granted concerning bait fishing and the selection of hooks and lures. Any angler, who uses illegal methods in capturing fish, including baitfish, may be subject to disqualification and/or expulsion by the tournament committee. Bait may be taken by any legal means, including the use of a cast net of legal size. Artificial lures, skirts and trailing materials may be used in the capture of bait providing such skirt, lure or trailer is attached to a qualified rod, reel and line. Teasers such as jig heads or skirts may be used in front of live bait rigs or attached to the front of any ribbonfish or eel. There will be a maximum of five (5) hooks allowed per rig. Each hook may be of a single, double or treble design, but will be limited to five hooks. This is primarily in the case of ribbonfish or silver eels. Anglers are encouraged to use as few a number of hooks as possible in order to increase the chances of survival for any fish released. This is especially important when pre fishing, where most fish will be released anyway. For this tournament, pre-caught or bought bait must be on the participating boat prior to check out. Bait pens may be kept at locations other than with a vessel at a marina or a home dock, however, no bait from these pens can be removed after check out nor can a team stop on their way to the weigh in dock and put bait in a pen.

**F. OTHER EQUIPMENT:** Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed an overall length of 12 feet. Flying or detachable head gaffs are not allowed. All gaffs must be equipped with a single hook. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited. Floats are prohibited with the exception of any flotation device attached to the line or leader for the sole purpose of regulating the depth of the bait. The flotation device must not in any way hamper the fighting ability of the fish. Entangling devices, either with or without a hook is prohibited and may not be used for any purpose including baiting, hooking, fighting or landing the fish. Outriggers, downriggers, and kites are permitted, providing that the actual fishing line is attached to the device by a snap, clip, rubber band or other release device so the line is released upon the strike and the fish is fought unencumbered on an allowed rod, reel and line.

**G. ANGLING REGULATIONS:** A harness may be attached to the rod and reel, but not to a fighting chair. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler. The angler may pass the rod to another angler during anytime in the fight and for any reason. This is primarily in the case of junior anglers who may tire easily. The use of a rod belt or gimbal is allowed.

**H. ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MAY DISQUALIFY A CATCH:** Failure to comply with any local, state, federal angling regulations. Hand lining or using a hand line or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting a fish. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish during any stage of the catch is prohibited. Using a boat or other device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim. Intentionally foul hooking a fish. Using a size or type of bait that is illegal to possess. Attaching the angler's line or leader to any part of the boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish. Mutilation of the fish prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, barracuda, any other fish, mammals, or propellers that hampers the fish's natural fighting and swimming ability. Injuries caused by line or leader, gaff marks, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not disqualifying injuries.