2022 Tournament Rules

SPECIAL NOTE

Meeting Street’s Fishing for a Cause is a catch-and-release tournament. Qualifying fish are **not required** to be brought to a weigh station. Prizes are awarded based on fish length, as measured by the tournament-supplied ruler (no outside rulers are permitted) and submitted via photograph (see detailed rules for submission below). The tournament is designed as catch-and-release to protect and preserve sport fishing populations. Participants may certainly keep their legal catch for personal consumption.

TOURNAMENT DAYS & TIMES

The two-day tournament begins on **Friday, June 10 at 12:01 AM** and ends at **2:00 PM on Saturday, June 11, 2022.**

Photos of qualifying fish must **(1)** document fish length using the tournament-supplied ruler, **(2)** include the angler’s tournament ID card in the photo and **(3)** be submitted no later than 2 PM on Saturday, June 11 via the approved tournament app, Fish Donkey. Please keep the original file/device used to take photo, as it may be required for review post-submission.

TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES

Northern: The south coast of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Cape Cod Bay from Race Point to Manomet Point.
Western: 71.40°W
Eastern: 70.00°W

Federal law prohibits targeting or retaining Striped Bass in federal waters. Any boat caught violating this law will be disqualified from the tournament without refund.

TOURNAMENT QUALIFICATIONS

Captains and their crews are responsible for following all state and federal fishing and boating laws during the tournament hours. All entrants must possess valid marine fishing licenses for the waters they are fishing. Any violation of these laws will disqualify your catch. Information on acquiring licenses is available on the following websites: [www.saltwater.ri.gov](http://www.saltwater.ri.gov) or [www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/licensing/](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/licensing/)

To be eligible for tournament prizes, registered anglers must read, sign and submit the tournament liability waiver prior to the start of the tournament.

TOURNAMENT SAFETY

All boats should monitor **VHF CHANNELS 16 / 78** and act as a safety boat for all participants. **TowBoatU.S. New Bedford** is also available to assist all participants at **NO CHARGE** during the tournament, within their designated coverage area of Buzzards Bay to Sakonnet Point, Aquinnah and the Elizabeth Islands. For assistance, call: **(508) 990-3997** or VHF channel 16.

QUALIFYING FISH & PRIZES

Fishing for a Cause is a Black Sea Bass, Bluefish, and Fluke and Striped Bass catch-and-release tournament. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to the angler with the biggest fish - by length - in each division.
The minimum length requirements for submittal are as follows: Black Sea Bass-22”, Bluefish-24”, Fluke-19” and Striped Bass-34”. Please note: Bluefish is measured by total length, not fork length.

Fish that have been mutilated or tampered with in any way will be automatically disqualified. No Yo-Yo Rigs (i.e. a natural-bait rig that is weighted with embedded lead and other hardware, and whose tackle is not attached directly to the line). Please fish responsibly.

Anglers may submit their largest catch of each specie, each day using the Fish Donkey app. At the conclusion of the tournament, only the angler’s longest fish in each species category will be counted. In the event of a tie in any segment of the tournament, the prize will go to the fish with the earliest confirmed submission time. Professional / sponsor-boat captains cannot register fish for an award. All participants are responsible for submitting their entries using Fish Donkey during the official tournament hours. If cell connectivity is unavailable while at sea, please take a picture of your fish using a mobile device, which will time stamp your entry.

All protests concerning the determination of tournament winners shall be made to the Tournament Committee in writing. All protests must be received by the Committee no later than 30 minutes after winners are announced. The Committee will investigate all grievances and reserves the right to call witnesses and ask questions of all parties involved. The Committee may disqualify from any portion of the current tournament and/or future tournaments, any person(s) who falsify information, violate the tournament rules, act in an unsportsmanlike manner, or provide false testimony.

Participants entering the tournament agree that all decisions made by the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding. Tournament sponsors and/or their employees who enter the tournament and comply with tournament rules are eligible for tournament prizes.

It is understood that all participants and boat occupants registering for the Fishing for a Cause Tournament do so voluntarily and at their own risk. Each registered participant agrees to release and hold harmless tournament officials, sponsors, and all others connected directly or indirectly with the said tournament from any liability, libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, injury, harm, or death suffered by any participant during the tournament. Again, all anglers must read, sign and submit a liability waiver prior to the start of the tournament.

There is no “Weather Committee” for the tournament. Individual captains and crew are responsible for determining their boat’s ability to participate in each day of the tournament. There will be no refunds for any reason.

Thank you for supporting Fishing for a Cause!