

# 2021 Rules

## Heels & Reels Women's Fishing Tournament

**(Rules are subject to change at the discretion of the Tournament Committee, and all last minute changes will be announced at the Captain's Meeting)**

**TOURNAMENT FORMAT** – The Heels and Reels Tournament will be a Catch-Photo-Release (CPR) format tournament. The tournament will be facilitated through the Fishing Chaos app.

**MEASURING DEVICE** – Each Team will be required to buy one 32" Ketch Karbonate board at Check-in for \$20 in addition to your entry fees. The 32" Ketch Karbonate board is the only board that will be allowed to be used in the tournament. **All submissions must be made on the 32" Ketch Karbonate board.** **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**TOKEN** – All tournament photo submissions must include the tournament token in the photograph. Each team will be given two tokens at tournament check-in, and token will remain unknown until that time. Each team is given an extra token in case one is dropped or lost. The photo submission must include the token in the photograph. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**STRINGER** - The team stringer consists of 2 Redfish; 3 Speckled Trout; 1 Flounder. You may submit as many fish as you wish, however each fish submitted must be released. The "Fishing Chaos" App will "cull" the stringers as fish are entered.

**REDFISH** – Redfish submitted must be at least 20" and NOT greater than 28".

**TROUT** – Trout submitted must be at least 15" with no maximum.

**MEASUREMENT** – All measurements must be taken with the "zero end" of the board to the left of the individual measuring the fish, and the belly of the fish down towards the individual measuring the fish. The nose of the fish must be butted to the end stop of the board and the tail of the fish must sit within the side edges of the board. You may squeeze the tail as necessary in order to maintain the tail within the edges of the board. Do not cover the eyes or tail spot of the fish. Fish will be measured in ¼" increments. The fish must touch and/or pass the ¼" increment on the Ketch measuring board in order to be entered as such.

\*\*\* The mouth of the fish you are measuring must be closed in the picture you submit, if you need to hold it to do so, please make sure the eye of the fish is visible in the picture. Any fish submitted with a mouth open more than ¼" will be given a 2" penalty reduction in length. No exceptions. \*\*\*

**CATCH ENTRY** – Your catch must be submitted into the Fishing Chaos app. Your phone must have location services turned on your phone for the Fishing Chaos and Camera apps. If you are in an area that

has no cell signal to make your submittal, once you reach an area with signal or return to the dock, upload your photographs to the Fishing Chaos app. Fishing time ends at 3:30 PM. All photo/fish submissions must be Submitted no later than 4:00 PM. All top five teams of each division must be present at the tournament tent no later than 4:15 PM for any review questions and possible polygraph.

**REDFISH SPOT POT** – You may enter the Redfish Spot Pot. This will be the Most spots on ONE SIDE of the Redfish. Pictures must be submitted the same way as the rest of the entries. If the Left side of the fish has more spots, keep the tail the same way on the board and roll the fish over.

**FISHING LICENSE** - You must have a valid/current fishing license from Texas Parks and Wildlife to fish in this tournament. Fish this tournament according to the rules enforced by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Citations for not observing these regulations are very expensive. Any team/person receiving a citation during this event will be disqualified.

**ONE POLE PER ANGLER** - You can have more than one rod per angler on the boat or in person while wading, but you cannot fish with more than one at a time.

**TEAM** - This is a women's only amateur fishing tournament. Your team may consist of up to four women and one guide/driver. The guide/driver may be a male. There may be only one male on the boat and that individual may not fish at any time. No exceptions. The team may operate from one boat only. All individuals on the boat must be listed on the registration form.

**ASSISTANCE** - Someone may assist you in baiting your hook, casting, netting, and measuring. It is your job to "set the hook" and reel the fish to the boat or net. Your teammate(s), or guide/captain may assist you in measuring your fish and it is encouraged.

**FISHING BOUNDARIES** - Galveston boundaries: the entire Galveston Bay Complex and the contiguous beach front out 1 nautical mile including GALVESTON JETTIES from San Luis Pass to Rollover Pass including Chocolate Bay, Bastrop Bay, West Galveston Bay, East Bay, Inter-coastal Waterway and adjoining lakes within the beach front boundaries. Other waters included are: upper and lower Galveston Bay, Campbell Bay, Trinity Bay, and all adjoining upper bays to the San Jacinto River, Trinity River and marsh included up to I-10. All boats must launch within boundaries and no fishing outside of listed boundaries. The "Fishing Chaos" App will note where fish were caught.

**ALTERING FISH** - The fish weighed in cannot be altered in any way. Tails cannot be cut, nothing can be stuffed in them, and they must be fresh and caught on tournament day within the tournament boundaries.

**TIME** - Fishing begins at Safe Light on Saturday. Actual time will be announced on Friday evening at the Captain's meeting. Fish submittals will be live throughout the day. Fishing time ends at 3:30 PM. All photo/fish submissions must be completed by 4:00 PM. All top five teams of each division must be present at the tournament tent no later than 4:15 PM for any review questions and possible polygraph.

**TIES** – All ties will be broken by the time stamp of the 1st fish caught and part of the stringer or the first fish caught and entered for the Spot Pot entry.

**POLYGRAPH** - All contestants agree to take a polygraph test if required by a Heels and Reels or CCA Board Member, or the Heels and Reels weigh master. The test will be taken at a time and place

requested by the Galveston CCA Chapter. Refusal to take the test or failing the test will result in disqualification of the team. The individual taking the test will be determined by the tournament director.

**PENALTIES** – Any angler and/or team found to have intentionally cheated in an attempt to defraud the tournament may be subject to criminal prosecution by the State of Texas including misdemeanor and up to a state felony and jail time. Any angler and/or team found to have intentionally cheated in an attempt to defraud the tournament will also forfeit any awards and prize money they may have won and be banned from any future Heels & Reels Tournaments.

**PROTEST** – All tournament participants have the right to protest the results or actions of any team. In order to protest, you must present your written complaint to the Tournament Director no later than 15 minutes after the official close of the tournament fishing hours. Unless a change is announced, the official tournament end time is 2:00 pm CST. Any photographic evidence to support your protest must be submitted to [trieck@ccatexas.org](mailto:trieck@ccatexas.org) no later than 15 minutes after the official close of the tournament. A \$100 protest fee must accompany the written protest and will be refunded if the protest is upheld. If the protest is declined, no refund will occur. The protest will be reviewed by no less than the Tournament Director and two other committee members. All protest information will be forwarded to the polygraph team as deemed necessary.

**REFUSAL** - Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse application of entry, with or without cause, at its sole discretion. Any applicant refused entry shall be entitled to a refund of their entry fee.

**CATASTROPHIC EVENT** - An event that affects the normal activities/progression of the tournament. This will be determined by no less than three committee members. It may or may not affect any or all rules.

**ENTRY FEES** - \$100.00 per contestant must be received by midnight CST, October 20<sup>th</sup>. NO Entry's will be accepted after October 20<sup>th</sup>. Entry fee includes 1 year membership to CCA.

**CASH POTS** – The following pots will be available to participate in. All pots will pay 75% to 1st Place and 25% to 2nd Place. All ties in the Cash Pots will be broken by the earliest fish caught captured from the photo data. Side Pots will be per division (Guided/Unguided) and are \$50 Entry Per Pot. All Cash Pot winners are subject to a polygraph.

1. Longest Stringer – Total Length of all fish Submitted
2. Longest Trout
3. Redfish Spots – One Sided

**CAPTAIN'S MEETING** - Captain's meeting is on the Friday Night (22<sup>nd</sup>) at Bubba's on Tiki. **It is mandatory that one person from the team be present.** Check in will begin at 6:00 pm with a rules presentation at 7:30 pm.

**GENERAL INFORMATION** - The tournament has a TABC license to serve alcoholic beverages, which makes it illegal for anyone to bring alcoholic beverages on the Restaurant grounds. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Food Will be Provided on Friday Night at the Captains' Meeting. Food on Saturday will be available for purchase through Bubba's at Tiki.

For additional information, call Corey Carpenter 832-671-8980 or Taylor Rieck 713-626-4222

### **SUGGESTED PRACTICES**

- As stated in the rules, all fish submitted for tournament entry must be released.
- Please handle all fish with respect and care, and use a boga or fish gripping type device to help handle your fish.
- Wet your hands before handling your fish.
- We encourage bait fishermen to use circle hooks. This will allow for fewer deep hook ups and easier fish releases.
- Deep hooked fish – if you have a deeply hooked fish, we encourage you to simply cut your line, take your measurement, photograph, and release the fish.
- Wade fishing – we encourage your guide/captain to wade the area with you and assist you in measuring your fish as you catch them for quick release. If you choose to retain your fish until you return to the boat, you are encouraged to use “fish bag” type of retention system. These are manufactured by several companies including ForEverlast and Hook Set Marine Gear. Remember, all submitted fish must be released. Please release as quickly as possible and take care in your handling of the fish.
- Videos will be posted showing proper measuring techniques and do's and don'ts. We encourage you to watch these.
- Videos will be posted on how to use the Fishing Chaos app
- Fishing Chaos will provide a “practice” tournament prior to the event. The Tournament encourages entrants to practice with the system in order to familiarize themselves with it prior to the tournament.
- We encourage you to visit [ReleaSense.org](http://ReleaSense.org) for more information about handling and releasing fish.

## **2021 Heels & Reels Women's Fishing Tournament**