



## ACGFA 45TH ANNUAL KINGFISH CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT RULES

THIS IS AN SKA SANCTIONED EVENT, THEREFORE, SOUTHERN KINGFISH ASSOCIATION (SKA) SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT & SKA PRODUCED TOURNAMENT RULES APPLY. A COPY OF THE SKA RULES IS AVAILABLE AND CAN BE REVIEWED AT [www.fishska.com](http://www.fishska.com). ANY TEAM CURRENTLY BANNED FROM FISHING SKA PRODUCED OR SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO FISH THIS TOURNAMENT. THE ACGFA AND THE APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES MAY REFUSE ANY INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM FROM PARTICIPATION IN THIS TOURNAMENT. TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS AGREE THAT BY ENTERING THIS TOURNAMENT ALL RULE PROTESTS AND MANAGEMENT DECISIONS ARE FINAL AND NOT SUBJECT TO ANY FURTHER INTERPRETATION AND/ OR LITIGATION.

### **SECTION I – GENERAL:**

1. Early registration is \$350 and can be done by mail (registration must be postdated by July 2nd) or online at [www.acgfachallenge.com](http://www.acgfachallenge.com), or day of event for \$400 at Camachee Cove Marina, Northeast Florida Marlin Association Clubhouse on Friday July 14th from 4:00 to 7:00. The Captain or his/her representative from each registered boat must attend final registration to receive the Captain's Bag. The mandatory Captain's Meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.
2. This is a King Mackerel BIG FISH/AGGREGATE tournament, only two fish will be weighed. Boat can only win 1 place.
3. Advertised prizes are based on 100 paid boats. Prizes will be awarded to the registered Captain, and ONLY after completion of all required tax forms.
4. Captains and crews are responsible for following all Federal, State, and local fishing and boating laws. Any boat receiving a citation from a law enforcement agency will be disqualified from the tournament. All anglers on the boat must have a valid Florida fishing license.
5. All boats must have an operating 25-watt VHF radio on board. The tournament channel is VHF channel 72.
6. The following apply after check-out and before a boat has weighed-in: No boats are to come together unless an emergency exists. No boat may make landfall; or receive or pass anything to or from land.
7. This is a Captain's choice tournament. Go/No-Go weather decisions will be made by the Tournament Committee, but the decision to take a boat to sea is left to the Captain of the vessel who is responsible for the safety of the vessel and its crew. SAFETY ALWAYS COMES FIRST.
8. No refund of entry fees, unless the Tournament Committee cancels the Tournament. In that case, prorated entry fees will be returned after expenses.

### **SECTION II - CHECK OUT/IN:**

1. This a No Check out tournament. No boat can enter the Atlantic Ocean prior to 5:00am. Lines in at 6am. Boats must be in weigh line by 5pm.
2. All boats must leave from Fernandina, Mayport, St. Augustine or Ponce Inlet. Tournament fishing boundaries: North boundary is 31 line to the South boundary, 29 line.
3. All boats MUST check in with tournament base via vhf radio channel 72. Or text 904-669-0295 with boat number.

### **SECTION III - WEIGH-IN:**

1. Weigh-in will only be at Camachee Cove Yacht Harbor, Northeast Florida Marlin Association Clubhouse. Weigh in is to be done by boat. Any boat with fish to weigh MUST check in with tournament base via vhf radio channel 72. Weigh in times are 3:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. In order to be in line for weigh-in boats must be past the first marker for Camachee Cove Yacht Harbor prior to the weigh in times.
2. Two fish will be weighed. But biggest single fish will win top prize. Boat Captains are responsible to determine which fish will be weighed. Hooks must be removed from all fish prior to bringing fish to the scales.
3. Each boat is responsible for transporting their fish to the weigh-station under their own power. Fish dropped overboard during weigh-in will be disqualified. One person must remain with the fish and sign the weigh slip.
4. Fish must be weighed on the day caught to be eligible. All fish weighed-in will become the property of the tournament.
5. No Kingfish under 10 pounds (regardless of fork length) or any mutilated fish will not be weighed. Mutilation is defined as any damage, which impairs the fish's fighting ability. The Weigh Master will make all decisions regarding mutilation.
6. In case of tied weights, the winner will be determined by the earliest weigh-in slip number.

### **SECTION IV – PROTESTS:**

If a protest is made, it must be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the last fish is weighed for that day's competition. Any protest must be made in writing, signed by the person lodging the protest, and be accompanied by a \$200 cash deposit. The decision to uphold or deny the protest will be made within a timely manner after the protest, and all decisions will be final and irrevocable. If the Tournament Committee upholds the protest, the deposit will be refunded.

NOTICE: ALL ENTRANTS ARE SUBJECT TO A POLYGRAPH TEST TO RECEIVE A PRIZE. THESE ARE THE KINGFISH CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT RULES. ANY LAST-MINUTE ADDITIONS OR CHANGES DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE CAPTAIN'S MEETING. ANY RULES NOT SO PRESENTED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL.