



Fishing for Wishes



**April 20, 2024,
700 W Wheeler Ave., Aransas Pass, TX 78336**

Tournament Rules

1. Registration
 - 1.1. Fishing for Wishes is a Team Format Tournament. A team will consist of 1-4 anglers. If fishing with a Guide, the guide is not allowed to fish, Unless the Guide is a part of the 4 man team.
 - 1.2. The start of the fishing will be 30 min before sunrise on 4/20/2024. You may fish wherever you want. Official time used at the tournament site will be given at the Captain's Meeting on 4/19/2024
 - 1.3. Late registration will occur at the Captain's Meeting on 4/19/2024 at 700 W. Wheeler Ave., Aransas Pass, TX 78336, from 5–7 PM. Each Team Captain must attend the Captain's meeting for official check-in. If not present at the Captain's Meeting, the Team assumes knowledge of all rules and rule changes.
 - 1.4. The tournament will go on rain or shine, excluding hurricane weather conditions. Email the FFW Fishing Tournament Chairman at ffwfishingchair@gmail.com before 4/19/2022. The decision will be final.
 - 1.5. If a team has a guide on their boat, the entire Team will be entered into the Guided Division. The entire Team is disqualified if it has a Guide on the boat and is not clarified as "Guided Division" on the entry form. A Guide is anyone who holds a captain's license and has been compensated for taking someone fishing within the past 12 months.
 - 1.6. Must be paid in full before fishing. All entries will be accepted online up to 4/10/2024. After 4/10/2024, the angler must pay in person at the Captain's meeting on 4/19/2024.
 - 1.7. All teams must register and pay in full including side pots at the time of their registration. Each angler must pay their side pot for the team to be eligible in the category Example: 1 Angler \$250, 2 Anglers \$500, 3 Anglers \$750, 4 Anglers \$1000. Each angler General fishing is \$130 per angler and is required for each angler on the team.
 - 1.8. The fishing boundary will be Texas Bay water only. You may trailer from anywhere. Weigh-in closes at 4 PM sharp on 4/20/2024. Allow time to get in. NO EXCEPTIONS

- 1.9. All anglers must sign a release form before fishing. If the form is not signed, your Team will **not** be allowed to fish.
- 1.10. Friends for Wishes shall be exempt from any liability for loss, damage, negligence, harm, or injury to any spectator, entrant, sport fisherman, companions, boat Captains, crew members, vessels, and equipment that may occur during the tournament.
- 1.11. All teams must include "Team Name" and Captain Name on the entry form. Each team entered in the guided division must enter the Guide's name on the entry form
- 1.12. Rules are subject to change.
- 1.13. On Friday, April 19, both sponsored and non-sponsored boats are required to bring their own beer (B.Y.O.B). On the next day, April 20th, non-sponsored boats will be provided with beer, soda, and water. However, VIP beverages are included in the package.
- 1.14. Please note that all sponsored boats and VIPs must have wristbands provided by Fishing for Wishes to access the VIP Area.

On the Water

2. Teams must catch all fish on rod & reel, live or artificial bait. ONE rod & reel will be allowed in the water per angler during tournament hours. No trapping, trout lines, gigging, cast nets, etc. Any team caught in these acts will be disqualified.
3. All fish must have been caught on 4/20/2024 from the official time at the Captain's Meeting till 4 PM. Any fish that appears to have been frozen or dead for an extended period will be disqualified.
4. Alcoholic beverages are allowed on the boat. If the Team is subject to a polygraph, the Captain being the responsible person on the boat, and has consumed, the Captain may fail, and the Team will be disqualified.
5. The Captain of the entered Team is subject to a polygraph at the Tournament directors' discretion, or in the event, there is a protest. A team failing to pass the polygraph will be immediately disqualified and banned from future Fishing for Wishes Tournaments.
6. Any angler who shows unsportsmanlike conduct will be disqualified from the tournament.
7. All anglers on the Team must remain within the eyesight of the boat/kayak Captain while wading fishing.
8. All anglers on the same Team must leave the ramp together and remain together throughout tournament hours. No dropping off or picking up team members throughout the day. Teams must fish out of the same boat and may not split up onto different boats. Kayak teams may fish in separate kayaks but must remain in the eyesight of the Captain throughout tournament hours and must launch together and return together. If you are fishing as a team of one, you are your Captain.

WEIGH-IN

9. **Weigh-in** starts at 2 PM on 4/20/2024 and closes at 4 PM on 4/20/2024 at 700 W Wheeler Ave., Aransas Pass TX. 78336. You must be in line by 4 p.m. for fish to count. The tournament Chairman will keep the official time. No line-cutting will be accepted. Someone from the Tournament Committee will be standing in the back of the line at 4 PM for the line cutoff
 - 9.1. Any fish that appears altered or tampered with in any way, shape, or form is grounds for automatic disqualification of said fish (even if the cause is from natural causes). All decisions made by Weighmaster and tournament officials are final. In some cases, Fishing For Wishes may include a Texas Game Warden.
 - 9.2. NO CULLING AT SCALE. HAVE FISH DECLARED BEFORE ENTERING THE SCALE AREA.
 - 9.3. **No tagged, or oversized fish will be allowed in any category.**
 - 9.4. In case of a tie in all categories, the Team that weighed in first will be declared the winner.
 - 9.5. Once you have entered the weigh-in line, no scales or means of measuring will be available from the Weighmaster or Tournament Committee members. The Captain is the only angler allowed at the weigh-in scale. If the wrong fish is selected or disqualified, it cannot be replaced with another fish at any time once the weigh-master has touched the fish. The fish you pick is the fish you enter. If fish are not picked by the time you get to the scale, you will be sent to the back of the line.

PROTEST

10. All protests must be presented to the FFW tournament director no later than 4:10 PM with a \$500 cash deposit. If the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned. If not, the deposit will be retained by FFW. The FFW fishing committee will make all decisions before the awards are presented. In some cases, Texas Game Wardens may be included. All decisions made by Gulf Coast Weighmaster Services and Tournament Officials are final.
11. The tournament has the right to refuse entry to any angler for any reason.

Team Divisions – Guided & Non-Guided

Team Categories

Heaviest Stringer – (3) Redfish 20"-28" & (1) Speckled Trout 15" to 20" 1st, 2nd, &

3rd place awarded.

Heaviest Speckled Trout -(1) 15"-20". It must be the same Trout used in the Heaviest Stringer Category. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place awarded.

Heaviest Redfish - 3-20"-28". It must be the same Redfish used in the Heaviest Stringer Category. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place awarded.

Payouts will be based on total general fishing entries

Side Pots

ALL SIDE POTS WILL BE COMBINED NON-GUIDED AND GUIDED

Spot Pot -1- Redfish 20"-28" with the most spots. This Redfish does not have to be a part of the Heaviest Stringer or Heaviest Red Category. You must have more than 2 spots to be able to enter. 1st & 2nd place only awarded.

SWEET 17 Speckled Trout closest to 17" without going over. It does not have to be the same Speckled Trout used in the Heaviest Stringer/Heaviest Speckled Trout Category. 1st & 2nd place only awarded.

Heaviest Flounder – 15"- No Max. It must be entered into the Flounder Side pot. To be eligible. 1st & 2nd place only awarded.

Texas Slam – (1) Redfish 20-28", (1) Speckled Trout 15"-20" (1) Flounder 15"- No max. Speckled Trout, Redfish, & Flounder must be the same fish used in HeavyStringer/Heavy Red/Heavy Trout/Heavy Flounder Categories. 1st & 2nd place awarded.

Biggest Other is any Fish outside of Redfish, Trout, and Flounder species. 80/20. 1st & 2nd place awarded only

If any Side Pot category is not used, that money will go straight to Friends for Wishes benefitting Make-A-Wish to go towards granting a Wish.

Spot Pot, Flounder, and Sweet 17, Biggest Other Pots will be paid out 80/20. 20% of entries go to Friends for Wishes benefitting Make-A-Wish. 80% will be paid out, 60% to 1st and 40% to 2nd place.

Calcutta

Calcutta auction will start immediately after the Captain's meeting on 4/19. You **MUST** have a bidder number to bid. Bidders' numbers can be obtained from our Auction Bidder Sign-up Booth.

Calcutta payout is based upon paid entries in the Calcutta entries via Auction 4/19, 2024 ONLY. A team has the option of buying their own boat for \$500.00, which will kill the bidding for that boat. There will be no buying of the left-over unsold boats.

The auctions will be separated into two different auctions, Guided and Non-Guided. There will be only a 1st place payout in the Guided and Non-Guided. All payments must be final before the close of the Auction, next day negotiations are not permissible.

GUIDED

Heaviest stringer and will pay out 80/20.

NON-GUIDED

Heaviest stringer and will pay out 80/20.

Fishing Website:

<https://fishingforwishes.profishingtournaments.com/>

Friends For Wishes Website:

<https://friendsforwishes.org/>