

2023 Phins Fishing Classic Tournament Rules

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION – Tournament registration must be completed through the Fishing Chaos App. For app downloads, visit <https://fishingchaos.com/>. If you have Fishing Chaos loaded from prior tournaments, be sure to have the latest version of the app.

TOURNAMENT TIMES

- Catch and submission start: April 15th at 12:00 AM CDT
- Catch and submission end: May 31st at 11:59 PM CDT.

All photo/fish submissions must be completed and entered in the Fishing Chaos app by the end time. (No exceptions)

ENTRY FEE – \$0

COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

- Competitor must have their own unique Fishing Chaos log in.
- Competitor must be 13 years old or older to compete.
- Competitor agrees to all tournament rules, Waiver and Release of Liability during registration of this event. Waiver and Release of liability is below.
- You must have a valid/current fishing license from the state you will be fishing in.
- Fishing must be done without the aid of a professional guide.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT – **THIS IS A CATCH-PHOTO-RELEASE (CPR)**

TOURNAMENT facilitated through the Fishing Chaos App. You will need to download the App to register and submit catches.

FISHING BOUNDARIES – Only public waters open to everyone are eligible. Public ponds are not eligible.

FISHING METHODS AND TACKLE –

- Fishing from a boat, kayak, dock, or shore is allowed
- You can have more than one rod per angler on the vessel or on your person, but you cannot fish with more than one rod at a time.
- Live and artificial bait can be used.
- Someone may assist you in baiting your hook and measuring the fish. It is your job to cast, hook, and land the fish.
- The fish submitted cannot be altered in any way. All fish must be alive and photographed immediately after they are caught.

IDENTIFIER – All tournament photo submissions must include the tournament identifier code in the photograph. The identifier code will be released on the event page at 7:00 PM CDT on 4/15/23. The code must be written on the official identifier card. The code cannot be written on a piece of paper or your hand – NO EXCEPTIONS!

CATCH ENTRY – Your catch must be submitted into the Fishing Chaos app. Your phone must have location services turned on for the Fishing Chaos and Camera apps. If you are in an area that has no cell signal to make your submission, once you reach an area with signal, upload your photographs to the Fishing Chaos app.

CATCH ENTRY REVIEW – All catch entries will be reviewed and approved by a third-party tournament management company, including disputes. For tournament questions or to file a dispute email phins@reeltn.co

MEASURING BOARD – The measuring board must be a hard flat surface with ¼” **increments with a left fence**, not homemade or a paper ruler. The board must be in good shape and all measurement increments clear. NO EXCEPTIONS. Ketch boards are preferred but not required and can be purchased online use code RTM-10 for 10% off: [KETCH BOARDS](#)

FISH CATEGORIES, SCORING AND JUDGING CRITERIA

BLACK BASS - Individual anglers three longest black bass.

Black Bass Species consist of: Largemouth, Spotted, Bartram’s, Mean Mouth, Guadalupe, Shoal and Smallmouth bass and any hybrid of the above are accepted.

REDFISH – Individual anglers three longest Redfish between 16” and 28”.

SPECKLED TROUT – Individual anglers three longest Speckled Trout.

MEASUREMENT – All measurements must be taken as follows:

- “Zero end” of the board to the left of the individual measuring the fish.
- Belly of the fish down towards the individual measuring the fish.
- The nose or mouth of the fish must be butted to the end stop of the board.
- **Tail of the fish must sit within the side edges of the board.** You may pinch the tail as necessary to keep the tail on the board. Judges will score based on where the tail touches or crosses the ¼” increment measurement on the board.
- You may not cover the eye or mouth of the fish.
- Hand cannot be underneath the gill plate.
- Closed mouths are preferred.
- Judges may deduct up to 1/2” for open mouth if the mouth being open would result in increased length.
- Photo must be of the whole fish taken from directly above the fish.
- Do not lay the identifier on top of the fish.
- Fish may only be entered once. Each fish submitted must be a different fish.

ENTRIES - You may submit as many fish as you would like, the Fishing Chaos app will “cull” your smallest entries as fish are entered.

TIES – All ties are broken by the biggest fish submitted. For the Lunker, the ties will be broken based on the first angler to submit the largest fish.

POLYGRAPH - All contestants agree to take a polygraph test if requested by the Phins Fishing Classic or Reel Tournament Management. The test will be taken at a time and place chosen by the requesting party. Refusal to take the test or failing the test will result in disqualification of the angler from the event. The individual taking the test will be determined by the tournament director.

PENALTIES – Any angler found to have intentionally cheated in an attempt to defraud the tournament may be subject to criminal prosecution by the State they caught the fish in. Any angler found to have intentionally cheated in an attempt to defraud the tournament will also forfeit any awards they may have won and be banned from any future Phins Fishing Classic or Reel Tournament Management Tournaments.

DISPUTES – All tournament participants have the right to dispute the results or actions of any angler. 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. Disputes should be emailed to phins@reelTM.co .

SPORTSMANSHIP – Any angler, who displays poor sportsmanship, violates any Tournament Rule (s), or any state or local game laws may be disqualified. In addition, any act of an angler, verbal or physical, that reflects unfavorably upon the Phins Fishing Classic ’s effort to promote conservation, fishing, clean waters, courtesy, and safety may be reason for disqualification from this and all future Phins Fishing Classic tournaments. The Phins Fishing Classic and Reel Tournament Management also reserve the right to refuse application of entry, with or without cause, at their sole discretion.

PRIZES – Standings will be finalized, and winners announced within 14 days from the tournament end date. All prizes will be distributed by Phins Fishing Classic.

SUGGESTED PRACTICES

- Please handle all fish with respect and care. Use a Boga or fish gripping device to help handle your fish if needed.
- If you are having trouble measuring a fish, put it in a net or on fish grips and let it relax in the water for a minute.
- 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 as close to the hook as possible, take your measurement, photograph, and release the fish.

- Please review the [Fishing Chaos YouTube](#) page to learn how to use the Fishing Chaos app.
- We encourage you to visit <https://www.relasense.org/> for more information about handling and releasing fish.

Attachment A - Adult Registrants

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT
*READ BEFORE REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENT AND/OR
SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT*

(If Participant is under 18 years of age, do not use this form. Registrant and Adult Supervisor must use Attachment B - Youth Registrants)

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Phin's Fishing Classic's Event and its related competition and activities, I, the undersigned (or registrant), being at least 18 years of age, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. I affirm that my participation in the Phin's Fishing Classic is voluntary and declare that I am physically fit and capable to participate in such; and
2. I acknowledge that fishing participation and competition involves certain inherent dangers, and hazards; that the risk of injury from the activities involved in this event is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular skills, physical fitness, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
3. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
4. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary Terms and Conditions for Participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and immediately bring such to the attention of Phin's Staff, Officers, Tournament Directors or contracted tournament management services.
5. In full recognition and appreciation of the dangers and risks inherent in such activities, I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS Phin's Fishing Classic and its owners, officers, managers, officials, volunteer event staff, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, event service/management and technology providers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used for the activity ("Releasees"), with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, whether arising from the negligence of the releasees or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law, and I hereby waive, release, and forever discharge Releasees from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action, for costs, loss, expenses, or damages to personal property, or personal injury, or death, which may result from my participation in the Phin's Fishing Classic .
6. I give Phins Fishing Classic and parties designated by Phins Fishing Classic, including clients, licensees and purchasers, the right to use my name and any photograph and video of me for sale to any medium for purposes of advertising, trade, display, exhibition, social media, television or editorial use. This release is granted without expectation for additional compensation upon submission of Event Registration.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Participant's Name (Print)

x _____
Participant's Signature

Date of Signing

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT
*READ BEFORE REGISTERING FOR COMPETITIVE EVENT AND/OR
SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT*

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Phin's Fishing Classic Event and its related competition and activities, I, the undersigned (or Registrant), being under the age of 18, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. I affirm that Registrant's participation in the Phin's Fishing Classic Event is voluntary and declare that Registrant is physically fit and capable to participate in such; and
2. I acknowledge that fishing participation and competition involves certain inherent dangers, and hazards; that the risk of injury from the activities involved in this event is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular skills, physical fitness, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
3. Registrant (and Adult Parent, Guardian, or Designated Adult Supervisor) KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for Registrant's participation; and,
4. Registrant willingly agrees to comply with the stated and customary Terms and Conditions for Participation. If, however, the Registrant or Adult Supervisor observes any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and immediately bring such to the attention of Phin's Staff, Officers, Tournament Directors or contracted tournament management services.
5. In full recognition and appreciation of the dangers and risks inherent in such activities, I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS Phin's Fishing Classic and its owners, officers, managers, officials, volunteer event staff, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, event service/management and technology providers and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used for the activity ("Releasees"), with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, whether arising from the negligence of the releasees or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law, and I hereby waive, release, and forever discharge Releasees from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of action, for costs, loss, expenses, or damages to personal property, or personal injury, or death, which may result from Registrant's participation in the Phin's Fishing Classic Event.
6. I give Phins Fishing Classic and parties designated by Phins Fishing Classic, including clients, licensees and purchasers, the right to use my name and any photograph and video of me for sale to any medium for purposes of advertising, trade, display, exhibition, social media, television or editorial use. This release is granted without expectation for additional compensation upon submission of Event Registration.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Registrant's Name (Print)

x _____
Registrant's Signature

Date of Signing

Registrant's Age

[] I will serve as Adult Supervisor and will accompany Registrant while he is on the water during competition hours. [] In place of or in addition to me, the Adult designated below will act as the Adult Supervisor and will accompany Registrant while he is on the water during competition hours.

Parent's or Guardian's Name (Print)

x _____
Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Designated Adult Supervisor's Name (Print)

x _____
Designee's Signature