



# **eTOURNAMENT FISHING**

## **Next Level Events**

### **OFFICIAL LEAGUE RULES**

#### **eTournament league night general information.**

- All participants must download eTournament Fishing App, register and agree to the terms and conditions and privacy policy.
- All League night event registration and entry fee payment will be completed in the app.
- All League night events are hosted by eTournament Fishing and will be CPRV Format (Catch, Photo, Release Video).
- The participant agrees that their cellular device and service plan meet the minimum requirements to conform with the submission standards set forth in the terms and conditions of the app.
- All entries are nonrefundable.
- A \$50 entry fee per individual participant grants access to all four league night events within the month.
- All anglers must be registered prior to launch.
- All individuals present on a participating vessel must be registered and entered in the league night events.
- Each participant is responsible for their own individual catches. In instances where multiple rods are used while trolling, the participant actively reeling in the fish is credited with the catch and may enter it as one of their own.
- All League night events are single species events.

#### **Number of Fish Submissions/Pre Launch Inspection**

- Each angler is allowed to submit up to 24 fish entries per month, with their top 5 longest fish determining their final monthly total.
- Out of the 24 allowed fish entries, 4 are specifically reserved for pre-launch inspections. The first fish submission of each league night will serve as a mandatory inspection entry.
- Before launching, each angler must take a pre-launch selfie in the parking area of the boat ramp (or on the shore for kayak anglers) to verify their presence at the launch location.
- The required 'release video' should be a brief recording demonstrating open and completely empty livewells on boats, and a full, unobstructed view of kayaks from end to end.
- Launch and begin fishing once your entry has been fully completed and submitted. Tournament directors will then proceed to reject the entry, ensuring it does not impact your final weight.
- To facilitate the pre-launch inspection sequence, the app will activate 20 minutes before the official 'lines in the water' start time.
- Even if an angler begins fishing after the official start time, the pre-launch sequence remains mandatory and must be completed prior to fishing.

- When multiple anglers are fishing from the same boat, only the boat's captain is required to submit a full inspection video. Other anglers on board must submit a brief video confirming they are fishing from that specific boat.
- To ensure compliance with the inspection entry requirement, any fish submitted before the entry is submitted will be rejected and still count towards your fish entry limit.

### **Fees and Payouts**

- League night events will have a 100% entry fee payback, minus the Stripe processing fee. Total payouts for each event will be based on the number of participants.
- Participants must provide the correct mailing address when registering for the event. All payments that are returned to eTournament Fishing due to an incorrect mailing address will be forfeited.
- Payouts will be for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place only. \*60% for 1<sup>st</sup> place, and \*40% for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and will be mailed within 14 days after the conclusion of the event.

### **Measuring Board Requirements:**

- Commercial Production: Only commercially manufactured measuring boards are permitted.
- 90-Degree Bend: The board must feature a 90-degree bend at one end, known as the "bump end," to ensure consistent fish placement.
- Quarter-Inch Increments: The board must have clearly marked ¼ inch graduation lines for accurate measurement.
- Prohibited Items: Handmade boards, adhesive stickers, tape measures, and any sliding, retractable, or foldable measuring devices are strictly forbidden.

### **Fish Submission Requirements:**

- Correct Event: All fish submissions must be entered into the correct tournament event within the app.
- Consequences of Incorrect Submission: Submitting a fish to the wrong event will result in the submission's rejection. Critically, this rejected submission will still count against your daily virtual livewell limit.

### **CPRV fish submission elements.**

#### **1. MEASUREMENT PHOTO**

Immediately after catching a fish to be submitted, the participant *must* take the measurement photo.

- The measurement photo *must* be taken from directly overhead ("straight down perspective") with no angle. Avoid casting shadows on the fish.
- The measurement photo *must* clearly show the entire fish and be in focus. Providing a clear photo for accurate verification is the participant's sole responsibility.
- The measurement photo *must* show the fish's mouth (open or closed) touching the "bump end" of the measuring board. Failure to clearly show the mouth touching will result in a 1/2-inch deduction from the submitted length.
- Your hand *must* be placed behind the fish's gill plate, holding the fish flat against the measuring board.
- The measurement photo *must* clearly show the fish's tail (pinched or unpinched) on the measuring board for accurate length measurement. If the tail touches or crosses a graduation line, rounding up to the nearest 1/4 inch is permitted.

- The minimum length for fish submission is 14 inches. If a fish's tail touches the 13 3/4-inch mark, rounding up to 14 inches is allowed for submission. Fish not reaching the 13 3/4-inch mark does not meet the minimum length requirement and cannot be submitted.

## 2. RELEASE VIDEO

After taking the measurement photo and/or trophy photo, the participant will take the release video.

- If no trophy photo is required, the release video *must* show the fish being lifted off the measuring board and completely released back into the water.
- If a trophy photo is required, the release video may begin immediately after the photo is taken.
- **CRITICAL: Verify your video recorder's timer is actively running *after* pressing record to guarantee the video is capturing.**
- Failure to clearly show the fish's release in the video will result in the submission being rejected, but the fish will still count towards your daily virtual livewell limit.
- If a legal fish cannot be released due to its condition, the team must retrieve the fish and remove a significant portion of its tail fin. This marks the fish as already submitted and accounted for. Anglers *must* immediately notify tournament officials, providing the corresponding fish number from their app submission.

**NOTE: It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure all required fish submission elements conform to the guidelines set forth. Visit our website: [www.eTournamentFishing.com](http://www.eTournamentFishing.com) to view participant tutorials to help you become familiar with the functionality of the app and the fish submission process.**

### App use in poor reception areas

While the eTournament Fishing app can log your catches regardless of cellular or Wi-Fi availability, a crucial step is the pre-tournament check-in. Before the event begins, you *must* connect to cellular data or Wi-Fi, open the app, navigate to your registered event, and tap the 'Check-In' button. For detailed guidance, please refer to the User Tutorials on [www.eTournamentFishing.com](http://www.eTournamentFishing.com).

### Tournament Director

- Tournament Directors and Co-Directors for League night events will be eTournament Fishing Staff.
- The interpretation and enforcement of the rules are at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.
- The Tournament Director may make changes to the rules or impose sanctions as they deem appropriate, including but not limited to: Disqualifications, forfeiture of prizes, and/or prohibiting participants from competing in future events. All decisions made by the Tournament Director are final.

### Sportsmanship

Participants must maintain a 75-foot distance from marker buoys used by other tournament boats. Dropping a buoy without actively fishing within 75 feet is prohibited and may result in penalties from a warning to disqualification. No fishing information may be shared during tournament hours. Cellular phones are allowed *only* for safety, documenting violations, and the eTournament Fishing app. Communication (calls, texts, messages) between participants and non-participants is prohibited. Binoculars/monocular, internet access, texting, paging, and walkie-talkies are also prohibited. Boats should maintain a respectable distance (approximately 75 feet) while fishing near each other.

## **Body of Water / Tournament Fishing Hours**

### **Designated Fishing Area:**

- Participants are restricted to fishing within the specific boundaries defined for each event.
- Fishing is permitted in any public, legal water within the designated body or bodies of water.

### **Tournament Hours and Submission:**

- Event dates and tournament fishing hours (start and end times) are clearly listed within the app for each specific event.
- The app will strictly adhere to these listed times, opening and closing precisely as indicated.
- Fish submissions are only permitted during the designated tournament hours.
- Participants must ensure the entire fish submission process is completed before the event's end time. The app will reject any submission that is not fully completed before the time expires.
- For further information, refer to the User Tutorials available on our website:

[www.eTournamentFishing.com](http://www.eTournamentFishing.com).

## **Safety / Inclement Weather / Cancellation**

### **Participant Responsibility and Safety:**

- "Fishing is undertaken at the participant's own risk. Weather conditions pose potential hazards, and participants are urged to prioritize safe fishing practices."
- "Participants are solely responsible for their personal safety, actions, and property at all times."
- "eTournament Fishing holds no responsibility for decisions made regarding fishing in adverse weather. Participants are free to choose not to fish due to weather concerns."
- "eTournament Fishing strongly advises against participants risking their safety to fish in hazardous conditions."

### **Event Rescheduling Due to Weather:**

- "If forecasted weather conditions pose significant danger, an event may be rescheduled if all participants agree."
- "Requests for rescheduling must be submitted via email to [info@etournamentfishing.com](mailto:info@etournamentfishing.com) at least three days prior to the event's scheduled start."
- "If rescheduled, eTournament Fishing will announce the new date(s) on their website."
- "Rescheduled events will be open to additional participants."

### **Compliance with Laws and Regulations:**

- "Participants must adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, as well as all fishing and boating regulations, at all times during the event."
- "Failure to comply with any tournament rule will result in disqualification and removal from the competition."
- "The right to refuse entry or revoke a competition entry is reserved."
- A zero-tolerance policy is in effect regarding cheating. Any detected instance of cheating will result in an immediate and permanent ban from all future events, dissemination of the angler's information to other tournament organizations, and potential prosecution by local law enforcement.
- To ensure fair competition, the following are strictly prohibited: caging of fish, hiding stringers of fish before the event, hidden boat compartments capable of holding fish, and

any other conduct that could provide an unfair advantage. The tournament directors hold sole discretion in determining whether any discovered conduct constitutes cheating and in determining the appropriate penalties.

**Protest and Disqualification:**

- "All protests must be reported to the Tournament Director before the event concludes."
- "Any participant violating laws or tournament rules will be disqualified."

**Catching and Releasing Fish:**

- "Fish must be hooked within the mouth and caught alive using conventional fishing methods. Snagging, netting, spearing, or any other non-conventional methods are prohibited."
- "Immediately following the completion of the fish submission process, the fish must be released back into the water."

**Polygraph Examination:**

- "Participants may be required to undergo polygraph examinations as a condition of the tournament."
- "Detection of deception or refusal to take the examination will result in prize forfeiture and disqualification."
- "Participants may be responsible for all costs associated with a polygraph examination"

**Questions?**

If there are any questions about the rules, contact the Tournament Director or email questions to: [info@etournamentfishing.com](mailto:info@etournamentfishing.com)