Rules and Regulations

1. All anglers must abide by all State and Federal laws.
2. Registration — Will be held at Oceans East - Nags Head, Oceans East – Virginia Beach from May 8, 2023 until 5:00 PM on May 18, 2023. All boats must be registered with the Tournament committee and all entry fees paid to qualify for prizes and trophies. Any substitute must be registered with the Tournament Director prior to ﬁshing and will be permissible only if original boat becomes disabled. Captain’s Meeting will be held through Facebook live on the Oceans East Tournaments Facebook on May 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM. For any questions during or after the meeting please call or text the tournament director at 252-202-4688.
3. Fishing Days —There will be three (3) ﬁshing days.  Boats can either enter one, two or all days of the tournament.  Fishing hours are from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM daily. No lines in the water prior to 9:00 AM. Boats cannot catch bait prior to 9:00 AM on fishing days. Any ﬁsh hooked prior to 4:00 PM may be played until caught.  Boats must leave out of a North Carolina Port on fishing days.
4. Ofﬁcial Clock —Time starts the ﬁrst day of the tournament. Ofﬁcial tournament time will be continuous GPS time. In case of tie in weight, time of weigh in will determine the winner.
5. Boundaries — All ﬁsh must be hooked within tournament boundaries which is from the northern boundary NC/VA border and the southern boundary being Drum Inlet NC.
6. Weighing Fish — Any ﬁsh weighed must be entered on the scorecard by the Tournament Weighmaster.  If anyone wants to have a ﬁsh reweighed, it must be done while ﬁsh is still hanging. All ﬁsh that have been mutilated will be disqualiﬁed. Mutilation shall be deﬁned as damage which would impair the ﬁghting ability of the ﬁsh. The decision of the weighmaster will be ﬁnal. Weigh stations will close at 7:00 PM Friday and Saturday of the Tournament and 6:00 PM on Sunday, the last day of the tournament.  There will be three (3) official weigh stations: Pirates Cove Marina, Oregon Inlet Fishing Center and Teach’s Lair Marina.
7. First two fish harvested will be eligible for weigh in.
8. Scoring —All cobia will receive one (1) point per pound.  Teams may weigh no more than two cobia per day.  Top boat honors will be determined by adding together the weights of the team's heaviest two cobia from each day of ﬁshing.
9. Tie Breaker – Winner will be determined by weight. Weighed ﬁsh will be recorded in fractions of a pound. If two or more entries are of the same weight. The ﬁsh with the earliest weigh-in time will determine the winner.
10. Polygraph Testing – Crew members, Captain and Mate of money winning boats and individual trophy winners may be subject to polygraph testing before receiving any money and/or trophies. Polygraph test for winners will be completed at a designated time and location. By virtue of signing the entry form, participants agree to the ﬁnal decision of the polygraph test. Refusal to submit to the polygraph test will be automatic grounds for disqualiﬁcation from the Tournament and any winnings.
11. Protests - must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director by 7:00 PM on Sunday night. Protests must be submitted in writing with a deposit of $100 which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.  The Rules Committee at their discretion may use polygraph testing to reach a decision. By virtue, or signing the entry form all participants agree to the ﬁnal decision of the Rules Committee.
12. Cancellation Policy - If weather and /or other conditions exist that require that the tournament be cancelled, refunds will be paid less tournament expenses. The decision to cancel the tournament will be made by the Tournament Director. One day of ﬁshing by at least 10% of the ﬁeld constitutes a tournament.
13. Prize money - Checks will be made payable to the entrant or authorized agent of the winning boat as designated on the ofﬁcial entry form. Social Security Number or Taxpayer ID must be li. Checks will be mailed within 30 days of tournament event.
14. Anglers -There is no limit to the number of eligible anglers per boat.
15. BY SIGNING THE ENTRY FORM AND PAYING THE ENTRY FEE, MY TEAM AND I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE HAVE READ THE RULES AND FORUM SELECTION/INDEMNIFICATION AND ARE BOUND BY THE SAME.
16. Forum Selection/Indemniﬁcation - All participants, owners of vessels and pro hoc owners of vessels, consent and agree that the federal and state courts for Dare County, North Carolina, shall serve as the sole venue for all litigation and disputes, including, but not limited to, Oceans East, Inc, Oceans East OBX. LLC, and Oceans East Tournaments, Inc., rulings, property damage, personal injury, and contract disputes arising out of a person or vessel's participation in the Oceans East Cobia Tournament.  If a participant does not secure the signature of the vessel's owner and / or pro hoc owner for this agreement, the participant(s) agrees to indemnify the. against all claims brought by the owner and or pro hoc owners of the vessel(s). Any participant whose action causes Oceans East, Inc, Oceans East OBX. LLC, and Oceans East Tournaments, Inc, its officers, directors, sponsors, owners and employees, to occur legal expenses, shall indemnify, hold harmless and reimburse said persons or entities from such costs.  The rules and release shall also be binding on my heirs, executors, administrator or assignees.
17. Tournament Expenses - In an effort to offset tournament expenses, 10% of entry fees and calcuttas will be donated to the Oceans East Fisherman’s Fund