

JAIME J. ZAPATA FISHING TOURNAMENT



2022 JAIME J. ZAPATA FISHING TOURNAMENT RULES

Rules: Any anglers who register and fish in the Jaime J. Zapata Fishing Tournament (JJZFT) will abide by the following rules. All decisions made by the Tournament Director and officials will be final in all matters. Please read the following rules & regulations and general release of liability prior to signing form.

Late Registration/Captains' Meeting: (Mandatory) A representative from each team MUST check-in on registration day at the Captains' Party on Friday, Sept. 9, 2022. Final registration, check-in, optional team pots and food will begin at 5 pm. Captains' meeting on rules & regulations will be at 7 pm.

Entry Fees/Registration: Entry fee per boat or team will be \$400 with a maximum four-member team. \$100 discount for any team with a law enforcement member. Guides may fish but must be registered as a team member. Any team that has not properly paid and registered by Sept. 9 at 8 pm will be withdrawn from the tournament.

Applicable Laws/Safety: All local, state and federal, Coast Guard and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department regulations and laws apply at all times during the tournament. You must have a valid, current fishing license from TPWD to fish this tournament.

Sportsmanship: JJZFT participants are expected to follow a high standard of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and ethics. Please refer to the Texas Boating Safety Rules.

Boat/Team: A team may consist of up to four anglers per boat.

Fishing: Fishing begins at 6:30 am. No lines in the water until after the start and no night fishing will be allowed. Teams may only fish out of a boat or wading. No pier, jetties or surf fishing is allowed. Only one rod and reel per angler may be in the water at any given time. All types of bait, live or dead, and lures are allowed.

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Weigh-In: The official weigh station is at Louie's Backyard on South Padre Island. Teams may launch at any location. Teams may weigh in at the weigh station no earlier than 1 pm and no later than 3 pm. At least one angler of the team must stay in the line with the fish at all times. Teams must select their fish and no substitutions will be allowed. Each team may weigh in three fish, one per category. One Redfish (at least 20" and not greater than 28"); One Trout (at least 15") and One Flounder (at least 14"). Any fish that does not meet the legal minimum or is over the legal maximum size WILL NOT be accepted. Fish will be inspected for alterations in size, length and weight. Any altered fish will result in disqualification of any individual or team. All decisions of the Tournament officials are final.

Stringer: The stringer is a FULL three fish stringer consisting of one Trout, one Redfish and one Flounder. The fish in the stringer will also be used for individual fish categories and optional team pots.

Prizes: Trophies will be awarded for First, Second and Third Place for the heaviest fish in each division. Grand Champion, Second and Third Place overall will be awarded to the heaviest FULL three fish stringer as referenced above. In the event of a tie, the heaviest stringer will be determined by the greatest length of the heaviest fish on the stringer. Ties for individual fish categories will be determined by length. Decisions of the Weigh Master and Tournament officials are final.

Weather: Tournament will only be delayed or rescheduled in the event of a hurricane, tropical system or any inclement weather that would be unsafe for anglers and boaters. There will be no refunds. Any registration fees will be carried over to a new date should the event be postponed.

Optional Team Pots: The pots will pay 1st and 2nd—70% to first and 30% to second—10% of each pot will be donated to the tournament to fund its scholarship program. Optional team pots are: \$50; \$100; and \$150 per category. Pots may only be entered by registered anglers at the Captains' Party on Friday, Sept. 9, 2022 from 5-9pm (CASH ONLY). Pots are Heaviest Redfish; Heaviest Trout, Heaviest Flounder and Heaviest Stringer.

Refusal: Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse application of an entry, with or without cause, at its sole discretion. Any applicant refusal shall be entitled to a refund of their entry fee, but there will be no other refunds for any other reason.