

2024 Roundup Rules

Subject to change until the captains meeting

1. All participants will adhere to safe diving practices and exercise caution during the event. No fish is worth your life!
2. This is an Honor System Roundup. The team captain is responsible for the team members compliance with the roundup rules and honorable roundup participation.
3. All Teams must physically check in at the captains meeting and must sign our waiver. A person that has not signed the Legal Waiver Form and the Lionfish Understanding of Risk Form will not be considered entered in the roundup regardless of whether registration fees were paid. The team captain may turn in waivers and sign in participants at the captains meeting.
4. The official times for the roundup are September 7, 2024 6:30am, till September 7, 2024 at 4pm. No fish may be weighed in that were captured outside of these times.
5. All participants will follow all state and federal laws for fishing and diving during the event.
6. All vessels or divers will display the appropriate divers down flag in accordance with the laws where they are diving.
7. **All fish must be harvested during the official roundup times and dates.**
8. Lionfish may be taken by spear, hand net, slurp gun, or hook and line. No chemicals, traps, or other collecting mechanisms are allowed.
9. All fish must be intact with head and fins attached until after weigh in.
10. All fish must be kept cold and not frozen. No Frozen fish will be accepted at weigh in. Violators will be expelled from the roundup with no refunds.
11. All teams must be in line with all fish, and signed in at the weigh in location of the dock of Michael B. Scanlon Mayport Boat Ramp by 4pm September 7, 2024.
12. Largest and smallest lionfish will be measured for length. These will be individual prizes.
13. The team with the most lionfish as counted per whole fish will be awarded the team prize for most lionfish. This will be awarded to the team captain.
14. Any prize money will be delivered to the winning team captain via check. The person must fill out a W9 form to receive prize money.
15. Non-refundable registration fees are \$35 per person. Fees must be paid prior to the close of the captains meeting to be eligible for Roundup prizes.
16. Teams shall consist of up to 2 divers minimum - 4 divers maximum.
17. Teams must declare all members when registering. Changes can not be made after registration.
18. Teams can participate from different vessels or stay together on the same vessel. Multiple teams may participate from the same vessel.
19. Protective gloves should be worn when handling lionfish. Participants are encouraged to carry a safety kit for first aid purposes.
20. The scales close after the last team that was properly in line by 4pm September 7th 2024 has had their catches measured and counted. This is up to the roundup director to determine.
21. Any angler that wishes to sell fish caught in the roundup must have the appropriate licenses.

22. Any fish that is to be measured separately from others - Largest, Smallest, etc. Must be in a separate container than the other fish. A plastic container is preferred. We will not sort through fish to find the smallest or largest.
23. All participants must have an appropriate fishing license for any species to be harvested during the event.
 - A recreational fishing license is not required for recreational fishers targeting lionfish while using a pole spear, a Hawaiian Sling, a handheld net or any spearing device that is specifically designed and marketed exclusively for lionfish.
 - A recreational fishing license (unless exempt) is required for all other methods of harvesting lionfish including hook and line.
 - The sale of commercially harvested lionfish requires a Saltwater Products License.
24. Spears may not be used:
 - Within 100 yards of a public swimming beach, any commercial or public fishing pier, or any part of a bridge from which public fishing is allowed.
 - Within 100 feet of any part of a jetty that is above the surface of the sea - except for the last 500 yards of a jetty that extends more than 1,500 yards from the shoreline.
 - In any body of water under the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (Florida Park Service). Possession of spearfishing equipment is prohibited in these areas, unless it is unloaded and properly stored.
 - Harvest by hand-held nets is allowed in all of these situations.
 - Divers using rebreathers are permitted to spear and remove lionfish.
25. The importation of live lionfish, breeding lionfish and the harvest and possession of lionfish eggs and larvae for any purpose other than destruction is prohibited (all 10 species of the genus *Pterois*). Lionfish caught in both state and federal waters off Florida can be landed in Florida and sold live in the aquarium trade. Must have documentation that the lionfish was imported prior to Aug. 1, 2014, and hold the appropriate wholesale or retail license. If you have a lionfish you can no longer take care of, call the FWC's nonnative hotline at 888-IVE-GOT-1 for help finding a new home for your pet.
26. Any person found guilty of violating a rule or state or federal law will be immediately disqualified from this roundup and future roundups.
27. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when participating in the roundup.
28. Any person found violating these official rules will be expelled from the roundup, Not eligible for any prizes, forfeit any registration fees paid, and be banned from participating in any events in the future.
29. The Roundup takes place regardless of weather conditions unless the Roundup director determines that the date must be moved. This is up to the Roundup director's sole discretion.
30. All decisions will be made by the roundup committee as to the number and size of lionfish at the weigh in.

31. In the event of a tie with winning amount of fish, largest, and smallest, earliest IN check-in line wins as the tie-breaker.
32. The roundup committee will be responsible for decisions on rules' violations. All allegations of rules violations must be submitted in writing to the roundup director before the close of the scales on the final day of weigh in.
33. A registered participant may appeal a decision by the roundup director in writing until 15 minutes after the scales have been closed. All decisions are final and binding by the roundup director.
34. All participants agree to the use of any Names, Pictures, and Media submitted to the roundup for marketing purposes. You expressly waive the right to any compensation for use of said media.
35. All participants must sign the FWC harvest acknowledgement form at weigh in to be eligible for any prizes.