

2025 HISTORIC ST. MARYS FISHING CLASSIC

Historic St Mary's Fishing Classic Kingfish Tournament Rules

June 7, 2025

Howard Gilman Memorial Park Downtown St. Marys, GA

www.historicstmarysfishingclassic.com

REGISTRATION:

Kingfish Division: \$300.

Registration closes at 8:00 pm Friday, May 31, 2024. All participating boats will be assigned an official boat number. Florida & Georgia require a SALT WATER ANGLERS LICENSE.

CAPTAIN'S MEETING:

There will be a Captain's Meeting on Friday, June 6, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Seagle's Saloon, St. Mary's, GA. Any statements or rules may be amended at the Captain's Meeting prior to the Tournament.

It is up to the captains or their representatives to be well informed on all rules.

SKA: The Kingfish Division is conducted in accordance with SKA Code of Conduct and Angling Rules (<http://www.fishska.com/page/rules>) amended to meet local conditions.

We reserve the right to refuse entry to any person or team.

BOATING SAFETY: Each participating boat must meet all federal, state, and local safety rules for its size.

CONSERVATION: The Historic St Marys Fishing Classic Committee urges all participating fisherman to respect the bag limit and to release those fish that are not to be entered in this Tournament.

The release of fish should be in keeping with the best conservation methods to ensure the best chance for continued life.

ONLY ONE (1) KINGFISH WILL BE WEIGHED IN FROM EACH BOAT. Kingfish measuring less than 30 inches will not be weighed.

CHECK-OUT: There will be NO CHECK-OUT for this year's tournament. Lines in the water at 6:00 AM. Any and all fish must be weighed at Howard Gilman Memorial Park in St Marys, GA. In the event any two boats come together for any reason after the day's fishing has begun, those two boats will be disqualified. As safety is the prime concern, certain exceptions based on an emergency will be granted by the Tournament Director and will pertain to the attending boat only. Boats receiving assistance will be disqualified. No boat will make landfall or pass anything between boats from the time of boat launch until after weigh in for those boats. These activities will result in disqualification.

FISHING: Hours of fishing will be from 6:00 am until 4:00 pm unless terminated by the Tournament Director. Beginning with the Captain's Meeting, no lines shall be in the water except during Tournament hours. In the event the Tournament is cut short due to bad weather, if at least four hours fishing has been accomplished that will complete the tournament. The Tournament Director has the authority to cancel or shorten the fishing day. If the tournament is cancelled in its entirety prorated entry fees will be returned after expenses.

This is a sporting event. No hand lines or electric reels are permitted. Outriggers and downriggers may be used as fishing line carriers only. Special exceptions may be made for the handicapped by the Tournament Director. The maximum number of lines that may be fished at one time is SIX (6). Any boat utilizing aerial observation will be disqualified, NO EXCEPTIONS.

BOUNDARIES: All fishing from Kingfish and Rodeo boats must take place between the north boundary of latitude 32°01' and the south boundary of latitude 29°40'.

CHECK-IN and WEIGH-IN: (See note below regarding additional weigh-in options for Rodeo anglers):

All boats wishing to weigh-in fish may return through the St. Marys inlet or the ICW and proceed to the weigh in line at Howard Gilman Park, St Marys. All fish will be accepted from a registered boat only.

All kingfish must be brought to the dock by the boat on which they were caught. The boat must be under its own power and in the water. All fish must be in a fresh, edible condition with no signs of freezing or mutilation. Any questionable fish will not be weighed. All fish weighed become the property of the Historic St Marys Fishing Classic Committee. Weigh-in begins at 10:00 am. All boats wishing to weigh in fish must be inside the green marker in St. Marys Harbor by 4:00 pm.

Any boat breaking in the weigh-in line will be disqualified. Only one Kingfish per boat will be eligible for the official weigh in. Kingfish must be brought to the weigh master by a crew member of the boat on which the fish was caught. This crew member must stay with the fish to verify weight.

Boats will not tie up to the weigh dock and must depart as soon as they are off loaded. Any fish dropped in the water will not be weighed. In the event of a tie, the earliest weigh in will determine the winner.

POLYGRAPH: All entrants agree to a polygraph at the request of the Tournament Director in the event of a protest involving that entrant. Failure to submit to a polygraph will result in disqualification of that particular boat for the entire Tournament and forfeiture of any and all prizes or awards.

PROTESTS: If a protest is made it must be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the last fish is weighed for the competition. Any protest must be made in writing and signed by the person lodging the protest. The decision to deny or uphold the protest will be made by the Tournament Director in a timely manner and any and all decisions will be final and irrevocable.

PRIZES: 100% of registration fees collected will be distributed as prizes. Amount to be awarded will be determined upon close of registration, Friday, June 6, 2025.

