



## Rules, Regulations and Liability Waiver

1. Entries are limited to the first 100 total, inclusive of all divisions. Tournament registration is \$150.00 per registrant. Registration ends at 7:00 p.m. April 30, 2024 or earlier, if the available 100 slots are filled. The entry fee includes Florida state sales tax, post tournament dinner and gifts for registrants. The entry fee is non-refundable unless a written request is received at least 30 days prior to the start of the tournament. After that, refunds will be made only if approved by the tournament committee. Gift bags may be picked up at the Angler House on April 30, 2024 at registration or May 1, 2024 during weigh ins. Social tickets may be purchased on the tournament website or at the awards event.
2. The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic rules shall be strictly adhered to and all decisions of the Rules Committee are absolute and final. A Captain/registrants meeting will be held at Angler House in Islamorada on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The tournament website is: [www.livelikeJeff.com](http://www.livelikeJeff.com). **All registrants are responsible for knowing the rules, which would include any last minute changes that may be announced during the Captain's/registrants meeting.**
3. The Tournament Committee must approve any substitutions of registrants.
4. The eligible species are Grouper and/or Hogfish per FWC/Atlantic regulations. Categories include: 1) Scuba, 2) Free Dive, and 3) Rod and Reel.
5. This is a "REGISTRANT" tournament. Registrants may only enter only **ONE** of the three categories listed in #4. Awards will be given for first thru third place as listed below:

Scuba	Free Dive	Rod and Reel
Men's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish	Men's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish	Men's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish
Women's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish	Women's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish	Women's Heaviest Grouper/Hogfish

**You do NOT have to weigh one of each species to win any award.**

### **GRAND CHAMPION**

**Will be awarded to the heaviest weight regardless of category entered.**

**Scoring will be the actual weight of the grouper and/or hogfish weighed.** In the case of a tie, the fish weighed first will be declared the winner. Awards will be given to the first 3 places in each division and category.

### **Jeff's Juniors**

A fun category for our junior anglers/divers under 12 years of age. They may weigh **any** legal species of fish in order to win a prize! Prizes for the first 5 fish weighed regardless of weight. (no registration fee for juniors)

### **PRIZE TABLE**

Every tournament registrant **who is present** at the awards event has an equal chance to win a prize, whether or not they weigh a fish!!!

6. FWC/Atlantic harvest rules apply. All anglers and boats must possess the proper licenses and/or permits. Electric reels are permitted. Scuba and free divers: spear must be loaded or propelled by his/her own muscle power. "Powerheads" are not allowed to obtain any eligible species. If it is suspected, the fish shall be inspected by the weigh crew. The shooter shall be disqualified if it is determined the fish was taken with a power head. No boat may approach under power, without permission, within 150 feet of an anchored boat flying a diver's down or Alpha flag. **For safety purposes, a diver may be assisted but the fish, line or gun may not be touched by the assisting diver.** No transferring of fish or registrants between boats is allowed.

7. Registrants may leave the dock at a time of your choosing. Other than bait catching, **NO LINES or DIVERS** in the water until 7:00 a.m. All fish must be weighed in the presence of the registrant who harvested it. All fish weighed must be harvested on May 1<sup>st</sup> during the time constraints of the tournament. Weigh-ins begin at 4:00 p.m. **The registered harvester must be in line, acknowledged by the tournament official, with the fish they harvested to be weighed, by 5:30 p.m.** Fish may be brought to the weigh station by boat or by car and on ice and in a proper container for inspection. All registrants should be aware of traffic conditions to make sure they are in line by 5:30 p.m. There will be no exceptions to the 5:30 p.m. deadline. All fish weighed must be of legal size and must be in fresh, edible, and not mutilated condition. Only one Grouper and one Hogfish may be



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weighed per registrant for award purposes. All fish must be free of dirt and debris and properly iced down for weighing and **DO NOT NEED TO BE GUTTED**. After they are weighed, they will be returned to the registrant. If a fish is determined to be unacceptable by the tournament committee it will disqualify the registrant and the fish from the tournament. **Late arrivals after 5:30: fish may be weighed but will not be eligible for prizes.**

8. Tournament channel, as needed, will be VHF radio CHANNEL 78.

9. Boundaries are as follows: The boundaries are Carysfort (25°13'03"N 80°12'53"W - Ocean Reef) to Cosgrove Shoal (24°27.5'N 82°11.2W - Key West) All fishing other than bait catching must take place within these boundaries.

10. SPA Rule. Other than bait catching with the proper permits, no vessel will be allowed to engage in any fishing activity inside of a Special Preservation Area of the National Marine Sanctuary (SPA marked by four yellow balls). If you hook up a fish and in the course of the fight the fish enters a Special Preservation Area you may not pursue it into the SPA with your vessel or your fish will be disqualified. The fish is allowed in the SPA. Your vessel is not.

11. There will be no weather days. Captains/registrants are ultimately responsible for their crew and should make decisions as to safe sea conditions for their vessel.

12. Any protests concerning the tournament must be made in writing by 6:00 p.m. on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Tournament Rules Committee may rule immediately or reserve judgment until the end of the tournament. Any matter not specifically covered by these rules shall be decided by the rules committee. The rules committee may disqualify registrants from this tournament and future tournaments. All Decisions of the rules committee are absolute, final and binding on all registrants.

13. Officials, committee members, sponsors and all persons connected directly or indirectly with the operation of the Live Like Jeff Charitable Trust / The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic / Angler's House shall be exempt from any liability for loss, damage, negligence, harm or injury suffered to any participant, entrant, sportfishing vessel, their companions, boat captains, crew members, vessels and equipment, which may occur during this The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic. All registrants, sports fishermen, divers, their companions, family members and boats enter at their own risk, and hereby release, discharge and further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Live Like Jeff Charitable Trust / and their sponsors, advertisers and other participants and any agents, employees, officers, directors, The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic, contractors and successors of the above mentioned organizations from any and all claims, losses, damages, demands, causes of action, suits and liability of every kind arising out of, connected to, or resulting from the event, including without limitation, any claim for loss, damage or destruction of property, or injury (including death), regardless of whether such loss arises in whole or in part from the negligence of Live Like Jeff Charitable Trust / The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic / Angler House its officers, employees, agents, sponsors, directors, contractors, or successors for any loss arising out of, connected to, or resulting from this event. We also understand that this release binds our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns as well as our-selves. By signing below, registrants and attendees acknowledge that you have read and understand the release terms and conditions and agree to be legally bound by these terms and conditions. We also agree to authorize Live Like Jeff Charitable Trust / The Jeff Leonia Reel & Steel Classic the freedom to use any of our likenesses in any video or print whether for advertisement or profit without compensation of any kind.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check one:    \_\_\_ Scuba                    \_\_\_ Free Dive                    \_\_\_ Rod & Reel

**Tournament Contact**  
**Janice Drimer**

[Hagfishin@gmail.com](mailto:Hagfishin@gmail.com) 919-414-4300

Weigh ins begin at 4:00; Buffet Dinner at 6:00; Awards at 7:00