

2011 Destin Fishing Rodeo Rules

Anglers must declare division of entry at the time of weigh-in. Anglers cannot win multiple awards for single fish (excluding bonus and jackpot awards).

1. **SCOPE:** These rules govern the Annual Destin-Gulf Coast Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo to be held October 1 through October 31.
2. **GENERAL:**
 - 1.1. Contestants shall abide by the Rodeo rules. All rules are interpreted by the Rodeo Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors. The decisions of the official Rodeo Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors shall be final
 - 1.2. Rules may be modified, interpreted or changed without notice to meet unusual or emergency conditions by action of the Rodeo Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors.
 - 1.3. Any winning angler or captain is subject to a polygraph test to verify authenticity of catch. The Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors will determine cause for the test.
 - 1.4. Anyone who fails a polygraph test or is determined cheating (by the Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors) will be disqualified from participating in the rest of the year's Rodeo and the following two years' Rodeos. All catches in the current Rodeo will be disqualified.
 - 1.5. Scales are considered accurate to the point of failure. Failed scales will be substituted with State certified, calibrated scales. No fish will be re-hung or re-weighed.
 - 1.6. Pier, Bridge, Jetty and Surf entries must be caught within the area between Pensacola Pass to St. Andrews Bay.
 - 1.7. All Boats must enter the Gulf through Destin's East Pass. Non-motorized vessels, see rule 3.3.
 - 1.8. Boats and/or competitors entered after the beginning of the Rodeo in any division are not eligible for competition until the day following registration.
 - 1.9. All fish must be caught on rod and reel, using hook and line.
 - 1.10. Fish can only be weighed in the division the boat the fish was caught on was registered.
 - 1.11. Boats may not leave Destin East Pass prior to 12:01 a.m. and must return to weigh-in by 7:00 p.m. daily. A daily bag limit will apply. Overnight fishing prohibited except in the Extended Voyage Division.
 - 1.12. Prize winning fish shall be the largest by weight. In the event of a tie, the first fish recorded shall be the winner. Minimum weight of one pound is required for eligibility.
 - 1.13. All fish are to be drawn (from anal vent through the breastplate to the throat with all entrails removed) and washed for inspection prior to being recognized by the weighmaster. Whole fish brought to the Rodeo weighmaster will be sent to the back of the line. An exception will be made for Sharks. Sharks will be weighed and recorded whole. If the shark is in contention for a prize, it will be gutted to determine that it is a legal fish. The whole weight will be the recorded weight. Fish in contention for world or state records will be weighed prior to being drawn for Rodeo entry at the request of the angler. Exception will be made for fish that will be released if they do not qualify for the leaderboard.
 - 1.14. It is the responsibility of the angler to dispose of all fish.
 - 1.15. Boat captain and angler must be present, sign official entry form and verify the weight of each fish officially entered in the Destin Fishing Rodeo at the time of weigh-in. The Angler's SSN will be required prior to being awarded a cash prize. By signing the official entry form, the captain also attests the angler whose name appears on the entry form did catch the fish being weighed. The captain's signature further attests to the division being entered. No changes in division will be allowed after the entry form is signed.

- 1.16. Fish which have spoiled, been mutilated, frozen or appear to have been frozen, or Chemically treated are not eligible for competition. (SHARKS MAY BE SHOT)
- 1.17. Any boat or individual in arrears to the Destin Fishing Rodeo after December 31st of the year the debt is incurred will be ineligible for all subsequent Rodeos until the debt is satisfied.
- 1.18. An angler may weigh in as many fish as desired, however, only the largest fish of each species in the contestants possession on the day of the catch will be eligible as an entry.
- 1.19. The following persons are not eligible for awards (except, the King Mackerel Jackpot Awards, Captains Awards or Mates Awards if they have participated as such within the current calendar year: (a) Captains, crew members (See Definition 6.15), owners, part owners or any persons directly or indirectly related to revenue generation while underway on charter/commercial boats; (b) Regular or part-time share fishermen (See Definition 6.2); (d) commercial fishermen; (e) commercial fishing pier owners and operators and their employees may not enter a fish in pier, bridge, jetty and surf division; (f) Rodeo officials (See Definition 6.3)
- 1.20. Unsportsmanlike action by a Rodeo participant may disqualify that individual from this and future Rodeos.
- 1.21. Complaints or protests must be in the form of a written statement and personally turned in to the Rodeo officials on duty not later than 7:00 p.m., seventy-two (72) hours following the occurrence which occasioned the complaint. A cash deposit of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) must accompany the protest. If the complaint or protest is found to be valid, the deposit is returned, If not, the deposit becomes the property of the Destin Fishing Rodeo, Inc.

3. **DIVISIONS OF COMPETITION. -**

- 3.2 Specific awards and prizes for the Divisions of Competition are listed in the Awards Schedule/Prize List.
- 3.3 EXTENDED VOYAGE DIVISION. In order to qualify in the EXTENDED VOYAGE Division, boat must be away from the dock in excess of 19 hours. Boats must notify Rodeo Headquarters prior to departure by calling 850-837-6734. Fish must be weighed on the day of the vessel's return to port. Extended Voyage entries eligible only in the Extended Voyage Division. Two licensed captains are required aboard fare carrying vessels at all times and both captains must sign entry forms at the dock. Dates of Extended Voyages and both captains names must be declared prior to departure. Fish caught on Extended Voyages ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR RODEO RECORDS.
- 3.4 BILLFISH CATCH & RELEASE DIVISION: This is a BOAT award. It is the responsibility of the Captain to present Photo documentation of the catch to the Rodeo office within 48 hours of the catch. Photo must include the 2010 Rodeo Flag or sticker or a digital date-stamp to qualify as an official entry. Digital photos may be e-mailed to fishing@destinfishingrodeo.org
- 3.5 TRASH CAN SLAM DIVISION: The Ladyfish, Jack Crevalle, and Sailcat must be presented for eligibility in the Trash Can Slam. Fish may be presented separately. An angler may enter more than one fish of each (or any) specie in the division in attempt to beat the previous weight. The heaviest aggregate weight of the three species at the end of the tournament will win the division. 1st & 2nd place will be awarded. A \$25 entry fee (paid prior to the first entry by each angler) is required to participate.
- 3.6 SHARK SATURDAYS: The largest legal specie of shark brought to the weigh scales on every Saturday in October will be awarded a \$250 Cash Prize. No Nurse, Lemon or federally protected shark will be allowed and all state and federal laws and rules must be adhered to.
- 3.7 LADIES, SENIOR AND JUNIOR AWARDS: Only Ladies, Seniors and Juniors may enter fish in the Ladies, Senior and Junior Divisions. Ladies, Seniors and Juniors may Cross in there appropriate categories (ie. Boat Type). Division must be declared at time of entry.

AWARDING OF PRIZES:

- A prize not claimed within thirty (30) days after the date of the award shall revert to the Rodeo.
- A contestant shall not be eligible to hold more than one place in a division. A contestant may, however, hold more than one place with different specie in a division that features multi-specie.
- The Rodeo will award 3 Charter Captain's Awards (One Charter Boat, One Party Boat and One 25 and under Charter Boat) and 2 Private Boat Captain's Awards (One Private Boat and one 25' and under Private Boat). Winning captains will be determined at the end of the tournament using a simple formula: 1st Places = 20 points, 2nd Places = 10 points, Weekly Awards = 7 points, Daily Awards = 1 point.
- Prizes may only be picked up by the person who won the prize. A signed letter from the prize winner indicating permission for a named other person to retrieve their prize may be faxed to the Rodeo at 850-654-1165 or scanned and e-mailed, no later than Friday, November 4, 2011 to fishing@destinfishingrodeo.org.
- ⊖ IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS of Charter Boat Captains and/or Crew are ineligible to receive any CASH awards that may be offered from time to time in the Destin Fishing Rodeo.
- ⊖ All awards are ANGLERS Awards (except for Captain's Jackpot Awards and Billfish Tag and Release Awards). 1099's will be issued to the winning angler in accordance with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

DEFINITIONS:

- a. **Share fisherman:** A person who has sold his catch or shared his catch with the Captain and/or owner of the boat In return for a fare or a fee within the current calendar year.
- b. **Rodeo officials:** Paid employees and the Official Rodeo Judges judging that day
- c. **Immediate Family:** Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Son, Daughter, and Spouse.
- d. **Weekly Competition Periods:** October 1-7; October 8-15; October 16-23; October 24-31. All dates are inclusive.
- e. **Fare-carrying Boats:** A boat owned and operated as a charter fishing business in Destin as determined by the Rules Committee.
- f. **Private Boat:** Vessel that has not carried passengers for hire as determined by the Rules Committee..
- g. **Non-motorized Vessel** – All non-motorized vessels should be launched from shore. No assistance from another vessel is allowed.
- h. **25 and Under** – Any vessel 25'11" and below as per official state vessel registration. Valid registration papers must be produced at the time of Rodeo registration.
- i. **Open Awards Classification:** Awards eligible to all anglers registered in the Destin Fishing Rodeo.
- j. **Registered Entry:** A registered entry is an entry that is recorded with an official Rodeo Judge and eligible to be recorded on the leader board at the weigh station.
- k. **Crewmember:** Any person who receives or has received any type of compensation (money, salary, wages, tips, trade-out fishing trips, fish or food) from any owner, captain, other

crewmember or customer at any time within the 12 months preceding the date of weigh-in for work performed.

- l. **Legitimate Entry for Captain Awards:** The heaviest fish in each category from a boat, per trip, that takes a position on the leader board. In the event of a tie, the earliest weigh-in prevails.
- m. **Junior Angler:** any angler who has not reached their 15th birthday on the day of the competition.
- n. **Lady Angler:** female anglers age 15 and older on the day of competition.
- o. **Senior Angler:** Any angler 65 years or older on the day of competition.

2011 TDC BONUS AWARDS –

FAMILY MEMBERS (Spouse, significant other (with same physical address), Children, Mother, Father, Sister, Brother, Step-children, Step-parents, in-laws) of Charter Boat Captains and/or Crew are ineligible to receive any CASH awards that may be offered from time to time in the Destin Fishing Rodeo.

There will be three \$15,000 CASH Awards. These awards will be “blind draw prizes”. They will be chosen as follows:

1. All Anglers with verified First Place Fish on the Leader Board (weekly and daily awards do not count) at the close of scales on Monday, October 31, 2011 will have their names put into a drawing. On Saturday, November 5, 2011, at the Rodeo Awards Dinner, Miss Destin will draw a name from the receptacle and that person will receive \$15,000.
2. All Anglers with verified Second Place Fish on the Leader Board (weekly and daily awards do not count) at the close of scales on Monday, October 31, 2011 will have their names put into a drawing. On Saturday, November 5, 2011, at the Rodeo Awards Dinner, Miss Destin will draw a name from the receptacle and that person will receive \$15,000.
3. Mystery Fish – All Species of Fish eligible for named prizes in the Destin Fishing Rodeo will be placed in a drawing. On Saturday, November 5, 2011, at the Rodeo Awards Dinner, Miss Destin will draw a name from the receptacle and the person who caught the largest of that specie fish in the tournament will receive \$15,000.

There will four \$1,000 Education IRAs. These awards will be “blind draw prizes”. They will be chosen as follows:

All Junior Anglers that have a registered entry in the Rodeo (see item J under definitions) at the close of scales on Monday, October 31, 2011 will have their names put into a drawing. On Saturday, November 5, 2011, at the Rodeo Awards Dinner, Miss Destin will draw four names from the receptacle and those junior anglers will each receive a \$1000 education IRA.

Individuals may only receive ONE TDC Bonus Award. Should the same angler’s name be drawn in two or more drawings, or should the angler who won either of the other six drawings have the largest “mystery fish” another name will immediately be drawn.