

Texas Lady Anglers Summer Madness Tournament Rules

Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to Texas Lady Angler officials. Decisions of the tournament committee are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.

This tournament will be conducted **online** via the Texas Lady Anglers message board.

1. Federal, State and Local Laws

All contestants are required to follow all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations and laws. Any violation of such rules or Texas Lady Anglers rules may result in disqualification from the tournament and / or future Texas Lady Anglers events.

Participants must have a valid Texas fishing license and saltwater stamp on person.

Safe boating will be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to carry all safety equipment meeting federal and local regulations.

2. Eligibility

All anglers entered in any Texas Lady Anglers event must be a Texas Lady Anglers member in good standing. Texas Lady Anglers has the right to accept or deny any entry into the event.

Any tournament official or tournament sponsor entering the tournament in compliance with tournament rules is eligible for any and all prizes.

3. Sportsmanship

All contestants are required to practice courtesy, safety and follow local and state game laws. Anyone displaying poor sportsmanship or violating game laws will be subject to disqualification and potential banishment from Texas Lady Anglers.

4. Permitted Fishing Locations and Methods

Contestants may fish anywhere on gulf coast waters, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by local, state, federal officials. Private launch sites are permitted.

Contestants may fish by any means: boat, kayak, wade, pier, or surf. Live bait, dead bait or artificial may be used.

5. Tournament Entry Fees & Registration Dates

The entry fee to the tournament is \$40. The entry fee is non-refundable and is not subject to transfer. Registration will remain open until a field of 32 has been filled or March 28th, whichever comes first. Payment must be received by March 28th. TLA reserves the right to open the field by groups of 16 to a maximum of 64 anglers depending on interest. After a field has been obtained, registration will close and the tournament will start April 1st.

Prize payouts are based on 32 anglers. If more than 32 anglers register, adjustments will be made to the prize money payout.

6. Angler Match-ups

Once the field of anglers has been filled, each angler will be drawn at random for placement into the tournament bracket. No substitutions are allowed. Since the tournament is organized by groups of 16, open spots which would complete a full 16 bracket will be left open and an angler matched with an open spot will receive automatic advancement to the next round.

Open spot example:

A full tournament is 32 but 43 anglers register allowing for another bracket of 16 to be opened up. However, full bracket matchups (pairings) require 48. 5 blanks are thrown into the hat with the 43 names. Names are drawn at random and paired up randomly. It is luck of the draw if an angler's name is paired up with a blank. There is no one fishing against that angler for round 1 and that angler will be given a "bi" meaning automatic advancement to round 2. All blanks will be eliminated by round 2.

7. Scoring

Each round, the contestant will submit their largest fish of each species: Red Drum, Speckled Trout, and Flounder. The combined length of these fish will be totaled by a tournament official to achieve the anglers score. Fish must be legal to keep, that is redfish must be 20-28", trout minimum 15" and flounder minimum 14". During the designated fishing period, you may submit all qualifying fish photos. No points will be carried over; all points reset to zero at the beginning of the next round.

8. Tournament Rounds

Each round will last for a one month period except for the finals which lasts for two weeks.

April 1 – 30 round 1: 32 anglers (48 anglers)

May 1 – 31 round 2: 16 anglers (24 anglers)

June 1 – 30 round 3: 8 anglers (12 anglers)

July 1 – 31 round 4: 4 anglers (6 anglers)

August 1 – 15 round 5: final 2 anglers (final 3 anglers)

If the field is 64 anglers then the rounds will be:

April 1 – 30 round 1: 64 anglers

May 1 – 31 round 2: 32 anglers

June 1 – 30 round 3: 16 anglers

July 1 – 31 round 4: 8 anglers

August 1 – 30 round 5: 4 anglers

September 1 – 15 round 6: final 2 anglers.

The cut will be determined by the angler with the most points.

Point accumulation example:

Angler #1 -

26 inch Red Drum + 22 inch Speckled Trout + 17 inch Flounder = 65 Points

Angler #2 -

28 inch Red Drum + 25 inch Speckled Trout + no Flounder = 53 Points

Angler #1 wins on points and advances to the next round.

9. Tie Breakers

Tie Breaker #1: Largest Red Drum

Tie Breaker #2: Largest Speckled Trout

Tie Breaker #3: Largest Flounder

Tie Breaker #4: Coin Flip

If both anglers in a match up do not submit fish, they automatically progress to Tie Breaker #4.

12. Photograph submissions

- a. At the beginning of each round, TLA will designate an item to be included in the photographs which will function to certify the catches (for example a paperclip or a quarter.)
- b. This item must be included in ALL photographs for the respective round.
- c. The photograph MUST be taken with your fish lying on the measuring device.
- d. The photograph must be taken with the fish's mouth closed and with its nose pressed against the "0" inch line.
- e. The full length of the fish must be viewable in the entire photograph.
- f. The participant must retain all original photographs (not resized) for review upon request by the Tournament Committee.
- g. The tournament committee reserves the right to make adjustments and conservatively estimate the length of questionable catches.
- h. All full size (not resized) photos must be submitted by email to photos@texasladyanglers.com within 72 hours of the fish being caught.
- i. The tournament record keeper will retrieve photos from the email then resize and post them on the message board under each angler pairing once the size measurement has been officially documented.

10. Protests

All protests must be submitted in writing, along with a refundable \$50 deposit. The protest must be issued within 72 hours of the ruling in question. The decision of the tournament committee will be final. If the protest is upheld, the \$50 deposit will be refunded. If the protest is overturned, the \$50 deposit will be donated to a charitable organization.

13. Spirit of Sportsmanship Rulings

Not all rules and loop-holes can possibly be addressed. However, the spirit of these rules is intended to promote good sportsmanship. The tournament committee has the right to invoke the "Spirit of Sportsmanship Rule" and make rulings to foster the spirit of good and fair sportsmanship.