



2023 FALL MADNESS ONLINE TOURNAMENT
Fri. Oct. 6th 12:01am – Sun. Nov. 12th 11:59pm

Entry Fee: \$40.00

Tournament Director: Sharon Stewart (sharon.stewart@swbell.net)

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

Phone # _____ **Email address** _____

Prizes: Cash prizes and the number of places paid out will be based on the number of entrants (100% payout).

****You can win only one category - awarded in the order below.** There are four ways to win:**

- **Longest Stringer: 1 Speckled Trout, 1 Redfish (28" max), 1 Black Drum (30" max) and 1 Croaker (Cash Prize)**
(You do not need all 4 fish for the stringer)
- **Longest Speckled Trout (Cash Prize)**
- **FRESHWATER SPECIES - Longest Catfish (Channel, Blue or Flathead) (30" max) (Cash Prize)**
- **Redfish with the Most Spots (Cash Prize)**

See the attached for a complete list of rules.

Participant Agreement, Release, and Acknowledgement of Risk:

Upon signing this application, I hereby waive and release all other participants, hosts, sponsors, and tournament officials from any and all liability claims, demands, actions or rights of actions, which are related to, arise out of, or in any way connected with my participation in this tournament, for any and all claims of death, personal injury, accidents, theft and damage to myself, to others, and all equipment involved in this tournament.

I voluntarily assume full and all responsibility for my health and safe being arising from my participation in this tournament. I assume full responsibility for all equipment on and off the water during this tournament. I have sufficient health, accident and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage incurred by myself or others as a result of my participation in this tournament. If I have no such insurance, I represent that I am capable of paying for any and all such expenses or liability. I have read and understand the rules of this tournament and I will obey all rules and understand that any violation may result in immediate disqualification without refund of my entry fee. I also understand that tournament officials may reject my application for any reason, and in that event will refund my entry fee. Gulf Coast Lady Anglers and their assigns, have my permission to use my name, photographs, and film footage of me if it chooses to do so. My signature below reflects that I have read the entire document, understand it completely, understand it affects my legal rights and agree to be bound by its terms. References to "I," "Me," "Myself," and other first person references shall include any child or ward to whom I sign.

TOURNAMENT ANGLER SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE** _____

Mail this form with payment to: Gulf Coast Lady Anglers, P.O. Box 1081, Kemah, Texas 77565
or go to www.gulfcoastladyanglers and complete the online entry form and pay via Paypal.

Tournament Rules

Please read the rules completely, including the directions for measuring and submitting fish.

All participants must be paid members of Gulf Coast Lady Anglers (GCLA), a non-profit organization formed to foster recreational and educational opportunities for lady anglers.

All entrants will compete against each other for the length of the tournament. Submissions will be made by digital photographs by emailing to sharon.stewart@swbell.net.

This is the only acceptable email for submissions.

Upgrades are permitted and encouraged throughout the tournament period. For example, if you catch a 14 inch Speckled Trout at the beginning of the tournament, then submit it. If you catch an 18 ½ inch Speckled Trout a few days later, submit it and you just got an upgrade. If you catch a 21 inch Speckled Trout on the last day of the tournament, submit it. Your final score for trout will be 21 inches. Watching the leaderboard and upgrading score is a fun part of this tournament.

1. Federal, State and Local Laws; Eligibility; and Sportsmanship.

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

Contestants must have a valid Texas fishing license with a salt water stamp and/or the appropriate fishing license from the state you are fishing (ie. Louisiana). If you are fishing in Louisiana only, then only a Louisiana fishing license is required and you must adhere to the Louisiana fishing regulations.

Safe boating will be observed at all times. Any vessel used during this tournament is required to carry safety equipment required to meet United States Coast Guard regulations. Participants should know the proper use of all safety equipment.

Catch, Photo and release is encouraged. It is mandatory for all undersized fish.

2. Permitted Fishing Locations and Methods

Contestants may fish anywhere along the Gulf Coast, on any 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, bank or surf. Live bait, dead bait or artificial bait/lures may be used. All fish must be caught by rod and reel. No gigging is allowed.

3. Tournament Entry Fees & Registration Dates

The entry fee to the tournament is \$40. It is non-refundable and is non-transferable.

Registration will remain open until Wednesday, October 4th. Your entry fee and registration form must be received by Oct. 4th either through the mail or online. No late entries will be accepted. Gulf Coast Lady Anglers has the right to accept or deny any entry into the event.

The tournament will run from Friday, Oct. 6th 12:01 am through Sunday, Nov. 12th 11:59 pm.

4. Accepted Fish/Categories

- **Longest Stringer: 1 Speckled Trout, 1 Redfish (28" max), 1 Black Drum (30" max) and 1 Croaker(Cash Prize)**
(You do not need all 4 fish for the stringer)
- **Longest Speckled Trout (Cash Prize)**
- **FRESHWATER SPECIES - Longest Catfish (Channel, Blue or Flathead) (30" max)**
- **Redfish with the Most Spots (Cash Prize)**

Prizes: Cash prizes and the number of places paid out will be based on the number of entrants (100% payout) and will be announced the evening before the start of the tournament. You can win only one category - awarded in the order above.

Fish may be undersized with the assumption that since this is a digital photograph tournament, non-legal fish are then released. **Upper limits imposed by the State of Texas are the upper limits for this tournament. Catfish and Black Drum maximum length is 30" because the acceptable measuring device Check-It-Stik is available in a 30" size and we want to be able to use those rulers in addition to the standard 38". Redfish with the Most Spots can be any size since it does not require being on a Check It Stik. See Section #8.**

5. Scoring

Contestants will submit digital photographs meeting tournament requirements. Undersized fish are acceptable assuming the fish is released after being photographed.

Measurements will be in 1/8th inch increments. If any part of the fish is over the 1/8" mark it will be rounded up to the next 1/8th inch.

Updates to the leaderboard will be posted weekly. An individual fish can be entered into each applicable category. For example, if your longest Speckled Trout is 25" it will be entered into the stringer & Speckled Trout category. However, you can win only one category awarded in the order noted above.

Point (inches) accumulation example:

Angler #1 - 26 inch Red Drum (redfish) + 22 inch Trout + 15 inch Black Drum + 9 inch Croaker = 72 Inch Stringer

Angler #2 - 27 inch Red Drum (redfish) + 21 inch Trout + 18 inch Black Drum = 66 Inch Stringer

Angler #1 would win Stringer

Angler #2 would win Longest Speckled Trout

6. Photograph submissions

You do not need all categories of fish to submit. Submissions must be made within 72 hours of catching except on the final day of the tournament when all photos must be submitted by 11:59pm.

All fish will be submitted on a SILVER Check-It Stik.

No other measuring device will be accepted. A Check-It Stik can be purchased at Wal-Mart, Academy, and most tackle shops for less than \$20. If your photo is not readable, we cannot accept it.

We will zoom in on the photo best we can and make all efforts to read your submission. We will not make guesses. An experienced impartial second opinion may be obtained if necessary.

Make sure the photo is clear. You should take several pictures to make sure you have an acceptable photo. Make sure at least 1-2 numbers are visible past the tail. Include the designated item (see #7).

If possible, submit one fish photo per email to Sharon.stewart@swbell.net . Include (YOUR NAME) and “redfish”, “trout”, “croaker” in the subject line of your email.

Subject line example: “Sharon Stewart redfish” or “Sharon Stewart croaker”

This is the only acceptable email address to send the pictures. Send full size photos only. DO NOT RESIZE PHOTOS DOWN. *Tip: check your “send box” to ensure that the email and photo attachment was sent.*

The Tournament Director will resize the photos and post on the Gulf Coast Lady Angler Facebook page once the size measurement has been officially documented. The participant must retain all original photographs (not resized) for review upon request by the Tournament Committee. *If you do not see your fish photo posted to the Facebook album within 3 days please contact the Tournament Director.*

All full size photos must be submitted by email to sharon.stewart@swbell.net by 11:59 pm on Nov. 12th, 2023.

7. Designated item

The night before the beginning of the tournament, the tournament director will post a designated item to be included in the photograph which will function to ensure that the catch was made during the time period of the tournament.

This item must be included in ALL photographs. This is a sample photo from a past tournament.



The designated item was a card with specific wording.

8. Photographing your fish

The photograph **MUST** be taken with your fish lying flat on the Check-it Stik with its nose pressed against the upright “0” inch line and its mouth closed.

Redfish, Croaker, Black Drum, Catfish and fish with an under bite may have the mouth open but all others **MUST** be completely closed (**be sure your trout have their mouth completely closed**). A 1” penalty will be subtracted from the length of fish submitted with mouth open even if the mouth appears to be open a tiny amount.



The nose must be pressed against the upright "0" inch line. If the nose is not pressed against the "0" upright on the Check-it Stik then a minimum of 1" penalty will be given. The full length of the fish must be viewable in the photograph along with the designated item noted above.

It is acceptable and encouraged to pinch the tail or swing the tail down to achieve the longest length possible but the mouth must remain closed (where applicable) and pressed against the "0" upright. **A Redfish over 27" MUST have the tail pinched in order to verify that it is within the TPWD regulations otherwise that fish will be disqualified.** Do your best to ensure that the measuring device is easily readable in the photographs, free of debris and glare.

It is advised that you take several pictures of each fish, adjusting the angle to make sure you get an acceptable photo.

To submit a redfish in the most spots category, send a photo of each side of the whole fish with the designated item in each photo. All whole, distinct spots will be counted. If two or more spots overlap, it will be counted as one spot. This fish can be under size or over size and does not have to be on the ruler.

9. Tie Breakers

Tie Breakers will be determined by earliest date/time of the final submission for stringer or submission of the individual fish.

10. Protests

All protests must be submitted via email to sharon.stewart@swbell.net. There is no fee to protest.

The protest must be issued within 24 hours that the fish in question is posted. The decision of the tournament committee shall be final.

Any tournament participant can file a protest on behalf of any other tournament participant including themselves.

11. Spirit of Sportsmanship Rulings - Not all rules and loop-holes can possibly be addressed.

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.

Please feel free to post questions on Facebook or send a private message or email sharon.stewart@swbell.net