



MATAGORDA MERMAID

32ND ANNUAL WOMEN'S OFFSHORE FISHING TOURNAMENT

July 26-28, 2018

Official Tournament Rules

- Registration – THURSDAY 5pm - 7pm
- Captain's Meeting/Calcutta – THURSDAY 7pm
- Check In – Matagorda Jetties 6am SATURDAY
- Weigh In – 5pm - 7pm SATURDAY
- Be INSIDE Harbor rocks BY 7pm SATURDAY

1. Lady Anglers only. Maximum 4 women per boat.
2. Entry fee is non-refundable.
3. All entries must be paid prior to the Captain's Meeting.
4. Lady Anglers who are 16 years or younger may be entered for the Junior Angler Award.
5. All crew members must be listed on Registration Form; angler or crew changes can only be made prior to Thursday's Captain's Meeting.
6. All fish must be caught on tournament day by Lady Anglers only.
7. **All boats must leave through Matagorda Jetties no earlier than 6:00am on Saturday.**
8. **All boats must check in with Committee before departing the Jetties. Use Channel 66.**
9. Weigh-In Station is at the Matagorda Harbor Pavilion. **DO NOT STOP IN RIVER, INTRACOASTAL, OR HARBOR BEFORE WEIGHING IN FISH.**
10. Category Fish include: King, Ling, & Dolphin. Qualifying fish must be of legal length and weighed in only once.
11. Tournament is based on a point system: 1 pound = 1 point.
 - Bonus points awarded on combination categories:
 - a. 25 points awarded for 1 King & 1 Ling, 1 King & 1 Dolphin, or 1 Ling & 1 Dolphin.
 - b. 75 points awarded for all three category fish.
 - Each boat may weigh in only one fish per category; angler's choice.
12. Side Pots will be awarded for Largest King, Largest Ling, Largest Dolphin, Largest Non-Category, & Junior Angler.
13. Non-Category fish include legal fish excluding sharks.
14. Junior Angler Award goes to the Junior Angler who catches the heaviest tournament fish (includes category and non-category fish). Junior Angler's fish does not need to be one of the team's tournament fish.
15. Weigh Master's decision will be final.
16. In the event of a tie, first team weighed in wins.
17. Due to inclement weather, tournament fishing will be left to the tournament committee's discretion; tournament can be postponed to Sunday or a different day to be determined. Tournament fishing will be called by the committee no later than Saturday before 6:00AM.
18. All boats must return through Matagorda Jetties and must weigh in fish from their boat in the water at the official Weigh Station.
19. Weigh-In is from 5:00pm – 7:00pm Saturday. All boats weighing in fish must be in line inside the Matagorda Harbor by 7:00pm.
20. Maximum 3 male crew members per boat.
21. Male crew members may skipper boat, deckhand, & take pictures. Male crew are not allowed to touch a fishing rod while the line is in the water at any time during the tournament. If a line becomes tangled, the line must be cut in order for male crew to untangle the line. Male crew are not allowed to cast fishing rods or cast nets (no bait fishing is allowed). Male crew are allowed to leader and gaff fish.
22. No pooling or transferring of fish is allowed.
23. Fish must be in a fresh and edible condition. No frozen or mutilated fish.
24. No diving equipment allowed aboard any boat; no diving allowed.
25. To knowingly fish over a pre-baited spot is not allowed. Chumming is allowed.
26. Anglers and crew may not transfer to another boat except in the case of an emergency.
27. Any boat found in breach of the tournament rules will forfeit all winnings, entry fees, and prizes.
28. All winners must agree to take a polygraph test. Failure of polygraph test may result in disqualification.
29. The Matagorda Mermaid Committee reserves the right to refuse tournament applications or entry from any prospective entrant without cause. Any applicant refused entry will be entitled to a full refund.
30. Decisions of the Matagorda Mermaid Tournament Committee are final and are not subject to appeal.
31. Protests must be filed in writing prior to awards. A fee of \$50.00 must accompany protest; fee will be returned if protest is deemed justified by the Mermaid Committee.

FOR TOURNAMENT VERIFICATION: VHF CHANNEL 66 OR RACHAEL 979-476-1378

CALCUTTA RULES

1. CALCUTTA INSURANCE MUST BE PAID BEFORE CALCUTTA BEGINS.
2. Calcutta insurance buys half of your boat (50%) in the Calcutta.
3. Calcutta registration will be from 5pm – 7pm on Thursday and is included on your Registration Form.
4. Minimum starting bid will be \$350 for each boat.
5. Insufficient checks will automatically disqualify a boat from Calcutta winnings. Notification will not be given until Tuesday, July 31st.
6. Any boat not bought in the Calcutta will be eligible for tournament money and prizes only.
7. The \$250 insurance is non-refundable if a boat does not sell in the Calcutta.
8. Each boat must have a representative present at the Calcutta Thursday evening.