



Docksider Striper Tournament Official Rules June 25-28, 2009

1. Participation

The tournament will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday June 26-28, 2009, with a kick-off event and registration on Thursday, June 25th. This tournament is open to everyone. You can enter the tournament by sending in a registration form to York Harbor Marine Service or you can enter online at www.docksidestripertournament.org. All checks should be payable to "York Hospital/Fishing". Online payments may be made using PayPal or a credit card on the tournament website. All proceeds will be shared by York Hospital and Coastal Conservation Association.

Participation is open to people who are 5 years of age or older. The Youth Division is for any girl or boy between the ages of 5-14 yrs. Any person entering a tournament under 18 must have the signature of his or her parent or legal guardian in the provided space on the entry form.

All contestants are required to follow all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations and laws. Any violation of such regulations and laws may result in disqualification.

Teams of two or more people are recommended, but singles are welcomed either fishing from shore or on a boat. The team approach is being suggested to facilitate fun, safety, and to make capturing your catch in a photo more practical. Prizes will be awarded to the individual catching the largest fish in each category, *not to the team*. Each participant should sign-up on a separate entry form. **THE NUMBER OF ENTRANTS IS LIMITED TO 150, SO TEAM MEMBERS SHOULD SEND IN THEIR PAPERWORK AT THE SAME TIME IF POSSIBLE.**

Online and mail-in entries must be received by the entry deadline of June 18. After that date, if space remains available, registrations will be accepted in-person at York Harbor Marine Service or at the Captain's Party up to 5 PM on June 25th. Entries received after the deadline date and/or after the entry limit is reached will be put on a waiting list. Those placed on the waiting list and not accepted into the tournament will receive a full refund after the tournament.

A completed entry form and the full entry fee must be received no later than the published entry deadline for the tournament. **CONFIRMED ENTRIES ARE CONTINGENT UPON THE ENTIRE REGISTRATION FEE BEING PAID BY THE DEADLINE DATE.** Entry fees will not be refunded after June 18, 2009.

2. Important Tournament Details

Participants must appear in person at the Captain's Party which will take place Thursday June 25, 2009 from 5 to 8 PM. At that time, participants will be given a welcome packet which will include an "**official tournament measurement tape**", catch reporting form, and other ancillary items. **WELCOME PACKETS WILL NOT BE GIVEN OUT PRIOR TO THE CAPTAIN'S PARTY FOR ANY REASON.** If you cannot attend registration you will be allowed to send a person to represent you. Individuals must contact York Harbor Marine Service by Tuesday June 23rd to indicate their inability to make the Captain's Party. You must provide us with the name of the person who will be picking up your

registration packet for you at the party. Registrants that do not contact York Harbor Marine Service by Tuesday, June 23rd and do not appear at the Captain's Party may be disqualified.

3. Boating Safety

Each participant is encouraged to wear a fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation. If your boat is equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device it must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is in operation.

Participants are responsible to ensure boat and operator meets all USCG requirements.

4. Sportsmanship

All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves.

Examples of conduct not complying with those standards include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the official rules for the 2009 Dockside Striper Tournament.
- Any words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with the tournament rules.

In case of any conduct not complying with the standards, the Tournament Committee shall have the right to refuse any application, or to deny a confirmed application, by returning the entry fee of a previously accepted application, or to disqualify a contestant.

5. Fishing Divisions and permitted fishing methods

- **Striped Bass Only** - There is a catch & release division for striped bass only. There will be four (4) categories as follows:
 - **Women's Open**- Only open to women, Fly rod or Open tackle, Ages 15 & up
 - **Fly Fishing** – fish must be caught by using a fly rod with artificial fly
 - **Open ~Bait/ Tackle**- Fish must be caught by using bait or artificial lures (bait can be alive or dead); the use of circle hooks is strongly encouraged.
 - **Youth**- Fish must be caught by a boy or girl between the ages of 5-14 yrs
- **Other Species** – There is a non- catch & release division for the following (3) species only:
 - **Bluefish**- fish may be caught either by using fly rod or open tackle, Ages 5 & up
 - **Atlantic Cod**- fish may be caught either by using fly rod or open tackle, Ages 5 & up
 - **Mackerel**- Open to KIDS ONLY, Ages 5-14 yrs

6. Fishing locations and Rules

Participants may fish anywhere on tournament waters which include all salt waters of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, except areas designated by local, state or federal officials as off limits to all fishing or to fishing for striped bass in particular. Off limit areas include the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

7. Official Tournament Fishing Times

Contestants can begin fishing at 12:00AM (E.S.T.) on Friday, June 26, 2009 and fish as long as they like; however, if you have a picture of a qualifying fish to be considered by the judges, all photographs must be presented to the tournament judging table between (2:00-3:00 PM) (E.S.T.) on Sunday, June 28th, 2009.

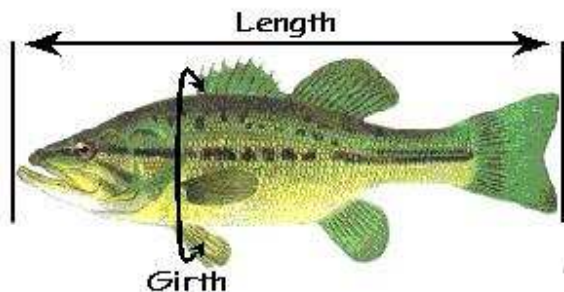
8. Catch and Release (Striped Bass Only)

For the Striped Bass Only division this is a catch and release tournament and all fish photographed for presentation to the tournament judging table are to be released alive and in good condition.

9. Measuring & Photographing Your Eligible Fish (Striped Bass Only)

You are responsible for providing your own digital camera for pictures. If you do not have a digital camera, please notify YHMS prior to the Captains' Party and we will provide you with a disposable film camera. At your expense and effort, the photos from film cameras must be developed in time to submit to the tournament judging table (2:00-3:00 PM) (EST) on June 28, 2009. All pictures must be submitted by (2:00-3:00 PM) (EST) on June 28, 2009.

If a participant catches a fish they deem eligible as a qualifying fish, they must photograph the fish in such a way that its full length can be seen in the photograph. The **“official tournament measurement tape”** must be placed beneath the fish and positioned so that the long end of the tape measure is visible in the photograph. It must be clear in the photograph the tape measure is stretched-out completely. ANY PHOTOGRAPH THAT DOES NOT SHOW THIS WILL LEAD TO THAT FISH BEING EXCLUDED FROM THE TOURNAMENT.



Photographs may be taken with any digital camera or with a disposable camera using film. Digital pictures will be downloaded at the tournament judging table.

In addition to the photograph, a **catch data form** must be completed for each fish being entered.

The following information must be recorded:

- **Name of the tournament participant**
- **Measured length of the fish**
- **Girth of the fish**
- **Time and approximate location the fish was caught**

The participant must sign the catch data form attesting to its accuracy. This information must be submitted with the photo or the digital picture to the tournament judging table.

10. Other Species -- * WEIGH INS *

For the (3) other species (Bluefish, Atlantic Cod, Mackerel) there will be three opportunities to get an official weigh-in. These weigh-ins will take place on the **main dock at York Harbor Marine Service** as follows:

- Friday, June 26th (5:00-6:00pm);
- Saturday, June 27th (5:00-6:00pm); and
- Sunday, June 28th (2:00-3:00pm) will be the third and final weigh-in option.

To compete in one of these categories, your fish must be weighed in at one of the above times.

11. Awards

As outlined in section # 5, above, there are (4) four **Striped Bass Only** divisions as follows:

- **Women's Open-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 longest fish
- **Fly Fishing –** there will be 3 awards for to the 3 longest fish
- **Bait/ Tackle-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 longest fish
- **Youth-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 longest fish

Prizes will be awarded to the three individuals with the longest photographed striped bass in each division. Participants in the Striped Bass Only Youth Division (ages 5-14 yrs) are eligible to win in the Striped Bass Only Youth Division only.

As outlined in section # 5, above, there will be (3) three **Other Species** division as follows:

- **Bluefish-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 heaviest fish
- **Atlantic Cod-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 heaviest fish
- **Mackerel-** there will be 3 awards for the 3 heaviest fish (KIDS ONLY, Ages 5-14 yrs)

12. Ties

In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will be the girth measurement of the tied fish for both Striped Bass Only and the Other Species divisions. The second tie breaker will be the time (or date) that the photograph of the fish was submitted to the tournament judging table; (the first fish turned in will be the tie-break winner).

13. Photo Downloading or Film Developing Verification of Results

All catch data record forms and digital camera cards or photos must be turned in to the tournament judging table between (2:00-3:00 PM) (EST) on June 28, 2009. Please put your name on the back of the photograph along with the measurements of the fish if you are submitting printed or developed pictures. The data and images from the entries will be deemed eligible to win division trophies based on reported size of catch and the next three in each category will be evaluated for verification purposes.