

TMA Freshwater Fishing Tournament - RULES

***Attention: This is a print version of a digital file that can be found on MastersAcademy.org/fishing and also in the "Details" tab of the FishDonkeyApp.**

Registration

All tournament registrations must be entered and paid for via MastersAcademy.org/fishing. Anyone who joins the tournament app without having officially registered and paid via mastersacademy.org/fishing will be removed from the app and not able to receive prizes.

FishDonkey App

All entries must be completed using the App. The App will be used to photo document fish and will generate live leaderboards. The leaderboards will update throughout the event as fish are submitted. All entries will be considered unofficial until verified.

Multiple devices/phones may be logged into the same account at any given time. If multiple people on your family/team would like to help record fish and/or view the leaderboard through the app, the person who registered your team can share their user/password with other members. Once they share the user/pass, you will need to download the app and log in with those same credentials.

TIP FOR FAMILIES: To reflect a family/team name in the leaderboards, tap on your profile icon and change your first/last name to a team name. (Example: First name: TEAM, Last name: SMITH). Each entry will then show up as TEAM SMITH, but the pictures will reflect the person who actually caught the fish. You can even insert a photo of your family/team in the profile picture if you'd like.

It is wise to designate one person to record the fish for the entire team to maintain consistency.

Alternatively, students who are registered with their family may create their own user account within the app at the discretion of the parents. This would be the only way for the "Name" on the leaderboards to reflect the individual student's name.

Sharing pictures: All photos taken through the app will place a copy in the camera photo deck. Share with your team!

Measuring & Photo Documenting

All photos must be taken through the FishDonkey app and measurements must be on a valid measuring board.

Fish should be recorded immediately and measurements noted by length.

All submissions must include at least two photographs:

- 1) A pic of the person who caught the fish holding it in the picture (person's face and fish visible)
- 2) A pic of the fish on the measuring board clearly showing the measurement, nose against bump and tail on the open end of the measuring board

Close the fish's mouth. The nose should touch the bump of the measuring board (the belly is facing you). The measurement photo needs to include the entire fish on the board.

If the fish tail is touching the graduation line on the board then that is the exact measurement. If the tail crosses a graduation line, round up ¼".

All participants must have their fish submitted before the end of the tournament.



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Practice the FishDonkey App ahead of time

[Watch a 1 minute tutorial on How to Enter a Fish:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zuxh7FNUkBA) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zuxh7FNUkBA>

Test the app before you get out on the water.

1. Download the app
2. Join "Practice Entering a Fish"

FishDonkey in poor reception areas

The app will work without the internet. Open the app before heading out to poorly covered areas. Tap on the name of the tourney. Once you see the button 'Enter a Fish', head out and fish away. Fish should be entered as normal in bad reception areas. Your Digital Livewell® (fish icon) will show you if there are fish waiting for an internet connection to get pushed into the leaderboard. When you get back to a well connected area, open your Digital Livewell® and leave that screen open/active until all fish are "Received". If your pictures are missing from the leaderboard, this is what you need to do. Until your pictures are received, do not delete or alter the photos on your phone, as the software will not accept your photos as originals.

Missing pictures on the leaderboard?

Open your Digital Livewell (fish icon on the top of the app screen) when you get back to an area with good reception. Leave that screen open until all fish are "Received". Never delete anything from your Digital Livewell.

Measuring Boards

All measuring devices must be commercially made. You are required to have a board with a 90 degree bend which marks 0, and at least ¼" lines. No handmade measuring boards, stickers, or tape measures allowed. No sliding, retractable, or foldable measuring devices are allowed unless approved by the tournament director. If your measurement is not clearly readable in your submission photo, it may not be accepted, or could be penalized.

Panfish Definitions

Many species fall into the category of "Panfish". Here is a common list found in Florida, but others may be found and/or accepted:

Bluegill, Crappie (aka. spec or speckled perch), redear sunfish (shellcracker), flier, longear sunfish, mud sunfish, shadow bass, spotted sunfish (stumpknocker), warmouth and redbreast sunfish.

Directory of Florida Freshwater Fish Species can be [found here](#).

<https://www.eregulations.com/florida/fishing/freshwater/freshwater-fish-of-florida>



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Stringer Info

A "Stringer" of fish (a.k.a. Bag of fish) is just a way of entering multiple fish caught in the same species. Only Bass will have a "stringer of 3" category for this event. Each fish should be recorded one at a time, as they are caught. The app will auto-cull for each team. It will toss out smaller fish once stringer capacity is reached.

Tournament Directors

Your Tournament Directors are Shane Ryder and Marcus Mennenga. If you need to reach your directors, call or text them at the numbers below. Please read through the rules first, as most questions should be answered in the Overview or Rules tabs of this app.

The interpretation and enforcement of the rules is at the sole discretion of the directors. The tournament directors may change rules or impose sanctions as they deem appropriate, including but not limited to: disqualifications, forfeiture of prizes, and prohibition from competing in future tournaments. All decisions made by the tournament directors are final.

Shane Ryder: 321-277-5200

Marcus Mennenga: 407-257-3530

Sportsmanship

All participants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any participant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules or brings unfavorable publicity to The Master's Academy or the sport of fishing could be disqualified.

Body of Water

Fishing has to be legal and in public fresh waters only: no private ponds, streams, lakes or rivers. Participants may fish in any water that is open to public fishing.

Inclement Weather/Cancelation

Keep mobile phones on throughout the tournament in order to receive communication from the director in the event of postponement or cancelation. The tournament dates may be changed for any reason, including weather related issues. Due to the nature of tournament fishing, no refunds will be issued.

Tiebreakers

The tournament director will consider options for determining a tie, which could be 1) time of entry 2) the exact measurement instead of the ¼" measurement 3) the next largest fish submitted by each angler. A tie could also result in shared prizes.



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Claiming Prizes

Prizes will be awarded within 2 weeks of the tournament end date. Ensure that your correct address, email, and mobile number appear in your app profile for prize announcements and delivery. Prizes are the responsibility of the winners. Transportation, taxes, and incidentals are the responsibility of the winner. It is the responsibility of the tournament director to disburse all prizes.

From our terms and conditions, you have agreed to the following:

”FishDonkey makes no representations or warranties regarding the Service or the quality, features, conditions, rules, prizes, results, or other aspects of any tournament ORGANIZED THROUGH, OR hosted on, the Site. AS BETWEEN FISHDONKEY AND THE TOURNAMENT ORGANIZER, THE TOURNAMENT ORGANIZER IS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESULTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE TOURNAMENTS THEY ORGANIZE AND HOST USING THE SITE AND SERVICES.”

Laws and Regulations

All federal, state, and local laws and all fishing and boating rules must be abided by. Up to-date fishing regulations can be [found here](#).

Florida requires anyone age 16 - 65 to own a fishing license while fishing, unless otherwise stated.

Licenses and permits are available online at GoOutdoorsFlorida.com, or by calling toll-free 888-FISH-FLORIDA (888-347-4356).

Failure to comply with any tournament rules subjects participants to disqualification and removal from the competition, as determined by the tournament officials. The right to refuse sale and/or revoke a competition ticket to anyone is hereby reserved.

Cheating

All protests must be brought to the director’s attention before the end of the event.

Anyone caught breaking the law or disobeying the rules will be disqualified.

Fish must be hooked and caught live in a conventional manner. Fish cannot be snagged, netted, speared, etc.

Safety

Participants are responsible for their own safety, actions, and property at all times.

Questions?

If there are any questions about the rules, ask the tournament directors.

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