



Official Rules - Guided Division

These rules are subject to the sole interpretation, application, and discretion of the Tournament Chairman, after consultation with the Rules Committee.

This is a catch and release tournament and does not require that any fish be killed in order for an angler to accumulate points. **Each team must come equipped with a digital camera, and will be provided with measuring options at the Captain's Check-in at 7 pm on September 22, 2023.** Teams consist of up to 3 anglers plus the assigned Tournament Guide. The tournament begins with lines in at 5:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

All Fish complete with a photo must be logged into the Michael Shields Memorial IAngler Tournament Page/App by no later than 3 p.m. on September 23, 2023. Officials from the Rules Committee will be present at River Palm Cottages, between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. September 23, 2023 to assist anglers who need help logging their fish and uploading their photos.

There are no restrictions as to fishing locations, or means of getting there except that the mosquito ditches are out of bounds and all team members must be within either sight or shouting distance of each other and their assigned Tournament Guide without the use of technology. **The Guide is considered the captain of the team, and may fish, if the team chooses.**

All anglers must abide by all local, State and Federal Rules and licensing restrictions on fishing for game fish with hook and line.

Anglers will target Snook, Tarpon, Redfish and Trout. Each fish will be measured by its **Total Length**. Total Length is defined as: the distance from the most forward point of the fish's head to the hindmost point of the tail.

Measuring Fish

Each angler bucket will include a "Tarpon Card" to be included in all photos submitted to the IAngler App for scoring. Anglers shall use their own measuring device, subject to inspection upon request by the Rules Committee and shall lay the tape measure flat on the boat deck or ground, with the "Tarpon Card" also flat on the boat deck or ground. The fish shall be laid on the boat deck or ground also above the tape and card, so that the tape measure can be clearly seen as well as the entire "Tarpon Card." **DO NOT PULL THE TAPE MEASURE OVER THE FISH OR LAY THE "TARPON TAPE" ON TOP OF THE FISH WITH ONLY ONE EXCEPTION:**

ALL TARPON THAT ARE LEFT IN THE WATER BECAUSE THEY ARE TOO BIG TO LAND PURSUANT TO CURRENT LAWS SHALL BE MEASURED BY ROLLING THE FISH ON ITS SIDE AND LAYING THE TARPON TAPE DIRECTLY ON THE TOP SIDE OF THE FISH. THE ENTIRE FISH MUST BE IN THE PHOTOGRAPH AND THE "TARPON TAPE" MUST BE VISIBLE.



*Figure 1 Correct Measurement for Fish in Boat
Tarpon Tape on Boat Deck (NOT ON FISH!)*



Figure 2 Correct Measurement For Tarpon too big to boat. Keep in water and lay Tarpon Tape on top of fish. Try not to conceal end of fish's jaw!!

Photographs that do not include the “Tarpon Card” and/or that do not allow the Rules Committee to view the tape measure may be excluded at the sole discretion of the Tournament Chairman. The Committee will utilize all tools at our disposal, including a virtual ruler through the Iangler App to attempt to verify measurements for all fish in contention for a prize. If a fish or measurement is partially obstructed, the Tournament Chairman, after consultation with the Rules Committee has the sole authority to decide whether to exclude a fish in its entirety or give credit for the visible part of the fish.

Scoring

Snook caught on natural bait will be awarded 2 points per inch. Any tarpon caught on natural bait will be awarded 1 point per inch. All large tarpon must remain in the water at all times during measurement, pursuant to Florida Law. Redfish and Trout caught on natural bait will be awarded 1 point per inch. Additional points will be awarded for catches on artificial baits and for filling the scorecard as set forth in the chart below. Scorecards should reflect the actual length of each fish to the half inch.

Each Team must be registered with the Michael Shields Memorial IAngler Tournament Page/App prior to commencing. Officials from the Rules Committee will be present at River Palm Cottages at 7:00 p.m to assist in registering teams and anglers. Each team should log every fish caught, however only the top three scoring fish will be scored per species. Teams must photograph each scored fish on the team’s digital camera next to the “Tarpon Tape” and tape measure (see measuring above).

After 3 p.m. on September 23, 2023, the rules committee will validate the team’s entries and apply the bonus points where appropriate as set forth below. Any submissions after 3 p.m. may be disqualified or incur a point reduction, at the sole discretion of the tournament chairman after consultation with the rules committee. Any technical difficulties with digital equipment will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the tournament chairman after consultation with the rules committee. In the event of a tie, the Rules Committee will re-measure each fish utilizing the Iangler Tournament measuring device to attempt to ascertain a more precise measurement. If there is

still a tie the winner will be the first to log all of their fish. If there is a tie for the largest of a species even after review through the tournament virtual measuring tools, the first fish logged wins. Cheaters will be disqualified and subjected to public stoning, and shall wear a t-shirt that clearly states: I cheated at a charity fishing tournament.

4 species – Tarpon, Snook, Redfish, Trout

SPECIES	NATURAL BAIT	ARTIFICIAL	FULL CARD BONUS
Snook	2 pts per inch	3 pts per inch	3 snook on card 25 pts
Tarpon	1 pt per inch	2 pts per inch	3 tarpon on card 50 pts
Redfish	1 pt per inch	2 pts per inch	3 redfish on card 25 pts
Trout	1 pt per inch	2 pts per inch	3 trout on card 20 pts

Iron Man Slam - all 4 species caught (at least one of each) 100 pt bonus

Prizes

First Place Team

Second Place Team

Top Guide

Top Lady Angler (Individual Angler)

Top Junior Angler (15 years or younger)

Mystery Fish – Don't forget to log all your catches!!!!

Best Overall Snook (Individual Angler)

Best Overall Tarpon (Individual Angler)

Best Overall Redfish (Individual Angler)

Best Overall Trout (Individual Angler)

Best Fish Caught on Fly (Individual Angler)