Fiddler Crab Festival Fishing Tournament Rules:

INDIVIDUAL ANGLER FISHING: This is an individual angler tournament. Federal, State & County Fishing laws apply to each angler that chooses to compete in this tournament. All Anglers on the boat must have a ticket prior to fishing. There is no limit on the number of anglers per boat. All types of boats are allowed. (Bay boat, airboat, kayak, etc.) The tournament begins at safelight, meaning lines in the water at safelight. Safe light is 30 minutes before sunrise. The Weigh Master has final say on the official time and he/she will announce it at the captains meeting. If there is no captains meeting, then it will be posted prior to tournament day.

ENTRY FEE: Entry fee is $30.00 per adult angler, $15.00 per youth angler (12 and under).

SAFETY: SAFETY IS ALWAYS FIRST. Safety is paramount. Captains are responsible for the safe of their crew and legal operation of their boats at all times.

QUALIFYING FISH: Fish must be caught on hook and line and landed in whole condition. Fish must be of legal length and possession limits. Weighing in a fish that is not of legal limits will result in disqualification. Mutilated fish will not be accepted. Qualifying fish are Red Drum, Spotted Seatrout, and Flounder. Jr. Angler qualifying fish are any legal fish other than Sharks and Stingrays.

**AWARDS:** Cash prizes will be awarded for Heaviest Redfish $500, Heaviest Spotted Seatrout $500, Heaviest Flounder $350, and Most Redfish Spots $350 at the Sea Hag Marina at the conclusion of the weigh-in. Jr. Angler’s will win a $100 gift certificate to Sea Hag Marina.

TIES: In case of a tie, the winner will be the individual that weighed in the earliest.

CALCUTTA: There is no Calcutta for this tournament.

RADIO: Captains are reminded that they should have an operational VHF radio on board their boat for safety. VHF radio Channels 9 & 10 is monitored by the local marinas. Channel 16 is monitored by the Coast Guard.

CHECK OUT / IN: There is no boat check the morning of the tournament. Use your best judgement for your vessel and crew if there is any weather concerns.

CAPTAIN’S MEERTING: The captains meeting will be held at SEA HAG MARINA 322 Riverside Dr. Steinhatchee, FL, 32359. Friday night at 6pm. This meeting is not mandatory but highly recommended. If you are unable to attend, then you are responsible for obtaining and understanding the rules and any changes that may take place.

WEIGH-IN: Weigh-in opens Saturday, February 17th at SEA HAG MARINA, 322 Riverside Drive, Steinhatchee at 2pm. Weigh-in will close for all anglers at 3pm. You can trailer to the weigh-in. Walk-ups will be accepted. You must be in line with your fish and ticket by 3pm.

PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: You are permitted to travel anywhere and as far as you like.

TACKLE & EQUIPMENT: Artificial lures or live bait may be used. Spearfishing or gigging will not be allowed. All fish must be caught on rod and reel.

PROTESTS: The Tournament Committee will settle any Protest. The Tournament Committee’s decision is FINAL.

By purchasing a ticket you here by affirm that you have read and understand all tournament rules and that you will abide by all decisions made by the tournament rules committee. The tournament committee is not responsible for accidents or injuries received as a result of participating in this tournament.