



Mobile Bay Kayak Fishing Association  
10th Annual 5 Rivers Kayak Fishing Tournament Rules

1. Participation and Eligibility. Participation is open to anyone 18 years of age or older. Minors are eligible to participate with a parent or legal guardian signature on the release form. A completed entry form, waiver, and entry fee must be received no later than the published entry date. All participants represent that they are physically and mentally competent and fit and able to participate. By entering, all participants agree to assume all risks of personal injury, death, and damage to or loss of property and further agree to indemnify and hold MBKFA, its officers, members, agents, and sponsors harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, and causes of action resulting directly or indirectly from participation.

2. Pre-Registration And Captains Meeting. The registration fee for this event is set at \$50. Registration will be open through the Captains Meeting, Friday, October 27th at 6:30pm. Tournament fees will be accepted via PayPal on online registration form. Attendance to the Captains Meeting is NOT MANDATORY for all contestants. If a contestant is unable to attend the Captains Meeting due to special circumstances, they must pre-register and complete a waiver prior to being allowed to participate. The Captains Meeting will be held at Bass Pro Shops in Spanish Fort at 6:30pm

3. Safety. Safe boating must be observed at all times. During competition each contestant is required to comply with US Coast Guard and Alabama State Regulations including the possession of a PFD and sounding device. If you find yourself in an emergency situation please call 911 or channel 16 on a VHF radio. If you plan to launch your vessel before sunrise or low visibility situations, you will be required to have a white light producing device capable of producing a 360 degree visual signal to avoid collision with other vessels as defined by USCG regulations, however no line shall be in the water until 6am.

4. Lines in the water at 6:00AM. You are permitted to paddle/pedal to your destination prior to 6:00AM, but do so at your own risk. It is advised to use a light on your kayak and/or follow your local laws in regards to this prior to sunrise.

5. Weigh In. The weigh in station will be operational between the hours of 3:00pm to 4:00pm on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Any anglers in line at the weigh-in station at Café Del Rio in Spanish Fort, AL at the 4pm cutoff time will be allowed to weigh in their catch. If an angler arrives after the 4:00 pm deadline, the catch will not qualify. There will be no exceptions to the rule. Official time will be kept by the Tournament Director and/or Weigh master at the weigh-in station. Anglers are strongly urged not to wait until the last minute to submit their catch for weigh-in.

**All Competitors MUST WEIGH IN THEIR OWN CATCH**

All competitors must check in with legal fish (Alabama Fish and Game Regulations) to be eligible for fishing prizes. All fish submitted for weigh-in must be fresh and caught that tournament day. The weigh masters will make decisions on accepting fish for weigh-in, their decision is final. Any attempt to enter fraudulent catch, tamper with catch, or to hamper or threaten any official of the tournament will result in immediate disqualification and shall receive a lifetime ban from MBKFA tournaments. Only authorized persons will be allowed in the stations. Fish will be weighed in the order in which they are checked in. You may wish to provide ice and a cooler to keep your fish fresh. All weighed fish will be notched to indicate the fish has been processed at the weigh in station. The largest fish will be determined by weight. In the event of a tie, the first fish entered will be considered the winner, and the other will be dropped to the next position.

NOTE: No one besides the Director and/or Weigh Master will be allowed behind the weigh-in table area. No sponsor or fishing participant shall touch fish once it is handed over to Weigh Master. Violation to this rule will disqualify the fish from entering in the contest.

6. Communications. The use of mobile communications (cell, FM, VHF) is allowed and encouraged. Due to the lack of radio devices, the primary mode of mobile communications will be cell phones. The command post will be located at Café Del Rio, located on Battleship Parkway, 1175 Battleship PKWY, Spanish Fort, AL 36527. Command Post telephone numbers may be issued at the Captain's Meeting.

7. Sportsmanship. All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation. Any use of drugs, participation in criminal activities, or other conduct reflecting unfavorably upon our efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition, and/or compliance with tournament rules are grounds for immediate disqualification and return of any prizes awarded.

8. Permitted Fishing Methods. All fish must be caught via hook and line. The selection of baits is up to the discretion of the participant. All fish must be caught from the kayak, canoe or other paddle craft. No wade fishing or shore fishing is permitted unless the kayak is tethered to the angler. For the purpose of eligibility of this tournament no angler is allowed to have lines in the water prior to 6:00am.

9. No Motors. The use of a boat or motorized water vehicle to transport your boat on the water (mothership) is prohibited. All craft must be powered by human effort-no motorization or engines are allowed. Canoes and paddle vessels other than kayaks are permitted. Consideration will be given to special needs, disabled, or handicap participants who apply for a waiver prior to the event.

10. Fishing Locations. Fishing boundaries are Alabama state lines. This includes all public waters between. Fishing in private waters, i.e. ponds, etc. will not be permitted.

11. Other. During competition contestants may not obtain or receive assistance including but not limited to following a non-competitor's boat, the placing of markers by a non-competitor, being towed or riding motorized vessels, or receiving electronic, voice, or data communications from non-competitors. All USCG and Alabama Fish and Game regulations are in effect at all times.

12. Scoring. Fish must be compliant with the Alabama Fish and Game Commission regulations to count. In the event of a tie the entry checked in earliest will be declared the winner. The tournament director is responsible for the final call in all matters. All fish must be caught using hook and line method.

13. Tandems/Sharing. It is permissible for more than 1 entrant to share the same paddle vessel. However each paddler/angler must be a registered participant.

14. Protest. All protest must be made in writing and delivered to a tournament official within 30 minutes of the check-in time. The tournament director is the final authority in all considerations.

15. Release of Liability and Covenant Not to Sue. A waiver, release of liability, and covenant not to sue are part of the entry form. It is required that all contestants take responsibility for themselves while participating in event activities.

16. Rule Changes. Rules interpretation is ***Exclusively*** left to the Tournament Director. The decisions of the Tournament Director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.

17. Weather Cancellation. In event the tournament director deems conditions unsafe for the tournament to proceed on October 28th, a tournament make-up date will be announced.

#### Categories:

Inshore Slam (Redfish\*, Specked Trout, and Flounder)  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Places

Individual Categories for each inshore species.

Redfish\*  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Places

Speckled Trout  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Places

Flounder  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Places

Leopard Redfish\*  
1st Place Only

Bass  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Places

Women's Division (Any Female 13yrs old or older participating in the general 5Rivers Tournament)  
Aggregate weight of 3 fish of any of the following species. Speckled Trout, Slot Redfish\*, Flounder. (Limit of 1 slot Redfish per participant)

Flounder Jackpot (\$10 Entry) Winner takes all

Children's (Must be under 12 day of Tournament)  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd Places

3 (or less) heaviest fish. Any combination of the following species: Speckled Trout, Redfish\*, Flounder, White Trout or Bass. ONLY ONE REDISH IS ALLOWED in aggregate.

**\*SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT REDFISH:**

All Redfish submitted for entry into the tournament will be measured to ensure compliance with the Alabama Game and Fish Commission Rules and Regulations for "Slot" size. Alabama Slot is 16" to 26".

All Redfish submitted will be measured by "Pinched Tail" method. Any Redfish which touches the 26" mark with pinched tail will be disqualified from the competition.