

15th ANNUAL NCBBA RED DRUM TOURNAMENT

October 23-26, 2024

JUDGE INSTRUCTIONS

The NCBBA Red Drum Tournament is a competition in the following fish categories: Red Drum, Bluefish and Sea Mullet.

All Red Drum must be released alive to qualify in the tournament.

1. Completing Judge/Angler Forms

- Clearly print your Name, Cell number, Date and Shift on your Judge Score Sheet
- Judge Score Sheet must be completed for each fish registered. Filled out by Judge and signed by Angler
- Judges must sign the Angler Score Tracking Sheet, so the Angler also has a record of their entry
- All Judge Score Sheets must be returned to HQ ASAP after shift even if no fish were measured
- Recorded time of catch on Judge Score Sheet breaks all ties
- Official time caught is when the Judge arrives at site to measure fish

2. Keeping Fish

- Angler may keep a slot size Red Drum, do not score it. **It will not count in tournament.**
- Angler may keep a Bluefish or Sea Mullet, but the judge must **clip the Pectoral fin** (pair of fins usually situated behind the head, one on each side).

3. Measuring/Scoring Fish: All fish must be measured to be eligible.

- Once the Longest Sea Mullet and Bluefish for Tournament and Youth categories is known, there is no need to measure any fish less than that size. However, all Red Drum must be scored.
 - Judge needs to witness fish being returned to ocean
 - All measurements are tail length
 - Measurements will be in quarter inch (1/4") increments
 - Round down to nearest quarter inch i.e., 20 7/8 inch would be recorded as 20 3/4 inch
 - When length is determined, ask Angler if they agree. If not accepted by Angler, call HQ.
4. **How To Measure:** Place the nose/mouth of the fish against the stop on the zero side of the board. With head against the stop, squeeze the tail and swipe it across the measuring end. The longest measurement achieved in this fashion will be the official measurement.

5. Minimum Sizes for Tournament:

Red Drum	Minimum length 18 inches	Record <i>all</i> 18 plus inch drum
Bluefish	Minimum length 16 inches	
Sea Mullet	Minimum length 14 inches	

6. Rover Responsibilities

- Judge should call Rover anytime you are asked to measure more than one fish at a time
- Rover must step in to assist if Judge is handling multiple fish

7. Answering Judge Phone

- Judge should answer the phone with "This is Ramp xx Judge. Do you have a fish?"
- Get location North or South of ramp, get approximate distance from entrance, and have them turn on flashers

8. Calling HQ

- Call if Angler does not agree with measurement
- Call if any fish is of suspicious nature
- Call if your next shift judge is not there within 15 minutes of shift change
- DO NOT call after midnight for fishing reports, only call if there is a problem

9. Cell Phones

- Please keep personal cell phones on in case there is a question about the returned score sheet
- NCBBA cell phones should only be used for tournament or emergencies and not personal use

10. Shift Change

- Never relieve a judge early
- Call HQ if the next shift judge is not there within in 15 minutes of shift change
- Transfer cell phone and chargers, judge flags, clipboards, and measuring boards at ramp entrance on the beach
- Judges MUST return Judge Score Sheet (regardless of whether fish are caught or not) to HQ ASAP after shift**
- Shifts ending at midnight will have an alternate location to drop score sheets

11. Saturday 6AM to Noon Judge Responsibilities

- Call HQ with fish count
- Pick up all NCBBA tournament signs on your ramp and return them to HQ with score sheet, cell phones and chargers, judge flags, clipboards, and measuring boards. Please do so ASAP so final scoring can be completed.