

FLORIDA FLY-ROD CLUB
TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Adopted May 6, 1975)

(Revised through March 2000)

1. Only members of the Florida Fly-Rod Club may enter intra-club tournaments for trophies and awards. Guests may enter in competition other than for club trophies and awards.
2. Types of tackle:
 - a. Fly rods, fly lines and fly reels only.
 - b. Artificial lures only.
 - c. Waders are permissible, if desired.
 - d. A legal fly is defined as a lure designed for fly fishing and suitable to be cast and false cast. Jigging is prohibited, i.e., fishing a jig without cast and retrieve.
3. Boats and Motors:
 - a. All boats must meet standard safety requirements of the State of Florida and the United States Coast Guard.
 - b. Litter bags should be carried and used. No litter shall be thrown into the water or deposited ashore except in a trash receptacle.
 - c. Electric motors are permitted, but trolling is prohibited.
4. Tournament Committee:
 - a. The Tournament Committee shall consist of five members. The club Vice President shall be the Chairman, he will be joined by the Mr. Flyrods from the Masters and Sports Division. The Vice President will select a member at large from each division to complete the committee. Appointees must be members in good standing.
 - b. The Tournament Committee shall be responsible for the enforcement of the club Tournament Rules. They shall assess the appropriate penalty for rules infractions. Individual members may appeal the penalties if they so desire to a Board consisting of the four Club officers. This Board has the authority to override the Tournament Committee. In carrying out these duties, the Tournament Committee or members of the committee shall:
 - (1) Develop a list of all members fishing in each tournament. It shall be the responsibility of each member to contact the Tournament Committee and ensure he is listed for each tournament.
 - (2) Start the Tournaments.

- (3) End the tournaments and account for all members.
 - (4) Conduct the weigh-in.
 - (5) Examine the fish for legality.
 - (6) Record the weights.
 - (7) Provide the tournament standing to the club Officers.
- c. The Club Secretary, or designee, shall maintain the overall aggregate weights for the yearly awards. The Tournament Committee shall also maintain original tournament records to be used in disputes.
 - d. The Vice President (i.e. weighmaster) is custodian of the club's scales and other measuring equipment, and is responsible to have them available as required at all club events.
 - e. The Tournament Committee is responsible for the selection of sites, dates, and times for tournaments.
 - f. The Committee shall present to the membership for acceptance at the February meeting each year a yearly schedule of tournaments. Said plan as to the second half of the tournament year shall be reviewed by the club at the August meeting at which time the membership shall adopt or reject the schedule for the second half of the club year.
 - g. The selection of sites should be made such that the tournaments shall be a enjoyable event to the largest number of members possible.
 - h. In selecting sites and times, they shall consider the following factors:
 - (1) Past history of tournaments.
 - (2) New sites not previously fished.
 - (3) A variety of times of the month and days.
 - (4) A variety of Saturday, Sunday, two-day and split tournaments.
 - (5) Distance of travel to the sites compared to expectations.
 - (6) Desire of membership as recommended to the committee members by club members.
 - i. The Committee shall assure the selected site is fishable and has adequate ramp and parking facilities.
 - j. The Tournament Committee has the authority to change sites and times if unusual conditions occur. They are further responsible to notify the membership of any such changes.
 - k. The Tournament Committee shall plan and schedule special events such as Buddy Tournaments, Boat Tournaments, etc. These plans shall be presented to the membership for acceptance in a timely manner.

1. The Tournament Committee shall make a report at each regular meeting, detailing any problems with the last tournament, current conditions for the next tournament, and planning for other events.
5. Unless changed by a club vote, no boat will leave the water to be trailered to another location after the start of a tournament; however, passage through canals or rivers to another body of water is permitted. A contestant may not carry or drag his boat over dry land to a fishing spot.
6. No contestant will be permitted to fish within 50 yards of any marina nor within 50 yards of any other contestant's boat, whether in the boat or not. First man in an area has legal right to that area. Provided, however, that when two boats, fishing an area as permitted above, approach each other from different directions, they may fish until they meet and pass, providing that they do not linger and fish at the meeting point for an appreciable period of time.
7. Wading is permitted in waters where safe depths are available, if desired. Boat partners must fish a reasonable distance apart but within sight and talking distance.
8. In recognition of the responsibilities, liabilities and investments of boat owners, the boat shall be under their direction and control at all times with seating arrangements as they may desire in this connection. The man fishing from the front of the boat shall show good sportsmanship by spacing his casts so as to offer equal undisturbed water to his fishing partner. The boat owner shall insure that his partner is equipped with an approved life preserver prior to take off. The partner shall reimburse the owner for a share of the expenses of boat expenses as agreed to by both parties.
9. Tournaments may be shortened or lengthened prior to start by a unanimous vote of all present at the tournament at the start of the tournament.
10. A tournament may be postponed or cancelled due to inclement weather only by an unanimous vote of officers and tournament committee members present, and two-thirds of the members present.
11. Measurement of a contestant's fish may be called for by any member present.
12. Fish only are to be weighed - no bags, stringers, etc.
13. All participants must start and end a tournament from the same location unless changed by club vote.
14. Members who do not have boats or members who desire not to enter a boat in a tournament will be paired with members who have boats available. An effort will be made to pair members with different partners to promote the exposure to new or different techniques/flyes.
15. Scoring:
 - a. Any legal fish caught with approved tackle may be included in the tournament score.

- b. Scoring shall be determined by weight allocated to Pan Fish, Bass and Total Weight.
- c. Scoring shall be limited to a total of twenty fish of any species of club recognized game fish with a maximum of five bass included.
- d. Each member is encouraged to fish with different partners during the tournament year.
- e. Two day tournaments shall be organized so that each day is counted as a tournament with awards for each day, unless designated as a pm/am tournament.
- f. Tournament awards shall be as follows: First, second and third place trophies will be awarded. Except that, if a member has previously received a trophy for that place, he shall only be awarded an engraved plate.
- g. All legal freshwater panfish shall be 7 inches in length and a legal freshwater bass shall be 14 inches in length, unless the area to be fished has specific regulation in which case the club as a whole will determine the regulations for that tournament pursuant to all state , and or federal, regulations. Total length is measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail with the fish laid flat, mouth closed, and tail lobe pressed together.
- h. Striped bass, Peacock bass and Sunshine bass within legal size and bag limits shall be counted a bass for awards purposes but shall not be included in the largemouth bass bag limit (5).
- i. Shad, Pickerel, Catfish and exotics shall be treated as game fish for awards purposes, but not as panfish.

16. Penalties:

- a. Contestants who fail to appear at the official check-in site at the predetermined check-in time will be penalized 10 percent of total weight and an additional 10 percent of total weight for each minute late.
- b. In the event of an emergency resulting in late return to the check-in site, all members involved in the emergency shall be allowed to weigh their fish for the tournament and have same included for annual awards purposes, provided that a majority of the tournament participants determine that such an emergency existed.
- c. A member shall be penalized 10 percent of his total legal catch for each undersized fish brought to the weighmaster.

17. Yearly Awards:

- a. The club will recognize winners in the following categories:
 - (1) Mr. Flyrod in both Masters and Sports divisions.
 - (2) Mr. Panfish in both divisions.
 - (3) Mr. Bass in both divisions.

- b. No member may win more than one of the above awards. In the event of a tie, Mr. Bass will be recognized above Mr. Panfish.
- c. Awards will be based on the members ten (10) best tournaments in each category.
- d. Additional Awards
 - (1) the club will also recognize the big fish of the year in the following categories:
 - . bass (largemouth)
 - . speckled perch (black 'crappie)
 - . bream (bluegill)
 - . shellcracker (red eared sunfish)
 - (2) In the event that a member catches a fish during a regular tournament which exceeds the club record, the club will pay for the mounting, up to \$150.00. This will cover the complete cost at Brown's Taxidermy in Port Canaveral.

Addendum

FLORIDA FLYROD CLUB

Division Into Two Classifications: Master Anglers And Sports Anglers

(Updated July 1993)

Master Angler

Anyone who won the title Mr. Flyrod, Mr. Bass or Mr. Panfish prior to the 1988 fishing year will be permanently classified as a Master Angler. Anyone who won, or wins, the title of Mr. Flyrod in the Sports Division will also be permanently classified as a Master Angler.

Anyone who feels that they have the ability or desire to compete at this level, and have not met the criteria as outlined above, may choose to declare themselves Master Anglers for the purpose of competition. However, if a member declares themselves into the Master's division they are required to compete at this level for the entire year. They may move down to the Sports Division provided that they win no more than two monthly tournaments or any of the major yearly awards in the Masters Division.

Sports Angler

Anyone who does not meet the qualification of Master Angler as outlined above will be placed into the Sports Angler Division.

New Members:

New members will be classified by the Tournament Committee. Consideration shall be given to the following:

- Recommendation of nominating member.
- Knowledge of new members ability.

New members who were mistakenly placed in the Masters Division by the Tournament Committee would be allowed to move down in class after having fished, unsuccessfully, in five (5) tournaments. Their weight will move with them and be considered in the Sports Angler Division for the purpose of annual awards.

Yearly Trophies

Big fish awards will be at the club level, with no differentiation made for class.

Master Angler Division:

- Mr. Flyrod
- Mr. Panfish
- Mr. Bass

Sports Angler Division:

- Mr. Flyrod
- Mr. Panfish
- Mr. Bass

FLORIDA FLYROD CLUB

New Division: Golden Angler Division

(Adopted unanimously April 4, 1995)

The Golden Angler Division of the Florida Flyrod Club shall be established starting with the 1995 club year. It shall be in addition to the Master Angler and Sports Angler Divisions. The following rules shall apply:

1. Golden Angler Tournaments shall be open to all members and invited guests, however guests shall not be eligible for club awards.
2. The Tournament Committee shall select six tournament dates for the Golden Angler Division.
3. The tournament hours shall be 3:00^{PM} until sunset (as determined by Florida Today) during daylight savings time and 2:00^{PM} until sunset during Eastern standard time. Tournaments will held on the first Thursday following our monthly meeting.
4. The Golden Angler Tournaments will be held at Lake Poinsett unless changed by a majority vote of the membership. Weigh-in will be a Bourbeau Park.
5. The club's tournament rules shall apply to Golden Angler Division Tournaments including but not limited to bag limits, size limits, waters available for fishing and penalties.
6. There shall be an award presented to the winner of each Golden Angler Tournament and there shall be an annual award for Golden Angler Mr. Flyrod, Mr. Bass and Mr. Panfish. No member may win more than one award and the order of preference shall be:
 1. Mr. Flyrod
 2. Mr. Bass
 3. Mr. Panfish

The annual award shall be based upon the member's total weights for all six tournaments. There shall be no dropping of weights or tournaments.

7. There will be no annual awards for "big fish" in the Golden Angler Division. Also, fish caught in a Golden Angler Tournament will not be considered for annual "big fish" awards.