



## EVENT RULES

1. **MSC's "No Guide Rules" apply.**
2. **Captains:** Captains must be MSC members and can be male or female. Captains are responsible for the safety of their passengers and have overall command of their vessel. Captains are requested to maintain contact with other anglers by monitoring Channel 78. Additionally, the **Captains meeting will be on Sunday, March 3<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm at the Sand Bar.** Anglers are welcome to attend.
3. **Fishing days:** Monday, March 4 to Saturday, March 9, 2024. *Participants may choose to fish ONE of these days.* Whichever day is chosen, the Captain w/team name needs to text "FISHING TODAY" by 9 am on that day to 218-742-2527. It's not your official start time, just letting us know that that's your day of fishing.
4. **Event hours:** Captains may choose up to *any* 6 hour time period on any day to fish. A fish hooked at the end of that 6 hour window may be fought, landed, and measured.
5. **Fishing License:** A State of Florida saltwater fishing license is required. A license may be obtained at Ace Hardware Stores, Walmart, local marinas and on the FWC website. **PLEASE NOTE** - To keep a legal size Snook a Snook Permit must be purchased with your FL saltwater license. You may catch, measure and release a Snook without a Snook permit. *If you are a Florida resident and are over 65, you do not need a fishing license or a Snook permit. However, you are required to have proof of residency and age such as a driver's license*
6. ***ALL NON-MEMBER ANGLERS AND CREW*** are required to have a signed and dated **WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION** form on record for those on board a boat on any day of the event. Forms can be emailed by request or are available from Cathy Erickson 218-742-2527 or Peggy Alcott 609-230-6047. Any questions are welcomed.
7. **Backwater Fish Species:** For this event, participants will target the following backwater fish species by size: **Mangrove Snapper, Lane Snapper, Black Drum, Redfish, Sheepshead, Snook, Spotted Seatrout, & Pompano; Categories 1-6 on the tally sheet.** These fish species caught should be identified, measured, photographed and recorded on the official tally sheet. *An undersized fish is eligible to be measured and recorded but must be released alive.*

There are **additional categories 7 & 8.** Category 7 is for **Whiting, Silver Trout, Lizard Fish, Jack Crevale, and Tarpon;** Category 8 is for **Catfish, Ladyfish, Mackerel, and Shark.** These species are counted only by the number caught – they do not need to be measured or photographed.

8. **Fishing Boundary: MSC Backwater boundaries apply.** The approved fishing area are the backwater boundaries established by the MSC Fishing Committee:  
*Northbound:* Gordon's Pass *Westbound:* three nautical miles into the Gulf including Gullivan Bay *Eastbound:* west of US Highway 41. *Southbound:* For this specific fishing event, the South boundary will be Camp Lulu. Fishing for *Baiting Beauties II* is allowed around Camp Lulu, but not past it. **Once past Camp Lulu you are in Everglades National Park – the Park is out of bounds.**
9. **Leaderboard Fish and Fish-of-the-Month (FOM):** Any fish caught by female participants that are eligible for entry in the MSC Leaderboard or Fish of the month (FOM) *must* be aligned along a ruler with the entire fish visible and photographed as required by MSC rules.
10. **Measurements and photos:** Measurements and photos of fish caught by female participants will be the responsibility of the Captains and will follow appropriate FWC regulations. *Please ensure that all undersized fish that are measured are released alive!* Measurements are to be recorded in ¼ inch intervals on the official tally sheets. Circle the largest fish of each caught fish species. **Again, categories 7 & 8, described previously in #7 above, need only to be counted and NOT measured or photographed!**
11. **Reporting:** Completed tally sheet information along with corresponding photos for Categories 1- 6 must be emailed to Cathy Erickson at cme714@gmail.com by 9 PM on your day fished. Cathy will reply back “email received”. If you do not get a response, please call, 218-742-2527.
12. **Awards:** An awards picnic will be held rain or shine at Sarazen Park on Sunday, March 10th at 4:00 p.m. Awards are determined on longest length of fish measured with a corresponding photo for each fish entered in categories 1-6 described previously in #7.  
  
There will be one award each for categories 7 and 8 described previously in #7. For these categories, NO MEASURING OR PHOTOS required only a combined total number caught. In the event of a tie, awards will be combined and split.
13. **Inclement Weather:** Safety is paramount for all MSC sanctioned events. Captains will be responsible for monitoring the weather conditions on their chosen day of fishing. **If the weather on either day of fishing is deemed by NOAA to be unsafe and Small Craft Advisories or Warnings are issued, no fishing will be allowed until these weather alerts are lifted or expire.**
14. **Miscellaneous:** Bring your hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, drinks and snacks. Most of all enjoy your day on the water and the company of great friends. Our MSC Captains are the best. This event would not be possible without their participation, their love of fishing and knowledge of the water. We wish you a fabulous fishing day and wonderful memories of the *Baiting Beauties II* fishing event! GOOD LUCK!! And go get em!