



## **2023 NFGFC Rules**

### **Membership Rules:**

There is a \$50.00 annual NFGFC membership fee required per family.  
**(Living under the same roof)** Membership is required to participate in all NFGFC Events.

(1 tournament annually for non-members to evaluate for membership, \$45 entry fee + \$5 for non-member fee (total \$50), \$50 membership fee will be deducted from any winnings)

### **Tournament Rules:**

1. One team member must be at least 18 years of age. All members of a registered team must fish from the same vessel. 4 person limit.
2. Kids 15 and under fish for FREE !
3. Entry fees for each angler with current membership are \$40, this includes all side pots.
4. Angler Of The Year will be determined by the most points accumulated from all 2023 NFGFC Tournaments.

1st-100 points  
2nd-99 points  
3rd- 98 points

Continue minus 1 point for the number of participants...

1 point for Big Trout  
1 point for Big Red

Awarded for 8 of the 9 Tournaments.... November's tournament is for top 5 teams, the winner takes ALL this tournament. Points are cleared and the winner gets the full prize amount.

50 points for showing up at weigh in, no fish necessary. After all 8 Tournaments the lowest scoring Tournament will be considered a drop, and that score will be deducted from the total to determine your final score.

Tie breaker for Angler of the Year- Biggest Trout of the year,  
2nd Tiebreaker-Big Red, if needed

5. All entry fees must be paid through the NFGFC by 12 Noon the Friday before the tournament. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that they are registered on time by confirming with a Club Officer!

6. Entry fees are non-refundable. The only exception to this is in the event that a tournament is postponed or canceled by the Tournament Director/President/Designee.

7. In the event a tournament is canceled due to unforeseen or small craft advisory circumstances, it **may** be rescheduled by the Tournament Director/President/Designee.

8. The Tournament Director/President/Designee reserves the right to make all decisions regarding the safe operation of a tournament.

9. Each captain is responsible for the safe operation of his or her vessel and must comply with all federal and state regulations governing such operation.

10. Tournaments **ARE ramp Specific**, you may **ONLY** launch at ramps provided in the schedule and tournaments will begin at safe daylight, as determined by the Tournament Director/President/Designee. Anglers may launch their boats before safe daylight but **idle only** until 30 minutes before sunrise. This time will be posted on bigbendfishing.net and/ or NFGFC Facebook Page, and any team that goes on plane before the designated time will be disqualified.

11. Tournament conclusion time will be 3:30 p.m. At least one member from each team must check in and sign in on the provided sheet with the Tournament Director/President/Designee by this time. Any team that checks in late will be penalized as follows: .5 lbs per minute up to 15 min, over 15 minutes late - disqualification and no credit for the day's catch

12. Each team is allowed to weigh a legal Florida limit of SLOT trout, 15 inches minimum and the tail touching no more than the front side of the 19 inch line. Heaviest bag weight will determine 1st, 2nd, 3rd place categories. Redfish side pot will be determined by the heaviest fish in that category. Only fish of legal harvest size, according to State law, will be accepted at the weigh in. Any fish that is brought to the scales to be measured and is deemed to be either under or over the slot limit, the entire team will be disqualified from the tournament. Repeat offenses risk being removed from membership in NFGFC.

13. Only recreational limits may be kept during tournaments, 5 trout per person and 1 legal redfish. So if you are a solo fisherman and choose to keep your trout over 19 inches you will only be allowed to weigh in 4 legal trout as any trout over 19 inches will be considered a BIG TROUT and those will only be measured by length via photo with timestamp. Commercial limits are not allowed. No gigging or wade fishing. If a member of any team has to leave the boat for any reason **all fishing must stop** until they are back in the boat. Example: pushing off of a sandbar.

14. All measurements by the Club will be done using a NFGFC provided Check-It-Stick. Fish will be placed in the V of the ruler belly down, closed mouth and tail pinched to maximum length. Any angler may use the ruler to measure their own fish, prior to 03:30pm but no courtesy measure will be provided.

15. Only fish taken by hook and line are eligible for weigh in. **Artificial ONLY...!!**

## **PHOTO RELEASE OF BIG TROUT**

**No trout over 19" inches will be measured at weigh in PERIOD!!!!**

**Violation of this rule will forfeit all winnings and points for that tournament.**

**All club members who wish to enter the BIG TROUT POT will be required to utilize a club poker chip given to each team and your own personal Check-it-Stick for measuring/photographing of your Big Trout prior to its release.**

**A club poker chip will be given at captain's meeting prior to the tournament with sign up as well as a predetermined location so that you may pick up the morning of, and the location will be given to you via text message to the team in need.**

**It will be the responsibility of the team to ensure the photo captures the fish's mouth closed and touching the 0"inch end of the "Check-it Stick", and where the UN-PINCHED tail falls on the measuring device with the clubs poker chip. It will be the responsibility of the team to ensure the photo "CLEARLY" depicts this information when taken, and if not, the photo will not be accepted as well as returning the club poker chip at weigh in.**

**All ties based on length of fish will be decided based on the timestamp of the photo. If the photo does not have a timestamp it will not be accepted for the Big Trout Pot. All pictures will be judged by (1) club member throughout the year with (1) alternate if needed for consistency throughout the year. All final decisions are made by the club's President and if not present, will be determined by the chosen club member and will be the final decision!!**

16. All weights are final. Fish will not be weighed more than once.

17. In the event of a tie for the combined weight slot trout, the tie will be broken by the weight of the teams largest trout. 2nd tie breaker, 2nd largest trout and so on.

18.) Any protest will have a \$250 cash fee, if a protest is awarded so will the protest funds...

18. No team may approach another team on the water any closer than 100 feet unless under mutual agreement by both teams. Common courtesy should always be used anytime operating near other boaters.

19. All participants must possess a valid Florida Saltwater Fishing License.

20. No alcohol consumption during and up until weigh @ 03:30 pm. This is a family oriented club. All team members are expected to conduct themselves in a safe, courteous and professional manner at all times. The Club Officer will have the final say in all conduct matters.

21. The Club Officers may implement additional tournament specific rules and restrictions for individual tournaments. Entrants are responsible for understanding rules for each tournament.

HAVE FUN AND BE SAFE!!

Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sign \_\_\_\_\_

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