

# 2019 Tampa Bay Spearfishing Challenge

## REGISTRATION & WAIVER

**This Waiver must be filled out completely. Please note that there are absolutely no refunds, for any reason. Personal information (phone, email, etc.) is only for use by the Tampa Bay Spearfishing Club (TBSC) for safety and registration reasons.**

I am over the age of 18. If not, my legal guardian authorizes my entry in this tournament in writing below. I hereby acknowledge that if weather conditions turn to small craft advisories or small craft warnings, it is my responsibility to monitor weather radio and seek safe harbor if conditions warrant. I understand that the TBSC and the Florida Skin Divers Association (FSDA) may use photographs of me or my fish to promote spearfishing and the tournament, and I agree to allow said use without compensation. I have read the rules of the tournament and I agree to abide by these rules. I hereby acknowledge that I am aware of the dangers involved in boating, breath-hold diving, scuba diving, handling all types of fish, and spearfishing in general. I am aware that these activities require physical exertion and stress. I am aware that the boat captain is responsible for the safe operation of the boat and the safety of the passengers therein. I am participating in these activities with the full knowledge of, and the acceptance of all the risks these activities entail, and the dangers involved. I am voluntarily participating in this tournament. I willingly agree to accept the risk of injury, disability, physical and/or emotional suffering, property damage and/or death to others and myself. **I agree that I, my survivors, beneficiaries, heirs and personal representatives, will not and may not seek any compensation, damages, legal costs, or expenses, including attorney fees, from the TBSC, TBSC officers, TBSC members, Ferg's Sportsbar & Grill, FSDA, FSDA officers, the FSDA member dive clubs, the dive club officers, their members, or any FSDA individual members, Aquatic Obsessions, and Wonderful Water Scuba and their employees and officers, all TBSC and FSDA volunteers and any and all sponsors and advertisers of this tournament for any injury, property damage, or death, suffered by myself or others as a result of my participation in this spearfishing tournament.**

### Please Print Clearly & Make a Copy of the Completed Form for Your Records

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's or Parent's Driver License (needed to validate Registration Info)

DL # \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Dive Club (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

**Check Each That Applies:** Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Freediver Only \_\_\_\_\_

Mixed Pair \_\_\_\_\_ Mixed Pair, Teammate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Other Divers on Boat: 1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Each person that signs below is affirming that he/she has read this complete Waiver and agrees to ASSUME ALL THE RISKS INVOLVED in this activity. Furthermore, by signing, the participant states that he/she understands this Liability Waivers, agrees to its terms and signs of his/her own free will.

**Participant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnessed By** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

\*If entrant is a Minor, Witness must be an adult and a Parent/Legal Guardian must sign below.

**Parent or Guardian's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness For Parent** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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Please Print Clearly on this Registration Entry Form

*\*This form must accompany Tournament Waiver*

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>One FREE Long-Sleeve Performance Shirt for all those who preregister (Early Registration ONLY!)</b> Circle size wanted:    S    M    L    XL    2XL	
<b>Extra Tournament Collector's T-shirt:</b> Limited Supply, So Order Now. Circle size wanted:            S    M    L    XL    2XL Quantities of Each Size:        _____ <b>Extra Tournament Collector's T-shirt (per shirt)-----\$20</b>	\$
<b>Tampa Bay Spearfishing Challenge Tournament Rates</b>  <b>Early-Registration:</b> Postmarked, Received or Online <b>by May 15<sup>th</sup></b> Adults ----- <b>\$80</b> Junior Division (ages 12 through 17) ----- <b>\$65</b>  <b>Regular Registration:</b> Postmarked, Received or Online <b>after May 15<sup>th</sup></b> Adults ----- <b>\$100</b> Junior Division (ages 12 through 17) ----- <b>\$75</b>	\$
The TBSC & the FSDA strongly encourages all spearfishermen to support fairness in fisheries management by joining the <b>Florida Skin Divers Association</b> or <b>Fishing Rights Alliance</b> or contributing to the <b>Diver's Rights Fund</b> .  I want to join the <b>Fishing Skin Divers Association</b> ----- <b>\$25</b> I want to join the <b>Fishing Rights Alliance</b> ----- <b>\$35</b> I want to contribute to the <b>Diver's Rights Fund</b> ----- <b>\$15</b>	\$
Please circle one, and if paid by check write in the check number Cash    or    Check # _____ <b>Total Paid-----\$</b>	\$

**Mail the Waiver and Registration Entry Form with bank check (don't mail cash) to:**

Tampa Bay Spearfishing Club,  
 6193 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33710

For questions or to get your confirmation of your mailed registration call (727) 344-3483, from 11am-7pm on Monday through Saturday.

**\* Absolutely No Refunds Permitted For Any Reason\***

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## TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

*Dates: June 7-9<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> (Rain Dates: June 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>)*

- 1. Safety First:** This is a recreational event. Do not push your training limits or violate safe practice. The TBSC & the FSDA recommend that no competitors exceed the recreational diving limit of 130 feet of salt water.
- 2. Tournament Kickoff Party:** The Kickoff Party will be held Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30pm until 10pm at [Ferg's Sports Bar & Grill](#) (St. Petersburg, FL). This is an open event hosted by the TBSC to welcome all participants and the community as a whole to have some fun and festivities prior to the competition. The Kickoff Party is also an opportunity for participants to complete an Early Tournament Registration.
- 3. Early Registration:** Early Registration may be completed online at [TournamentHub](#), in person at [Aquatic Obsessions Scuba](#) (St. Petersburg, FL), or during the Tournament Kickoff Party. All registration forms must be completed with accompanying Tournament Waiver & Registration and tournament fees, and be postmarked or hand-delivered to the TBSC via one of the aforementioned options by Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm to be eligible.
- 4. Early Registration Bonus:** A FREE Tournament Collector's Performance Shirt (long-sleeve) and special discounted tournament entry rate are offered to any participant who registers early (reference Registration Form for details).
- 5. Early Registration Confirmation:** To confirm that a participant's mailed Early Registration form was properly received, each Early Registered participant may call (727) 344-3483 from May 15<sup>th</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>. This confirmation will allow every participant with Early Registration to rest assured that his/her paperwork has been received and is in proper order.
- 6. Weather Determination:** The weather call will be made after the morning report on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. The decision for tournament execution will be based on the issuance of a Small Craft Advisory by the NOAA National Weather Service for the zone consisting of coastal waters from Englewood to Tarpon Springs out to 20 nautical miles (NOAA Site). If a Small Craft Advisory is issued, the tournament will be moved to the Rain Date (Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>). Regardless of the weather decision, each tournament participant is responsible for their own safety and the Captain of each vessel is responsible for the safety of their crew. No fish, trophy, or prize is worth your life.
- 7. Captain's Meeting (Final) Registration:** Starts at 7:00pm on June 7<sup>st</sup> and concludes at 8:00pm. This will be the final chance to register for the tournament. If turning in a Registration Form for someone on your boat, please ensure every part of the Tournament Waiver & Registration Form is accurately completed (*No Exceptions*)! The Captain's Meeting and Final Registration will be held at [Aquatic Obsessions Scuba](#) (St. Petersburg, FL).
- 8. Mandatory Diver's Check-In:** At least one Representative Diver from each boat must be present at the Diver's Check-In Meeting held during the Captain's Meeting to represent himself and those on his/her boat. This allows the Representative Diver for his/her team to acquire verify tournament entry paperwork, acquire mystery tickets and shooter's bags, witness the official tournament time, and be privy to any last minute rule changes. To ensure a smooth acquisition of your teammate's paperwork at the Diver's Check-In make sure your teammate has confirmed receipt of his/her registration (Rule #5).

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- 9. Captain's Meeting:** Starts at approximately 8:05pm. The Final Registration, Diver's Check-In Meeting, and the Captain's Meeting will be held in succession from 7:00pm to 8:30pm on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. This will take place at [Aquatic Obsessions Scuba](#) (St. Petersburg, FL). The TBSC will host satellite Captain's Meetings in other locations throughout Florida. For additional information on satellite locations contact the TBSC at (727) 344-3483.
- 10. Official Entry & Eligibility:** No diver is officially entered in the tournament until the TBSC has received a properly filled out Waiver and Registration, and all fees are have paid. Waiver & Registration are completed by using this form and submitting to the TBSC by mail or in person, or online at [TournamentHub](#). All participants must possess a valid Florida Saltwater Fishing License.
- 11. Rule Changes:** The TBSC reserves the right to make any last minute rule changes at the Captain's Meeting. This is one reason why at least one Representative Diver is required to attend the mandatory Captain's Meeting.
- 12. Tournament Spearfishing Day:** The Spearfishing Day is Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, with the tournament officially beginning at sunrise and concluding at sunset. The Rain Date for the tournament is Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, sunrise to sunset. *There will only be one Rain Date for this tournament.* If the original date is moved to the Rain Date and the Rain Date is deemed unsafe to dive, the TBSC will still host the prize selection, raffles, and festivities on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 13. Scoring/Points:** The tournament participant must choose which fish to weigh-in prior to arriving at the Weigh-In stage. Tournament officials will not weigh fish individually, to determine for the participant, which fish is the largest. Each participant will receive one (1) point per pound and five (5) points per fish weighed. There is a point limit per fish of twenty (20) points for weight and the five (5) points awarded for the fish, with a maximum total point limit per fish of twenty-five (25) points. Lionfish receive only five (5) *bonus* points per fish weighed with a maximum of ten (10) total bonus points for Lionfish. Tied scores will be broken by dividing the participant's total fish weight by the number of fish with the winning honors going to the higher score. Any further requirements for the resolution of tied scores will be at the sole discretion of the TBSC Officers.
- 14. Weigh-In:** The Weigh-In will take place on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, at [Ferg's Sports Bar & Grill](#) (St. Petersburg, FL). All participants' fish must be in the Weigh-In line *no later than 12:00pm (Noon), No Exceptions.* The Weigh-In will open at approximately 10:30am.
- 15. Awards:** Trophies and prizes will be awarded on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, after the Weigh-In, and once the scoring calculations are completed. The 1<sup>st</sup> Place Shooter (participant with the highest aggregate score) will get the 1<sup>st</sup> Place Trophy and the next subsequent four top-finishers will receive trophies for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place. Trophies will also be awarded for the top aggregate scoring *Junior, Female, Freediver, and Mixed Pair, along with the Largest Fish per Category, and Most Lionfish.* If two participants are tied for Largest Fish per Category or Most Lionfish, the tiebreaker will go to the participant with the highest aggregate tournament score. Any further requirements for the resolution of tied scores will be at the sole discretion of the TBSC Officers.
- 16. Prizes & Mystery Tickets:** Each participant will receive ONE (1) Mystery Ticket along with his/her Shooter's Bag at the Captain's Meeting. This ticket will provide each competitor a chance to win one of the prizes donated by the Tournament Sponsors. These prizes are a bonus for the participants and the amount and type of prizes are dictated by the generosity of our Sponsors, and are randomly picked via a drawing. *The Top Five Aggregate Shooters will have first picks in tournament ranking order from the prize table*

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*in lieu of a Mystery Ticket.* The remainder of the tournament participants will pick prizes in random order via the drawing of Mystery Tickets. Every participant will have an opportunity to pick a prize. All the prizes will be worth a retail value of at least \$60. Participants must be present to accept a prize.

- 17. Junior Division:** This division is comprised of participants aged 12 (minimum tournament age) to 17 years old. Junior competitors must be certified divers and have a signed release from their parent or guardian. As with the adult participants, Junior participants should not exceed any depth or dive in any conditions that they are not officially trained or certified to handle. Furthermore, all Junior participants should be properly supervised by an Adult. A trophy will be awarded to the Junior participant with the highest combined aggregate score, however, all Juniors participants compete for all other awards and prizes with the adult competitors.
- 18. Mixed Pair Division:** This division is comprised of a two participant team who are diving from the same boat or the same shore dive area. Two types of dive teams may constitute a Mixed Pair, either an adult male and adult female or an adult of any gender and a minor of any gender. Trophies will be awarded to Mixed Pair team with the highest combined aggregate score.

**19. Eligible fish:** Categories, size, and quantity allowed as follows:

Category	Minimum Size	Maximum Quantity
Grouper / Mackerel	24" Gag (Overall) 20" Red (Overall) 16" Scamp (Overall) 22" Other Groupers (Overall) 12" Spanish & Cero (Fork) 24" Kingfish (Fork)	(2) Grouper and/or Mackerel
Snapper	10" Grey/Mangrove (Overall) 16" Red, Mutton, Cubera (Overall)	(3) Snapper
Hogfish	14" (Fork)	(3) Hogfish
Sheepshead / Porgy	12" (Overall)	(3) Sheepshead and/or Porgy
Jack	24" African Pompano (Fork) 14" Permit (Fork) 14" Jack Crevalle (Fork) 14" Almaco Jack (Fork)	(1) Jack species
Cobia / Barracuda	33" Cobia (Fork) 28" Barracuda (Fork)	(1) Cobia or Barracuda
Lionfish	<i>No minimum size</i>	(2) Lionfish ( <i>for points*</i> )

\*Despite only two lionfish counting towards tournament points, all participants are encouraged to harvest as many lionfish as possible. The TBSC sponsors various marine conservation organizations and charities whose representatives will be present to take scientific samples and/or accept all lionfish as charitable donations. Additionally, a lionfish trophy will be awarded to the participant who harvests the most lionfish.

**20. Fish Eligibility:** *All participants must follow and abide by all local, State, and Federal laws.* All fish must be legally taken and landed by the participant who is awarded the points. The use of Powerheads is prohibited. *All fish must be physically present in the Weigh-In line by 12:00pm (Noon) on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, for tournament eligibility.* Each participant's fish must be presorted, fully and properly gutted, on individual stringers, and well iced. All fish turned in must be in a clean and whole condition (*minus the*

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*removal of guts*) and have all appearances of freshness. Fish that are shorter than State/Federal size regulations or that do not appear to be well iced and look fresh as per the judgment of the tournament Weigh Master, cannot be weighed, or if already weighed, can be disqualified. Only one participant of a tournament boat is required to weigh-in the fish for any fellow members of his boat. If a participant is weighing-in fish for a teammate, he/she must know the teammate's full name.

- 21. Fish Donation:** The TBSC will be collecting donated fish for local charities and community support programs. To incentivize donations, two (2) Fish Tickets will be given for each donated Grouper, Hogfish, and Snapper, and one (1) Fish Ticket will be given for each donated fish from all other categories/species minus lionfish. During the Awards Ceremony, the TBSC will conduct a raffle using the Fish Tickets and award a specialty prize to the participant with the winning ticket. This prize will be exhibited at the Captain's Meeting and the Weigh-In.
- 22. Disqualification:** Any cases of cheating or unsportsmanlike/unethical behavior will result in a disqualification from this tournament and possibly all future tournaments. A failure by the participant to have his/her fish present in the Weigh-In line by 12:00pm (noon) or presenting a fish for weigh-in that is less than the minimum eligible size is cause for automatic disqualification of that participant from the current year's tournament. All official times and requirements shall be reiterated at the Captain's Meeting and managed by the TBSC President.
- 23. Protest:** Any participant may file a protest with the TBSC Offices prior to the start of Award Ceremony. All protests will be resolved by the Tournament Committee consisting of the current TBSC officers; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Development. *All decisions from the Tournament Committee shall be made in a timely manner and will be final in judgment.*

<b>TBSC Officers</b>	
<i>President</i>	<i>Cameron Vale</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Craig Canavaugh</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Dave Graham</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Bill Hardman</i>
<i>Director of Development</i>	<i>Jim Brennan</i>

[www.TampaBaySpearfishingClub.org](http://www.TampaBaySpearfishingClub.org)