

2022 GRAND TRAVERSE SALMON CLASSIC (G.T.S.C.) OFFICIAL RULES

Boat Tournament/Anglers - This is a 'boat tournament' with no limit on the number of lines in the water. Official rules will be distributed at the registration and announced at the captains meeting. Only captains, mates and anglers will be allowed on the boat, unless approved by the tournament director. All anglers must have a valid Michigan DNR fishing license. The tournament organizer reserves the right to deny the entry of any applicant into the tournament. A mate can 'hook and hand off' the rod after setting the hook, but must hand off the rod within ten (10) seconds of touching it - thereafter, only the angler can touch the rod. Anyone can net fish.

LADIES division – The entry fee of \$275 for the half-day Ladies Division provides entry for one team of up to six (6) anglers. Captain's meeting Thursday, Sept. 8 from 5 – 7 PM at the Clinch Park Open Space.

AMATEUR Division - \$300 entry fee for the 2 day AM Division provides entry for one team of up to six (6) anglers. There is also a \$250 optional Calcutta entry (pays 50%/25%/15%).

PRO Division - The entry fee of \$500 for the PRO Division provides entry for one team of up to eight (8) anglers. There is also a \$500 optional Calcutta entry (pays 50%/25%/15%). Charter boats must fish in the Pro division and can fish with charter customers during the tournament until lines out, or until their passengers disembark (whichever occurs first). Open to professionals and recreational anglers. The term professional shall be defined as any individual who derived their income from actively engaging in the act of fishing in the past three summers within the waters of the Great Lakes, such as a full or part time captain or mate. The following individuals shall not be deemed professional under these rules: licensed captains and mates who do not derive their principal income from fishing and who do not actively engage in fishing as their primary occupation, and/or tournament promoters. Any questions arising as to any applicant angler being a professional angler as defined under these rules and regulations shall be resolved by the tournament organizer. All decisions by the tournament organizer in regard to the determination shall be final, binding and non-appealable.

Captain/Rules Meeting – Final tournament registration will be from 5 to 7 PM on Friday, Sept. 9, 2022, followed by a final-rules briefing from 6 – 7 PM at Traverse City's Clinch Park Open Space (East lot) at the NE corner of Grandview Parkway and Marina Drive/Union St in Traverse City. At least one angler must attend the meeting (if one does not attend, they accept and agree to be bound by all instructions and/or rule changes made orally or in writing during that meeting).

Fishing Times - Lines In will be at 6:30 AM each day, and Lines Out will be at 12:30 PM each day (10:30 AM for the Ladies). You may fish until the announcement of Lines Out on VHF station 68. You must call in any fish hooked up after 12:15 PM to the tournament control channel 68. Any fish called in before 12:30 PM may be fought to the conclusion (catch, release, lost, etc.) and may count towards your aggregate weight and largest salmon. Any fish hooked after 12:30 PM will not be eligible to weigh-in. Tournament officials will donate all fish caught on Saturday, September 10th to the Father Fred Foundation; tournament boats will keep all of the fish caught on Friday, Sept. 9th and Sunday, Sept. 11th.

IGFA Rules – International Game Fish Assn (IGFA) general angling and tackle rules apply in this tournament unless otherwise stated. It is the responsibility of each team and crew member to know, understand and abide by IGFA and tournament rules during this competition. Any angler who breaks these rules are subject to expulsion and disqualification, without a refund of any registration fees. Only fish caught on rod and reel from a motorized vessel will qualify. No lines are permitted in the water prior to the start of fishing. Anglers may be required to take a polygraph test. Exceptions to IGFA rules: Braided/copper/wire and lead line up to 50 lb test is permitted, as are meat rigs w/ treble hooks. There is no limit to the length of the handle on a fishing net or gaff. The line after a dipsy-diver is considered main line and not a leader.

Fish Conservation – Only trout longer than 24” may be weighed (you will not be penalized for under sized fish), and we encourage you to release trout under 23” and small salmon.

Weigh In - The angler must furnish, upon request, the lure, leader, line, hook, rod, reel and terminal tackle with which the fish were caught. **In order to win a largest salmon prize category, all fish over 30 pounds must be recorded live on video (Go Pro, cell phone, etc.) with a date and time stamp** (video with live fish continued with shot of your GPS or another cell phone showing the date and time).

Rule Decisions - The GTSC Tournament Director has the right to: investigate and act upon any incident occurring during the tournament; disqualify any catch following examination; change the rules; and/or change starting and finishing times for any reason it deems necessary. Refusal to allow the Director to examine any tackle, line or leaders will result in immediate disqualification from the event without a refund of any registration fees. All decisions of the tournament Director are final and non-appealable.

Fishing Boundary – Ladies/Amateur teams must fish South of the 45th parallel in East/West GT Bays. Pro boats must start/finish (lines in & out) South of the 45th, but may fish anywhere in Lake Michigan.

Weather - The tournament is conducted on a “fish at your own risk” basis, although if weather conditions warrant a change, the tournament Director may halt/delay/cancel fishing. If any three hours or more of the tournament is fished after “lines in” is called over the two days, then prizes will be awarded.

Protests - Participants may lodge protests against any catch which they believe was not made in accordance with these rules. All protests must be stated in writing and accompanied by a \$200 fee, which is refunded if the protest is upheld, otherwise the fee is forfeited. The tournament officials may call a protest hearing in their discretion; a protest hearing is not guaranteed. All protests will be settled on the day of the incident. All protests must be in the hands of the tournament's designated rules official by 2 p.m. on the day of the alleged incident. The protesting party, as well as the accused team members, captain and crew, must be present at any official protest hearing. If the protesting or protested team fails to show up for the protest hearing, that team forfeits its right to submit evidence. Decisions of the Tournament Director with regard to all tournament rules are final and non-justiciable.

Sportsmanlike Conduct - All participants are expected to maintain a reasonable and sportsmanlike demeanor at all times during the tournament. Unsportsmanlike or threatening conduct towards any angler or tournament organizers, or any other behavior which the tournament organizers deem inappropriate, will result in immediate disqualification of the entire team with no refund of entry fees.

Scoring – Coho salmon, chinook salmon, lake trout, brown trout and steelhead caught in the tournament may be weighed towards total aggregate weight (1.00 point per pound), plus 10 bonus points per fish.

Two payouts on largest salmon (Pro and Am):

-  The boat's 4 largest salmon and 1 legal trout of any size are eligible to be weighed in on each day towards the aggregate weight/total points prize money in the Ladies, Pro and Am Divisions.
-  There is a \$1,000 prize for the largest salmon for the Pro Division, and \$500 for the Am Division; \$10,000 for the largest salmon over 33 lbs or \$25,000 for the largest salmon over 39 lbs.
-  Winners payouts based on a minimum of 10 Ladies, 16 Pro and 16 Amateur entries, respectively, otherwise a pro-rated share of payouts shall be made per division (i.e. if only 9 boats in the Ladies Division, payout goes down 10% based on minimum of 10 boats needed for full payout).

MISC. Parking/Food/Drink/Shirts - Parking is available near Clinch Park's Open Space at public parking lots across Grandview Parkway, and at the boat launch/parking lot in Clinch Park (NO PARKING in the Clinch Park Season Slip Lot, which is East of the GTSC tent). GTSC shirts may be for sale at \$20 each. Award Banquet entry is included for each boat/team (spouses and children welcome).

Captain's Signature (agreeing to all terms above) _____