



9th Annual Gulf Coast Reef Hunter Spearfishing Tournament 2019

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our 9th Annual Gulf Coast Reef Hunter Spearfishing Tournament!

The tournament includes an awards banquet that is open to shooters and unlimited guests!

In addition to category awards, drawings will be held throughout the night for some great door prizes. Friends and family are encouraged to attend.

KEY EVENT SUMMARY OF DATES/TIMES:

Discount Entry and T-shirt cutoff date: 14 Aug

Cpts Meeting (mandatory) at Discovery Dive World: Fri, 13 Sep at 6:30pm

Weigh-ins at The Wharf 850 Waterfront restaurant: Sat, 14 Sep from 1:00 to 5:00pm

Awards Dinner (same location): Sat 14 Sep at 6:00pm

Wx Backup date: Sun, 15 Sep (all times and locations remain the same).

TOURNAMENT TEAM

Here is our tournament team. Please feel free to call or email them about any questions you may have.

Position	Person	Contact
Tournament Director	Robert Provost support@discoverydiveworld.com	850-678-5001, or 800-224-3483
Tournament Coordinator	Bryan Kennington support@discoverydiveworld.com	850-678-5001, or 800-224-3483

TOURNAMENT DATES, LOCATION AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The mandatory Captain's Meeting will be held the night prior to the event **at Discovery Dive World** and will serve a couple of purposes... a last minute Question & Answer session regarding rules, as well as late registration and a weather update. ***Last minute rule changes can be instituted at the Captain's meeting.***

The tournament will be held **Saturday, September 14, 2019**. Participants can start shooting upon sufficient light. Weigh-ins will be allowed from 1:00pm until 5:00pm. Participants may shoot into the afternoon but their vessel must be in the weigh in area **by 5:00 PM**.

Weigh-In Location: The Wharf 850 Waterfront Restaurant

Address: 821 Bayshore Dr, Niceville, FL 32578 Phone: 850-500-1234

Dock Coordinates: N 30°30.773', W 086°28.947'

Awards and trophy presentations will commence at 6:00pm at weigh-in location. The presentation ceremony is a public event. Bring Friends and Family! There will be plenty of room and plenty of food!

TOURNAMENT PACKAGE

For each person registered, you will be provided a tournament package. It will include your Annual GC Reef Hunter Spearfishing Tournament T-Shirt (if registered by 14 Aug) and a wrist band entitling you to the dinner buffet. Rules will be available upon request for those who do not have them by then.

FORMAT

The tournament format is an individual competition. All applicants must be over the age of eighteen (18) years old, with the following exception: Juniors 16 years old and above may register for the event only with the signature of a consenting parent whom is their dive partner during the event.

The fish categories are Snapper, Grouper and Amberjack.

Fish will be measured by weight (gutted).

Additional categories include Freediving and Warrior competitions, both of which will be opened at the discretion of the tournament director, based on number of registered participants.

Shooters must register either as a free diver or scuba diver. Divers that wish to participate in both categories must complete a separate entry form, waiver and pay an additional entry fee. **Fish that are harvested as a freediver are not eligible to compete in any other category.** No rebreathers are allowed.

THE COMPETITION

Each shooter can have only one fish recorded for each fish category. Shooters will be allowed to weigh in up to two (2) fish per category if they cannot easily predetermine which one weighs more. The heavier of the two fish will be the recorded entry. Biggest fish in each category is the winner of that category. Runner-up will also receive an award for 2nd place in each fish category.

The Snapper, Grouper and Amberjack categories will render two (2) awards each: a champion and a runner-up.

The Freediving and Warrior categories will render one (1) award to the champion.

Juniors must participate in the event as a dive partner with their parent (or legal guardian) and have parent's (or legal guardian's) signature on the waiver of liability to participate. This signature must be notarized or witnessed by the tournament director or the tournament coordinator.

PRIZES AND TROPHIES

Snapper CHAMPION	Trophy plus TBD
Snapper Runner-up	Medal plus TBD
Grouper CHAMPION	Trophy plus TBD
Grouper Runner-up	Medal plus TBD
Amberjack CHAMPION	Trophy plus TBD
Amberjack Runner-up	Medal plus TBD
Warrior CHAMPION	Trophy plus TBD
Freediving CHAMPION	Trophy plus TBD

RANDOM DRAWINGS THROUGHOUT THE AWARDS PRESENTATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SCUBA GIFT PRIZES!

FREEDIVING COMPETITION

This category will be open for competition if, and only if, three (3) or more freedivers register in this category. **Freediving is an exclusive registration.** Fish harvested while freediving may not compete in any other category. Any legally harvested species of fish is allowed for weigh-in. Biggest fish (by weight) is the winner of the freediving category.

WARRIOR COMPETITION

This category is uniquely open only to active duty military personnel, active members of the USCG or the Guard/Reserve components. The award will go the biggest fish OF ANY SPECIES that is legally harvested by spearfishing in accordance with the rules of this tournament. The fish may be harvested either as a free diver or using scuba equipment. Biggest fish among our military brethren is the rule, even if the fish qualified for an award in another category.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the tournament includes the following:

- **Shootout Competition for awards as listed**
- **Registration goody bag**
- **Buffet Dinner provided by The Wharf 850 Waterfront restaurant**
- **Tournament T-shirt (if registered by 14 Aug)**
- **Random prize drawings throughout the evening**

Individual Competition registration is \$45.

Registration after 14 Aug is \$50.

Junior Registration is \$40.

Registration after 14 Aug is \$45.

Registration Forms and Release and Waiver Forms are available online at www.discoverydiveworld.com or at Discovery Dive World.

All participants will need to submit a signed GCRH Release and Waiver Form no later than the close of the Capt's Meeting. Juniors will be required to have the GCRH Release and Waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian. This signature must be notarized or witnessed by the tournament director or tournament coordinator.

Contact Bob or Bryan at 850-678-5001.

WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE

All weigh-ins will take place at The Wharf 850. To get your fish weighed, your boat must be inside the docking area no later than 5:00 PM on the day of the tournament.

The Award Ceremony and Trophy Presentation will follow the Saturday weigh-in at the same location .

When you arrive in the weigh-in area:

- All fish must be gutted and cleaned of debris. Un-gutted fish will not be weighed. There is a filet table is open to participants. Participants presenting any catch that does not look fresh or appears to have been taken with an explosive device will result in disqualification. Participants weighting fish (lead, ice, rocks, etc.) will also be disqualified.
- Only fish meeting the current state, federal and local saltwater fishing and spearfishing regulations in the Snapper, Grouper and Amberjack categories will be weighed, except for the Warrior and Freediving category, which can be any fish that is legally harvested by spearing. Fish will be weighed using OUR measuring device.
- You must select your own fish to be weighed. The weigh-master will not assist you with this decision.
- Measurement of fish for pre-qualification will be based on the current measurement to fork or overall as required by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- The Wharf 850 is the only weigh-in location for the tournament. Fish must be weighed during the designated timeframe window on Saturday, 14 Sep (from 1:00pm to 5:00pm). Fish must be speared during the specified timeframe of the tournament.

ADDITIONAL RULES

- 1) All adult contestants must be 18 years of age or older, and have signed Gulf Coast Reef Hunter Release and Waiver Form to participate in the tournament. All juniors, ages 16 to 17, must have the Gulf Coast Reef Hunter Release and Waiver Form signed by a supervising parent or legal guardian, notarized or witnessed by the tournament director/coordinator.
- 2) All Florida and Federal rules, size limits, license requirements and bag limits strictly apply.
- 3) No rebreathers are allowed.
- 4) Any contestant possessing or weighing in an undersized (illegal) fish will be disqualified.
- 5) No boat may approach without permission within 300 feet of a boat, anchored or not, flying the "Divers Down Flag" or "Alpha Flag"
- 6) All contestants and boats must possess all proper safety equipment, Coast Guard equipment, First Aid kits and VHF radios as required by state law.
- 7) In order to be eligible, fish must have been caught by the contestant using a spear loaded or propelled by his or her own muscle power. No power heads are allowed.
- 8) By entering this tournament each contestant has given implied and expressed rights and consent for Discovery Dive World and The Wharf 850 to use his or her name, and or likeness to promote any current and future efforts, events or promotions.
- 9) Decisions, interpretations and disputes of all these rules will be discussed and decided upon by the Tournament Directors. Contestants are responsible for knowledge of any and all rules and amendments to the rules, which will be discussed at the Captain's Meeting to be held on Friday, September 13, 2019 at 6:30pm at Discovery Dive World. The Tournament Directors decisions are final.
- 10) Reimbursement of Tournament Fees paid can occur up to, but not within, 30 days prior to the event.

- 11) In the case of inclement weather or excessive sea conditions, the back-up date for the tournament is the following day. All tournament events planned for 14 Sep will be held exactly 1 day later than originally planned. This slip decision is at the discretion of the tournament director and will be announced at the mandatory Captains meeting. Fees are non-refundable within 30 days of the primary scheduled tournament date.
- 12) If the tournament cancels due to inclement weather on both possible tournament dates, entrants will receive their goody bags and T-shirts at the Capt's meeting in accordance with the stated registration deadlines. Dinner will be served at The Wharf 850 on the day of the tournament (Saturday or Sunday, as announced).
- 13) Although unlikely, the changing regulations set by the FWC may require the tournament director to declare a different species of fish for one or more categories. The Captains meeting will announce any final changes.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

We reserve the right to disqualify individuals for suspect fish, unsportsmanlike conduct, or disruption. If you have a dispute, we will do everything possible to address it. We just ask for courtesy, and your participation in this event means that you will accept the committee's majority decision in a respectful manner, without further recourse.

Summary of Important Location and Contact Summary Information:



DISCOVERY DIVE WORLD
92 S John Sims Pkwy
Valparaiso, FL 32580
www.discoverydiveworld.com
850 678-5001
800 224-3483
Fax: 407 641-8025

THE WHARF 850 WATERFRONT RESTAURANT
821 Bayshore Dr.
Niceville, FL 32578
Dock Coordinates: N 30°30.773', W 086°28.947'
850 500-1234

Good Hunting and Good Luck!