

Hook 'Em for Heroes Fishing Tournament 2026

Rules and Regulations

- A registration fee of \$100 is required by every angler to participate in the tournament. Registration can be completed online (preferred) or on site at the captain's meeting. Registration will end at the completion of the captain's meeting with **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Anglers will compete in 3 separate categories:
 - Adult division: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each category.
 - Ladies' division: heaviest fish overall any species.
 - Youth division: 12 and under for the biggest fish overall in any allowed species (Red Fish, Speckled Trout and Triple Tail) and will be awarded places 1st – 5th.
- By registering you have read and agreed to all the rules of the Rodeo and therefore will be eligible for prizes.
- Fishing will begin at 12:01 am on September 12th.
- The tournament scales will be open on Saturday, September 12th at 3:00 PM and close promptly at 6:00 PM. Anglers must be in line and documented by 6:00 PM, **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Closure of scales will be announced by Weigh Master.
- Fishing boundaries include east of the west bank of the Mississippi River as it flows to the Alabama line. If caught outside the boundaries you will be disqualified.
- Anglers may fish from any port, pier, or marine craft and transport their catch to the scales by any means of transportation. Under no circumstances will fish that have been frozen by any means be accepted.
- The fish with the heaviest weight will determine the winner. In case of a tie, the first fish weighed in will be determined by the winner.
- Only one (1) Fish per category, per contestant, can be entered. Allowed species consist of:
 - Speckled Trout minimum total length 15"
 - Red Fish slot size 18" to 30"
 - Triple Tail minimum total length 18"
- Each angler must possess the proper as required SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE and all state FISHING REGULATIONS of size and creel limits must be observed. Please do not bring in an illegal fish to weigh in, PLEASE MEASURE TWICE.
- All fish must be caught on a Rod and Reel or Bamboo pole only. Fish caught by bicycle rigs, spears, gigs, traps, nets, harpooned, loaded or any other entangling device will be disqualified. Any fish intentionally caught by snagging or foul hooking, improperly gaffed, gutted, cast/gill/shrimp netted, caged, boxed/slat trapped, or mutilated will not be accepted for entry.
- Ladies Category for the biggest overall fish (Red Fish, Speckled Trout and Triple Tail).

- All fish must be in an acceptable condition. The Weigh Master or its designee reserves the right to reject any entry because of poor condition, mutilation or being frozen. The condition of the fish will be solely left up to the discretion of the weigh master
- All fish weighed may be subject to random gutting, failure to allow tournament to gut a fish will result in disqualification of the fish in question.
- Participants that enter the Hook 'Em for Heroes Fishing Tournament at their own risk: neither the Hook 'Em for Heroes Fishing Tournament, the individual tournament(s) within the tournament nor any Director, Coordinator, or any person associated with the shall be held liable for any injury, harm, or negligence to any person for any reason.
- All fish entering the rodeo site will become property of the Hook 'Em for Heroes Fishing Tournament and placed on public display throughout the event for as long as determined by rodeo staff.
- Any protest must be made within 30 minutes of closing the scales. The protest must be submitted in writing and directly to the weighmaster.
- All winners are subject to a polygraph at the discretion of the tournament board members. If the polygraph is refused for any of the prizes, the fish will be disqualified!

ALL DECISIONS OF THE WEIGHMASTER WILL BE FINAL! THE CONDITION OF ALL FISH AND ALL COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE MSDSFR WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE FINAL DECISION OF THE WEIGHMASTER.

✦ Captains Meeting: Friday, September 11, 2026, at 6pm ✦ Tournament Day: Saturday, September 12, 2026, starting at 12:01am — Scales open 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM at Nine Toes Brewing Company - Winners announced at 7pm