

SSWA Angler of the Month Contest Rules

The SSWA Angler of the Month Contest is a monthly competition in which **all members of the SSWA can participate for free.** There is no need for registration, **every member is automatically registered.**

The competition starts at 12:00am of the 1st day of the month and ends at 11:59pm of the last day of that month, unless otherwise designated by Tournament Director.

Each month, there will be 4 eligible species. Every month there will be 4 species they are: Trout, Redfish, Flounder, and Sheephead.

Prizes: Prizes will be awarded for the “BIGGEST” fish of each species. In addition, a drawing will be held from all submissions for the month – the winner will receive a prize. Winners of big fish for the month are not eligible for the drawing. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days. Unclaimed prizes will be awarded to youth members at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

The size of the fish will be determined by “total length” of the fish per SC DNR regulations. Remember these fish can be bigger than the slot limit; you want to catch the biggest fish possible for that species! All submissions must be photographed clearly against a ruler, as described below.

Eligible Waters: Fish must be caught in public waterways in South Carolina. Private property, landlocked ponds or anywhere not accessible by the general public are not eligible. Out of state catches are not eligible.

Tournament Director will be in charge of the competition and will be in charge of rulings regarding winners. The SSWA Board of Directors will arbitrate and handle appeals when and where necessary.

In addition to the prize, **anglers will also accrue competition points.** Biggest fish of a species receives 6 points and all other submissions receive 3 points for posting fish during the month. **You can only receive points for one fish per species per month.** Anglers are able to upgrade their fish during the month, however, points for only the longest fish submitted by an angler will be awarded. At the end of the year these points apply **towards SSWA Youth and Adult Angler of the Year.** To qualify as “Youth Angler”, the member must not be older than 16 on December 31. The winners will receive a prize to be determined.

All entries need to be emailed to the club tournament account sswacpr@gmail.com. Only the entries that are posted to this address will be considered as entries for the competition. To qualify, all entries **MUST** be photographed clearly against a ruler. The ruler must have contrasting scribe lines so the length can be determined by the Tournament Director. The entire fish must be within the photo to be eligible.

Total length for the purpose of the contest is with relaxed fish (not tail pinched). The Tournament Director shall have final say in adjusting official length for cases of poor quality photographs.

The following tips will help you measure your catch. It helps to have a measure-stick at the ready. These consist of an accurate ruler with a 90-degree stop on one side. The fish is pressed nose first to the 90 deg stop. The tail should fall on the ruler for easy determination of length. A photograph should be taken from directly overhead such that the nose is clearly at 0, and the tail and ruler are in focus. Sometimes it may help to take several photos to ensure that you get a good one. Below is an example of a good picture.



Professional Guides cannot enter a fish into the competition that was caught while fishing with clients.

The rules of the SSWA Angler of the Month Contest will be evaluated by the Tournament Director and SSWA Board of Directors on a regular basis and may be adjusted when appropriate to encourage fairness of competition and club participation.