

Summerville Saltwater Angler Tournament Rules

- Angler of the Month tournament is free to enter by all paid members.
- All SSWA tournaments are Catch-Photo-Release:
 - Anglers will receive a unique identifier at the beginning of the month via email and it will be posted on the SSWA Facebook page.
 - This word or phrase must be visible in the photo of the fish being submitted. Suggest writing this word or phrase on a piece of paper, and then placing that in a Ziploc bag that can be kept with your fishing gear.
 - THE IDENTIFIER WORD or PHRASE MUST BE VISIBLE IN YOUR PICTURE!
 - All entries need to be emailed to the club tournament account sswacpr@gmail.com by the last day of the month. 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 and/or Tournament Committee.
 - The entire fish must be within the photo to be eligible. Total length is with tail pinched.
 - The Tournament Director shall have final say in adjusting official length for cases of poor quality photographs.
 - In the case of a tie, the first entry submitted will be the tiebreaker.
 - Tips to measure and photograph your fish:
 - Have a ruler ready, preferably one with a 90-degree stop on one side.
 - The size of the fish will be determined by “total length” of the fish per SCDNR regulations.
 - SCDNR Total Length:
<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/fishregs/measure.html>
 - TL = total length measure: Tip of snout to tip of tail (excluding filaments). Tail should be pinched.
 - Place the nose of the fish on the 90-degree stop.
 - A photograph should be taken from directly overhead such that the nose is clearly at 0, and the tail and ruler are in focus.

- Below is an example of a good picture with Identifier available:



- Species and Points:
 - The four target species are trout, redfish, flounder, and sheephead.
 - The largest fish of each target species will be the winner of that species for the month.
 - Top 5 submissions for each target species, will receive points based on their placement.
 - 1st Place: 10 Points
 - 2nd Place: 8 Points
 - 3rd Place: 6 Points
 - 4th Place: 4 Points
 - 5th Place: 2 Points
 - All others: 1 point
 - Prizes will be awarded for 1st place fish of each category.

- Points will accumulate throughout the year to determine the club's Male, Female, and Youth Angler of the Year Award.
 - Youth – Ages 17 and under
- Points will be tallied up every month and posted on the SSWA website.
- Species of the month will consist of a specific species selected the previous month by the SSWA Board. Points for Species of the Month will be applied to Angler of the Year totals (prizes will not be awarded monthly for Species of the Month).
 - 1st Place: 15 Points
 - 2nd Place: 10 points
 - 3rd Place: 5 points
 - All others: 1 Point
- FISHING RULES: The tournament will be fished consistent with and enforced pursuant to the laws of the state. Any violation of South Carolina State Statute will result in the disqualification for the angler. It is the responsibility of the anglers to review South Carolina State Statutes, S.C. Wildlife Commission Laws. Since this is a Catch-Photo-Release tournament, OVERSLOT and UNDERSLOT fish are eligible to be entered, but must be released alive. All vessels shall be equipped with the minimum United States Coast Guard requirements for that vessel.
- SPORTSMANSHIP: All anglers will exercise good sportsmanship, safety, and courtesy whether at dock, under way or fishing. Remember these tournaments are for FUN!
- BOATING SAFETY: While operating, moored, anchored, fishing, safe boating practices shall be adhered to at all times.
- AUTHORIZED FISHING TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Live or cut bait and artificial lures are permitted in the tournaments. All fish must be caught on rod, reel and line. Snatching with multiple hooks, gigging and using multiple hooks (Treble Hooks) with any natural bait is prohibited. Treble hooks are permitted for lures only.

Rules as of February 14, 2019

- **FISHING HOURS:** The tournament will start on the first day of the month. All submissions must be received at sswacpr@gmail.com by 11:59pm on the last day of the month or it will not be recorded as a tournament catch for that month.
- **REQUIREMENT FOR ELIGIBLE FISH:** Eligible fish must be caught fresh within the stated boundaries throughout the tournament. SSWA encourages catch and release after photographing your catch. If not practicing catch and release, then fish must be of legal state length.
- **FISHING BOUNDARIES:** Anglers may fish anywhere on waters accessible to the public. Anglers may not enter waters deemed closed by South Carolina Department of Natural Resources or are private.