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GROUPER CHALLENGE
ENTRY FORM 2015

Thank you for entering the 2015 Grouper Challenge. The tournament will start with a mandatory Captain's Meeting on October 30th at 6:00 pm. This is a Captain's Choice Tournament with each boat/team selecting up to three (3) declared fishing days between October 31st and November 15th, 2015. By registering, all participants acknowledge that they understand and agree to abide with the tournament rules and any additions to them (which are located on the official tournament website: www.grouperchallenge.com and Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/GrouperChallenge) with final rules announced and distributed at the Captain's Meeting.

Important Dates: Captain's Meeting – October 30th, 6:00pm

Fishing Date Range – October 31st to November 15th

Entry Fees and Levels:

Level 1: Heaviest 3 Grouper from a single day's fishing. Any legal combination of (Red, Gag, Scamp). Mandatory.

- ☐ $250.00 - Postmarked or hand delivered by July 1st, 2015
- ☐ $325.00 - Postmarked or hand delivered by October 21st, 2015
- ☐ $400.00 After October 21st, 2015 and up until the end of the Captain's Meeting

Level 2: Heaviest single fish from any declared fishing day. Optional (Must enter Level 1)

- ☐ $50.00 - Triggerfish - Gray (Balistes capriscus)
- ☐ $50.00 - Bee Liner/ Vermilion Snapper (Rhomboplites aurorubens)
- ☐ $50.00 - Silver Snapper/Pinky (Pagrus pagrus)
- ☐ $50.00 - Hogfish (Lachnolaimus maximus)
- ☐ $50.00 - Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata)
- ☐ $50.00 - Greater Amberjack (Seriola dumerili)
- ☐ $250.00 - ***ALL six (6) Level 2 Categories above.***

Tournament with Tournament: Heaviest single fish from any declared fishing day. Optional (Must enter Level 1)

- ☐ $100.00 - Gag Grouper (Mycteroperca microlepis)
- ☐ $100.00 - Scamp Grouper (Mycteroperca phenax)
- ☐ $100.00 - Red Grouper (Epinephelus morio)

☐ **Total Entry Fee Paid.** Checks payable to Saltwater University, Inc.

2015 SALTWATER UNIVERSITY, INC.'S GROUPER CHALLENGE

Boat/Vessel Name: _____ Vessel Make/Model:_____

Boat/Vessel Size (length):_____ Home Port: _____

Prize Money Recipient/Paid to: _____

Address: _____

Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID:_____

Captain's Name: _____

Address: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

Crew #1: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

Crew #2: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

Crew #3: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

Crew #4: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

Alternate Crew: _____

Mobile Phone: _____ Email:_____

I, as entrant do hereby RELEASE, DISCHARGE, and HOLD HARMLESS Saltwater University, Inc., the Grouper Challenge, their officers, directors, and sponsors, whether individual or corporate, from any claim for damages to my person or property incurred by my participation in the Grouper Challenge Tournament. This release applies to members of my crew and all parties fishing from my boat.

By signing the entry form and paying my entry fee, I acknowledge that I have read this release and am bound by same. This release shall also be binding on my heir, executors, administrator, or assigns.

I further do hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules of the tournament and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions contained therein.

Signature: _____ Date:_____

Mail Form and Payment to:
Saltwater University, Inc., 205 Dowitcher Drive, Hampstead, NC 28443

OFFICAL RULES: (subject to modification until the end of the Captain's Meeting)

PURPOSE: This tournament has been designed, and it's intent, is to allow the many great Grouper anglers of our region to test their skills against others in a level, fun, honest, and rewarding environment. This tournament is largely based on the honor system; from fishing times and dates, to ports entered or returned to and boundaries, to following the rules. Those with dishonor, or cheaters, need not apply. It is designed, and expected, that all entrants will be limited to a recreational limit of each species on any fishing day. Anyone may enter the tournament, from occasional anglers to weekend warriors to professional guides to commercial fishermen, however the rules and expectations are set to create a fair and level playing field. Here's your chance to see how you stack up and walk away with some nice prize monies, have a great time at the Captain's Meeting, get a very valuable Captain's bag full of great stuff, discover some new resources through our sponsors, and meet some of the other best Grouper fishermen in our region. We will take the feedback and suggestions from each tournament and the growth in participation from each tournament to tweak, enhance, and reward all participants and sponsors.

REGISTRATION - All boats must be registered with the Tournament Committee and entry fees paid to qualify for prizes. Mailed entries must be received and/or postmarked by October 21ST, 2015. Boats/Fisherman may by register after that date at the Captain's Meeting in person on October 30th. A boat may be substituted prior to the declared fishing day(s) with approval from the Tournament committee. All participants may only fish on one registered vessel. All boats/fishermen/captains/crew must be registered on the entry form on or before the Captain's Meeting. Each boat is limited to a maximum of 5 people onboard/registered/fishing/etc. A declared alternate crew member/fishermen may be listed/registered on the entry form for emergencies, work commitments, etc. of the primary crew, but the Tournament must be notified prior to their substitution. A boat shall be disqualified from the Tournament if persons are onboard the vessel during a declared fishing day and are not identified on the entry form (all person's on board must be registered with the tournament). Head boats, boats/captains/crews that have been hired for the tournament, boats that are permitted for the commercial fishing/harvest of any Level 1 or Level 2 species are prohibited.

CAPTAIN'S MEETING – At least one person from each boat fishing the tournament should attend the Captain's meeting for the final rules. If a crew decides not to attend the meeting, it is solely the responsibility of the Captain to know and comply with the finalized rules. The Captain's meeting will be held at the Surf City Welcome Center on the Oceanfront in Surf City, North Carolina, 102 North Shore Drive, Surf City, NC, on October 30th, 2015 at 6:00 pm. A complimentary dinner will be provided for Captain's and guests, in addition to a Captain's/Crew bag, chance of door prizes, and T-Shirt sales. RSVP is required by Friday, October 21st, 2015, with the number of guests attending. Each angler registered, including the alternate, and a companion/spouse are invited.

FISHING DAYS AND TIMES - A boat may fish 3 out of 16 possible days. Eligible fishing days are October 31, 2015, through November 15, 2015. Lines in at 7:00 am and line out at 3:00 pm. All times are based on official GPS time. In order for a fish to qualify to be weighed, a team must have declared their fishing day by 9 PM on the evening/day before that fishing day. Declarations are made by calling (866) 690-9159; state your boat name, your name, and the day you are fishing. If no one answers, please leave your information on the voicemail. Failure to properly declare, will result in disqualification. For safety reasons, all boats must check-in upon returning to port by calling the above referenced phone number. Legible weigh forms must be submitted via email or text message to the address/number on the weigh form on the same declared fishing day.

QUALIFYING FISH – ALL fish must be caught on rod and reel via hook and line. Electric Reels are prohibited. No boat is allowed to catch more than a recreational limit for any species based on the number of registered crew on any tournament declared day. Level 1: Three (3) total Grouper (gag, red, scamp) may be weighed on the boat's declared fishing day each declared day for the overall prize. Each boat's best day of total weight of a day's catch will eligible for an overall prize at Level 1. Each boat may only win one Level 1 prize with their best day/catch of the three (3) possible days (Example: a boat/crew may win first place only, second and third place will be awarded other boats/crews, even if the first place boats other 1 or 2 days of total fish weigh more.) All fish will be returned to the Captain upon weighing. The eligible species for the Level 1 prize for 3 best fish in a day are any legal combination of Gag Grouper, Red Grouper, Scamp Grouper. All Grouper must be weighed individually on the official tournament weight form and signed, dated with time, and correctly completed by the weigh master at an official tournament weigh station and each crew member must sign the form. Boats are eligible for all Levels of entry and Tournament within a Tournament prices provided they have registered for Level 1 (mandatory). Level 2 includes: heaviest Triggerfish, heaviest Bee Liner, Heaviest Silver Sapper, Heaviest Hogfish, heaviest Black Sea Bass, heaviest Amberjack (for the Species that are in season throughout the tournament dates). Tournament within a Tournament include the single heaviest of each: heaviest Gag Grouper, heaviest Red Grouper, heaviest Scamp Grouper.

NOTE: Captains must provide photo evidence (digital photo) for each fish being weighed. This photo must be taken on the water after the fish has been landed and clearly show the tournament's official token for that day. Tournament tokens will be distributed at the Captain's meeting.

WEIGH –INS – All fish must be weighed between 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm, on the declared fishing day. Fish being weighed must arrive at the weigh master with the entire boat crew. Legible weigh forms must be submitted via email or text message to the address/number on the weigh form on the same declared fishing day. Weigh forms must be signed by the Weigh Master and each member of the crew. In the event of a tie, the Boat's single heaviest grouper from that day of fishing will determine the winner. In the event another tie breaker is needed, each boat's second best day/weight of fishing will determine the winner. In the event another tie breaker is needed (perhaps two boats weighed only 1 Amberjack each), the first fish weighed/entry form turned in, will win. Weigh-in forms must be provided by, completed and signed by the Captain and all crew/fishermen; they may not be available at the weigh stations. It is the Captain's/Boat's/Crews responsibility to ensure their weigh station will be open, and operating hours, on their declared fishing days. Additional Weigh-in locations may be added prior to the first day of eligible fishing. Weigh-in locations currently include:

East Coast Sports – 409 Roland Ave., Surf City, NC (910) 328-1887

Tex's Tackle – Wilmington, NC 215 Old Eastwood Rd, Wilmington, NC (910) 791-1763

Additional Weigh Stations Between Morehead City to Wilmington to be announced!

BOUNDARIES – All boats must fish within the waters of the Atlantic Ocean located within the greater "Onslow Bay" area; from the shoals off Morehead City to the Shoals off Frying Pan Tower. More specifically marked on the tournament map on www.grouperchallenge.com or https://www.facebook.com/GrouperChallenge

CONGREGATING AND LANDFALL – No congregating of boats during competition on their declared fishing day, between 6:00 am and completion of weighing their fish, except in the event of an emergency. All emergencies must be declared on VHF channel 16. No boats may make landfall during tournament competition hours unless heading directly to a weighmaster.

FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS – All boats and participants shall comply with all State laws and regulations, effective for the waters in which they are fishing, and all Federal Fisheries laws and regulations, in addition to all boating requirements of the United States Coast Guard. Additionally, participants shall comply with all Grouper Challenge rules, contained herein. Failure to comply with any of these rules, will result in immediate disqualification. In the event that a Level 2 species is closed at tournament time, all entries for that species will be returned.

PRIZES – Prize money checks will be made payable to the person designated on the entry form (Captain) for the winning boat. A social security number or tax id number shall be provided prior to the issuance of any monies.

10% of all entry fees (Level 1, Level 2, TWT's) retained by Saltwater University, Inc. Remaining entry fees will be distributed as follows:

LEVEL 1: 50% to Heaviest Day of Grouper (up to 3 fish), 30% to Second heaviest Day of Grouper (up to 3 fish), 20% to Third heaviest day of Grouper (up to 3 fish)

LEVEL 2: All first place fish will receive 70% of prize money, all second place fish will receive 30% of prize money.

Triggerfish - Gray (Balistes capriscus) Bee Liner/ Vermilion Snapper (Rhomboplites aurorubens) Silver Snapper/Pinky (Pagrus pagrus)

Hogfish (Lachnolaimus maximus) Black Sea Bass (Centropristis striata) Greater Amberjack (Seriola dumerili)

TOURNAMENT WITHIN TOURNAMENT: Winner Takes All. Gag Grouper (Mycteroperca microlepis), Scamp Grouper (Mycteroperca phenax), Red Grouper (Epinephelus morio)

PROTESTS - All protest made to the Tournament Committee shall be accompanied by $500 cash. All protest shall be made no later than 9:00 pm each weigh in day. $500 will be returned if protest is upheld by tournament committee. The $500 cash deposit will become property of the SWU Grouper Challenge if the protest is not upheld. All decisions of the tournament committee are final and all participants, captains, crew agree to this decision and rule by participating.

CAPTAIN'S CHOICE - This is a "Captain's Choice" tournament and the Captain and Crew has the sole responsibility for determining the safety of participating on any given day. Additionally, it is the Captain's responsibility to make themselves aware, and to comply with, any rule changes / updates that may be made at the Captain's meeting. In the event that a Captain/Registered Crew decides not fish all 3 possible days or any days at all, for any reason; no portion of any entry fees will be returned and they will be considered forfeited.

RULES AND DECISIONS -Any and all questions concerning the rules and regulations of the Grouper Challenge should be directed to the Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to modify, add, delete or adjust any and all rules at their sole discretion and is in no way limited in their scope. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make all the determinations and decisions regarding the interpretation and application of all tournament rules and the awarding of prizes. Please see the list of Frequently Asked Questions on the Tournament Website (www.grouperchallenge.com) for rule clarifications and other important matters. The FAQ's are considered to be part of the official rules for the tournament. The decisions of the Tournament Committee are final and are not subject to further review. Winning anglers, if directed by the tournament committee, must submit to and take a polygraph test with a designated tester within 72 hours after being notified by the Tournament Committee. This decision is at the sole discretion of the tournament committee. Should the test be failed or not taken within said time frame, the tournament committee reserves the right to forfeit all winnings awarded to winner in question.

VIOLATIONS - Violation of any of the tournament rules or fishing or boating regulations by any angler or registered boat shall constitute grounds for automatic disqualification and immediate forfeiture of all fees and prizes. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make the sole determination as to whether any of the tournament rules have been violated. The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be deemed final and not subject to further review or legal challenge. Boats can be disqualified at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse entry from any applicant. An applicant who is refused entry will have 100% of the applicants entry fees returned to them.

OTHER RULES - Signing the entry form and submission of registration documentation hereby gives the Tournament Committee the right to use, without payment or restrictions, any photographs of any boat, fish, or person participating in the tournament for any purpose whatsoever. This shall include, but is not limited to, resale of the photos for advertising, commercial or promotional purposes.

Please keep these Rules and Regulations for your records. Return the first page to the Tournament Committee. If entering by mail, send the first page, along with a Check or Money Order (NO Credit Cards accepted), payable to SALTWATER UNIVERSITY, INC., to: Saltwater University, Inc., 205 Dowitcher Drive, Hampstead, NC 28443

ENVELOPE MUST BE POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 21st , 2015, TO BE ELIGIBLE BY MAIL.

And

ENTRIES NOT MAILED MAY BE DELIVERED AT THE CAPTAIN'S MEETING ON OCTOBER 30th, 2015, TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FISHING.