

2026 Hooked on Fresh Fishing Tournament

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

General Information

Q: When is the tournament?

A: The tournament will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2026.

Q: Where is the tournament headquarters and weigh-in location?

A: LongBoard Bar & Grill on South Padre Island, Texas.

Q: What time can anglers begin fishing?

A: Fishing begins at 6:30 AM sharp. No fishing lines may be in the water before 6:30 AM.

Q: What time must boats be checked in for weigh-in?

A: All boats must be in the official weigh-in line by 1:30 PM.

Q: What happens if I arrive after 1:30 PM?

A: Any boat that is not in the official weigh-in line by 1:30 PM will not be allowed to weigh fish. Once the official horn or whistle sounds at 1:30 PM, the weigh-in line is closed and no exceptions will be made. Anglers are encouraged to allow ample travel time and account for weather, boat traffic, and other delays to ensure they arrive before the cutoff.

Q: What time does weigh-in begin?

A: Weigh-in begins at 11:00 AM and continues until the final cutoff.

Registration & Teams

Q: How much is tournament registration?

A: Registration is \$350 per team and includes entry into the tournament and the Calcutta for all three species.

Q: Can I fish by myself?

A: Yes. Independent anglers are welcome. The tournament fee remains \$350.

Q: How many people can be on a team?

A: Teams may consist of up to four anglers. A captain may accompany the team and may fish only if serving as the fourth angler.

Q: Can a captain fish?

A: Yes, but only if the team consists of three registered anglers. If four anglers are registered, the captain may not fish.

Q: What if one of the anglers on my team drops out, can I add someone else?

A: Yes. Team substitutions are permitted up until Friday night check-in.

Q: Can I add someone after check-in if I don't want them to participate in the competition but just want them to ride along or fish recreationally?

A: Yes. Additional passengers may accompany your team after check-in. However, only anglers listed on the official tournament registration are eligible to enter fish into the tournament or compete for prizes.

Q: What is included with registration?

A: Registration includes:

Tournament entry

Calcutta participation

Event access

Tournament swag bag

Food and beverages

Eligibility for prizes and awards

Friday Check-In

Q: Will there be a Captain's Meeting?

A: No formal Captain's Meeting will be held.

Q: Is there a mandatory check-in?

A: Yes. Teams must check in on Friday, June 12, 2026, beginning at 5:00 PM.

Q: Where do I check in?

A: Margaritaville Bar on South Padre Island.

Q: What will I receive at check-in?

A: Participants will receive: Event wristbands, Tournament swag bags, and Final event information

Q: Can one person check in for the entire team?

A: Yes. However, that person is responsible for distributing all wristbands and swag bags to their teammates.

Q: What if I lose my wristband?

A: Replacement wristbands can be purchased for \$50.

Fishing Rules

Q: Where can I fish?

A: Teams may launch from any location and fish anywhere legally permitted.

Q: Are there fishing boundaries?

A: No specific tournament boundaries exist. All anglers must comply with applicable laws and regulations.

Q: What types of bait may be used?

A: Live bait, dead bait, and artificial lures are all permitted.

Q: Is wade fishing allowed?

A: Yes. Wade fishing is permitted as long as anglers remain within eyesight of their boat.

Q: How many rods can be used at one time?

A: Only one rod per angler may be actively fishing at any given time.

Q: What methods are allowed?

A: Fish must be caught using rod and reel only.

Q: Is night fishing allowed?

A: No. Fishing the night before the tournament is prohibited.

Tournament Format

Q: What species are included in the tournament?

A: Redfish, Speckled Trout, and Flounder.

Q: How is the team stringer scored?

A: Each team will weigh: One Redfish, One Trout and One Flounder

Q: How are winners determined?

A: A blind draw will determine the target lengths for each species. Winners are determined by total inches.

Q: What happens if there is a tie?

A: The earliest official weigh-in time will determine the winner.

Weigh-In Procedures

Q: Where is the weigh-in held?

A: LongBoard Bar & Grill.

Q: Do all anglers need to be present?

A: Yes. All anglers must be aboard the boat when arriving for weigh-in.

Q: What is the weigh-in check-in process?

A: As you arrive at LongBoard Bar & Grill, bring your boat into the designated weigh-in area. One angler may disembark with the team's fish and proceed to the weigh-in station while the captain moves the boat away from the dock to allow other teams access.

The angler will present the fish to the official Weighmaster for measurement and scoring. After the fish are weighed, the team must review and sign the official weigh-in card before leaving the weigh-in tent. Fish will only be weighed one time, so teams should verify all measurements before signing.

Q: Can fish be weighed more than once?

A: No. Fish will only be weighed one time.

Q: Can I replace a fish after weighing it?

A: No. Once weighed, a fish cannot be replaced.

Q: What if a fish exceeds tournament requirements?

A: The fish will not qualify, and a replacement fish may not be entered.

Q: How are fish measured?

A: Officials will use a Flat Check-It Stik using the closed-mouth, pinched-tail method.

Q: Who has final authority regarding measurements and weights?

A: The official Weighmaster's decision is final.

Live Fish Bonus

Q: Is there an advantage to bringing fish in alive?

A: Yes. Teams receive a 1-pound bonus for each fish successfully released after weigh-in.

Q: How is the bonus awarded?

A: Tournament officials must witness the fish swimming away successfully.

Q: What if the fish does not survive?

A: The fish may still be entered, but the bonus weight will not be awarded.

Calcutta

Q: Is the Calcutta included with registration?

A: Yes.

Q: How are Calcutta winnings distributed?

A: Payouts follow a 60/40 split:

60% to the winning team

40% to TIPA

Polygraph Testing

Q: Are polygraph tests required?

A: Yes. Participation in the tournament constitutes agreement to submit to a polygraph examination if requested.

Q: Who will be tested?

A: First-place Calcutta winners will be subject to mandatory testing.

Q: What happens if a participant refuses a test?

A: Refusal results in immediate disqualification.

Q: Can alcohol be consumed before a polygraph test?

A: No. The selected participant may not consume alcohol or drugs prior to testing.

Food, Drinks & Spectators

Q: Will food and beverages be available?

A: Yes. Food and beverages, including an open bar, will be available.

Q: Do I need a wristband?

A: Yes. Wristbands are required to access event hospitality areas.

Q: Can non-anglers attend?

A: Absolutely. Non-Fishing Tickets are available for \$50 and include access to the food, drinks, awards ceremony, and festivities.

Final Questions

Q: Who makes final decisions regarding tournament disputes?

A: The Tournament Director and Tournament Committee. Their decisions are final.

Q: Where can I get additional information?

A: Contact TIPA at 956-581-8632.

We look forward to seeing everyone on South Padre Island for the 2026 Hooked on Fresh Fishing Tournament!