

Matagorda Slam Rules and Regulations

Rules and Regulations

The rules stated below are for The Matagorda Slam Tournament. All decisions made by the tournament director and/or tournament officials will be final in all matters. The tournament director and/or the tournament officials can make a change when the safety of a contestant is in question or by a unanimous decision by the tournament committee. Any changes to the rules will be posted on the website WWW.MATAGORDASLAM.COM and communicated to the tournament members in the pre-tournament meeting before the tournaments. Warnings, penalties and disqualifications will be determined by the tournament officials. A signature on one set of rules and regulations is applicable for any and all MATAGORDA SLAM event and may be used as an acknowledgment for such.

RULES

Each participant ("contestant") must read and acknowledge the following rules and indicate so by signing an entry form. A "team" shall consist of TWO to FOUR persons. If you fish with a guide, your guide must be registered as a team member!

ARTIFICIAL DIVISION: Teams must fish with artificial bait only

OPEN BAIT DIVISION: Teams can fish with live, dead, cut or artificial baits

This is a trailered event, teams may launch from any marina of their choice. You may not launch the boat before safelight (30 minutes before sunrise) this means your prop cannot touch the water before safelight!

1) Applicable Laws: Federal, State and Local laws shall be obeyed by contestants at all times. Contestants choosing to fish outside of Texas waters shall adhere to the local and state laws of the venue in which the contestant is fishing, including purchasing and possessing a valid fishing license for that state effective for the dates of competition. Violation of any federal, state and/or local laws shall result in the disqualification of the individual and his team from the MATAGORDA SLAM event.

2) Tournament Eligibility: Anyone is eligible to fish this event. As long as you meet the requirements of the State and the rules here in.

3) Illegal Drugs: The use of illegal drugs during tournament hours is prohibited and will result in disqualification. Illegal drugs may not be in the possession of any team member or on board a participating boat during the hours of tournament competition.

4) Sportsmanship: MATAGORDA SLAM participants are expected to follow the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and ethics. Unsportsmanlike and unethical conduct will result in disqualification (at the tournament committee's discretion). Please refer to the Texas Boating Safety Rules.

5) Permitted Tournament Fishing Waters: Contestants may fish in any inshore public water accessible by boat. "Inshore" for this series is defined as the navigable, tide consumable coastal waters, bays, rivers, and wetlands. • - No fishing is allowed within 300 yards of tournament site. • - No fishing is allowed within 500 yards of any ferry landing. • - Contestants shall not fish in any area which has been "closed" by a governmental agency. • - Wade fishing is allowed, but TEAM MEMBERS must remain within 300 yards of the boat. • - Participants are not allowed to fish within 150 feet (50 yards) of another anchored boat or wade fisherman unless they are invited in by the team. An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by an anchor, a weight, push pole, Power Pole, or other "anchoring" mechanism with the trolling motor in the up position. If a team invites another team into the inviting team's 50-yard area, any tournament participant is also allowed within the waived area. Range finder and picture of boat behind range finder best way to bring this sort of protest to light. • - The boat anchored in an area first has the right to 150 feet radius of the area. • - If the boat does not have a trolling motor the definition of anchored still applies.

6) Permitted Fishing Methods: All tournament fish shall be taken by rod, reel, and artificial bait for the artificial division and live, dead, cut or artificial for the open bait division. All anglers must hook and reel in all fish brought to the scales. Any other person(s) on the boat besides the registered tournament angler(s) **may not fish** during tournament hours unless they are entered in the Junior Division of this tournament. Contestants may fish from a boat, pier, shoreline, kayak, canoe, etc. anywhere that is in the standards of legal waterways set by TP&W and may not fish from any private waters of any kind. Contestants shall not "harass" fish, to include such antics as "burning" or corralling of schools with a boat. Prior to and during the tournament, contestants shall not "cork" or otherwise mark fish or schools of fish for identification for the purposes of locating fish during tournament hours. Wade fishing is allowed. Teams/Individuals who wade-fish must remain within a 300-yard radius of the team's/individual's boat. However, contestants may not leave the boat to net a fish hooked while the contestant or his partner is in the boat. A wade-fisherman must net his own fish. Teams shall not have participants fishing from the boat with the others wade-fishing; all teammates must be fishing in the same manner. All team members must be in the boat before the combustion engine is started.

7) Checkpoints: This is a trailed event, teams may launch from any marina or boat ramp of their choice. The launch time will be 30 minutes before sunrise (safelight). You can confirm this by searching the internet for the tournament days sunrise time. Official launch times will be announced on Facebook the night before event. Once a team has checked in to the weigh station, that team will not be allowed to return to fish during the day's competition and that team's day of fishing shall cease. Check-in times will be between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Contestants who are not at the official checkpoint area at the appointed time will be penalized at the rate of one-half (1/2) pound, per minute, which will be deducted from the team's total day's weight. Any contestant more than fifteen (15) minutes late will be disqualified from that day's weight entry. Teams who are not able to check in due to equipment failure or other unforeseen circumstances are responsible for contacting the tournament director before the official check-in is over in order to determine an acceptable solution.

8) Polygraphs: By signature on the official tournament entry form, each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph test and be bound by its interpreted results and conclusions. The first

place team in each event, and any other team as chosen by the Series' directors, shall be subject to a polygraph examination and will not receive any award until the test has been administered and determined to be non- deceptive. Polygraph tests may be issued at the discretion of the tournament director/committee for any reason, and each contestant hereby acknowledges and consents to the examination. The results and interpretations of the polygraph are final and each contestant hereby knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily waives any review of said test result, including any judicial process seeking to overturn, amend or otherwise negate the finding of the test administrator.

9) Insurance and Liability: Each boat entered in the MATAGORDA SLAM shall have insurance coverage on your boat throughout the entirety of the series or for every event fished. It is the responsibility of the boat owner to carry liability insurance covering the vessel. The MATAGORDA SLAM will not issue liability coverage for its events. A current copy of the team's insurance policy and each member's signed DECLARATION, WAIVER, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT shall be given to HSJAA before a team may compete in any MATAGORDA SLAM event. All tournament participants are required to sign a waiver absolving all tournament officials, officers, participants, sponsors and co-sponsors from any responsibility for damage or personal injury sustained as a result of the contestant's participation in the tournament or its related activities, and the contestant's signature on this form shall constitute an alternate release in the instance the member fails to sign the official DECLARATION, WAIVER, RELEASE, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT.

10) Pre-Tournament "Captain's" Meeting and CALCUTTA:

CAPTAINS MEETING: The captain's meeting for the MATAGORDA SLAM is mandatory. At least one team member must attend the captains meeting. The meeting will be held from 5 to 9pm at Poco Playa Restaurant in Matagorda, Texas Friday April 28th. We will also be holding a Calcutta for this event during the Captains Meeting.

CALCUTTA: The rules for the Calcutta are as follows: All boats will be entered into the Calcutta bidding. All bids will open with a minimum of a \$100 bid to be eligible for the Calcutta Payout. If a team's boat is purchased by another bidder, it is up to the discretion of the bidder as to whether they will sell all or a portion of the boat to the team. The MATAGORDA SLAM has two divisions, and we will split the teams according to ARTIFICIAL AND OPEN BAIT DIVISIONS for the Calcutta bidding and payouts. CALCUTTA payout will be 70% for the pot to the winning bidders (PAYOUT STRUCTURE: 1ST PLACE 40%, 2ND PLACE 20% AND 3RD PLACE 10%) and 30% will go to Gear Up for Game Wardens.

11) Communication: No communication via multi-media methods, social networking, cell phone, e-tablet, laptop, radio, pager or any other device will be allowed from outside sources or tournament participants during tournament hours that will give a team or contestant any advantage from data or information regarding fishing the event. If a team has an emergency, a mechanical problem, or needs immediate assistance, teams may contact local authorities, emergency services, the Coast Guard or the tournament director. Teams must notify the tournament director immediately if these circumstances exist.

12) Entry Fees, Tournament Registration and Identification: The entry fee is \$300.00 per, 2-to-4-person team in both the ARTIFICIAL AND OPEN BAIT DIVISIONS (AGAIN PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU ARE FISHING WITH A GUIDE, YOU MUST PURCHASE THE GUIDE AS A TEAM MEMBER). All entry fees are non-refundable and are in consideration for holding a team's spot in the Calcutta's calculation of projected winnings by tournament officials.

13) Safety: Safe boating will be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to properly wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal floatation device anytime the combustion engine is engaged. Tournament days may be shortened or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. The decision to shorten or to cancel will be left totally to the discretion of the tournament director/committee. A 4-hour period shall constitute a day of fishing. It is the competitor's responsibility to communicate with the Tournament Director if cancellation of the event is suspected. Cancellations will be communicated via VHF radios on a channel decided at the Pre-Tournament Meeting. If conditions are not safe on the tournament day, the MATAGORDA SLAM reserves the right to reschedule the tournament on the following day (Sunday). If conditions are not favorable the following day (Sunday), an alternate date will be published on the MATAGORDA SLAM website, WWW.MATAGORDASLAM.COM.

14) TOURNAMENT STRINGER: This is a LIVE WEIGH-IN FORMAT. Fish must be brought to the scales alive; any dead fish will result in a ¼ pound penalty per dead fish. Team's tournament weight will consist of TWO red drum ("redfish"), measuring no less than 20 inches and no more than 28 inches, in length, each and TWO trout measuring 17 to 23 inches in length and ONE Flounder minimum of 15". No altered or mutilated fish will be accepted. All fish will be inspected for alterations in size, length and weight. Any altered fish shall result in the disqualification of the team weighing the altered fish and may result in disqualification of the event.

15) Scoring: Tournament standings, auxiliary awards and final winners shall be determined by the total weight of each team's catch during the tournament measured in pounds and 100th of a pound. Fish may not be brought to weigh-in on a stringer or in a basket. Fish shall be weighed with the equipment provided by the TOURNAMENT WEIGH TEAM.

16) Ties: If two or more teams have identical weight in the tournament, it will be considered a tie. In the event of a tie, the prize money from the consecutive places will be combined and split between the teams. For example, if two teams tie for fourth place, the amounts designated to fourth place AND fifth place will be combined, divided by two, then distributed to the teams, equally.

17) Protest Procedure: All protests must be submitted in writing, along with a \$200.00 cash deposit. Protests must be submitted to the tournament director no later than 15 minutes following the weigh-in of the last fish. If the protest is upheld, the cash deposit will be returned to the person submitting the protest. The protester agrees that by filing a protest, he may be subject to a polygraph test. The captain, individual angler or team fishing the tournament may be polygraphed if there is a protest submitted. The PERSON WANTING TO will be responsible for paying the polygraph fees. If the polygraph result in the team or individual being disqualified from the tournament. It is the failing team's financial responsibility to reimburse the tournament for prizes paid to the team fishing the

tournament. All decisions will be made by the tournament director and committee and are final

18) Permission to be filmed for Television: All participants agree to be filmed, photographed, taped, interviewed, quoted or otherwise revealed, without compensation, by the MATAGORDA SLAM or its assigns. This includes but is not limited to the official photographers, writers, hosts, or sponsors of this event under the conditions authorized by the MATAGORDA SLAM organizers. Each contestant, by his signature affixed below, hereby gives the MATAGORDA SLAM, and its assigns, the right to use (without compensation) the contestant's name, picture, likeness, quotes, and biographical information, whether audio or visual, before, during and after the period of an individual or team participation in an event.

Remember Folks, this is all about the Game Wardens!