2019 Colorado Kayak Fishing Club Tournament Rules

Colorado Kayak Fishing Club's (referred to as CKFC for the remainder of this document), intent is to draw anglers who are interested in the competitive side of kayak angling. The rules are as follows:

Kayaks are the only vessel currently allowed to participate in the CKFC tournaments (due to insurance reasons). Propulsion of kayaks will only be via arms or legs. Gas, electric, or sails are not allowed as mechanisms for propulsion in our tournaments. The only exception is for anyone who has a disability/medical condition that doesn't allow them to use a paddle or pedal kayak. You must contact the Tournament Director for approval to use alternate means at least 72 hours prior to the tournament.

CKFC tournaments require anglers to use a Hawg Trough or Ketch board as the fish measuring device.

PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- A. CKFC angler must have paid the CKFC membership fee for the tournament series they wish to participate in (Bass or Multi-Species) along with the individual tournament fee before being allowed to fish any events.
- B. All CKFC tournament anglers and volunteers must sign a Waiver and Release of Liability.
 - a. Please print, fill out, and bring the "CKFC Tournament Entry Form" and the "Waiver and Release of Liability" forms to tournament check-in. (Forms can be found here: https://www.cokayakfishing.com/2019-tourney-rules/)
- C. Anglers between ages 12 and 18 must fill out and sign a Minor Waiver. A legal guardian must also sign the consent form. Minor Waiver can be found here: https://www.cokayakfishing.com/2019-tourney-rules/.
 - a. Anglers between the ages of 12 and 15 must be accompanied by an adult while on the water. "Accompanied" means that the adult must have a vessel capable of staying in close proximity to the youth angler and assume full responsibility for the youth angler.
 - b. Anglers age 16 to 18 must fill out and sign a Minor Waiver but can fish the tournament unaccompanied.

GENERAL RULES

- 1. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT
 - a. Personal Flotation Devices MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES while on the water! If you are caught not wearing one (you can take it off temporarily to change layers), you will be automatically disqualified.
 - b. A signaling whistle must be on your person at all times while on the water.

c. A safety beacon (white light - typically a headlamp) must be worn and turned on until safe light hours.

2. FISHING REGULATIONS

- a. State, local, and lake specific boating and fishing regulations trump all CKFC documented and undocumented Tournament Rules. Lake or Reservoir specific rules will generally be addressed prior to the tournament. However, it is the participant's responsibility to follow these regulations regardless.
- b. CKFC Tournaments are Catch, Photograph and Release (CPR) events. Bag and possession limits do not apply as no fish will be kept. During tournament hours, participants are not allowed to keep any fish species due to lake permitting requirements.
- c. All photographed fish must be caught by the angler turning in the photograph on the day of the tournament.
- d. All fish must be caught on a rod and reel ONLY. Bowfishing, trot lining, or jug lining is not permitted during any CKFC events.
- e. For Bass only tournaments: Only 1 rod is allowed to be in use (line in water) at any given time. Trolling is not allowed.
- f. For Multi-Species tournaments: Two rods are allowed to be in use (line in water). Trolling is allowed.

3. TOURNAMENT HOURS

a. Tournament rules and hours will be discussed at each tournament morning rules meeting. In general though, we will go from safe light to 2pm.

4. CHECK-IN / CHECK-OUT

- a. Anglers must be present at the morning meeting. See below for cancellation / late policy. A safety check will be performed at the morning meeting to verify all anglers have the required safety equipment and proper measuring devices (noted above).
- b. Once the morning meeting has ended, anglers will be released to fish from the launch point. The Tournament Director will determine if portage of your vessel will be allowed and all participants will be notified prior to start.
- c. Tournament anglers must be at the designated meeting location, and safety checked by a CKFC board member with their scorecard turned in by the end time for that tournament.
- d. A one inch per minute penalty will be assessed for those that have not been safety checked at the designated location by the tournament end time. After 15 minutes, that angler will be disqualified for that tournament.
- e. <u>ALL</u> anglers <u>MUST</u> check out with the Tournament Director or another CKFC Board Member, prior to departing the lake. Anglers not checking in after the end of a tournament will not be allowed to fish any remaining tournaments that calendar year.
- f. If an emergency arises and an angler must leave the lake early, call (or text if possible) the CKFC Tournament Director or another CKFC Board Member immediately.

5. DELAYS / CANCELLATIONS

- a. Weather conditions can limit or eliminate tournament hours. Decisions on delays or cancellations will be made by the CKFC Board Members.
- b. In the event a tournament is canceled, anglers will be reimbursed 80% of their entry fee.

c. Angler Specific

- i. 24 hour cancellation policy: If you are unable to participate in a tournament, you must notify the tournament director at least 24 hours before the tournament for a full refund or roll over.
- ii. Late Policy: If you are not at the morning safety meeting, you will be disqualified and your entry fees will be part of that tournaments payout with no reimbursement. If you can't make it, please contact one of the board members <u>BEFORE</u> the morning safety meeting. We will do our best to work with you and may decide to roll your entry fee.

6. OFF LIMITS

- a. Using a guide within 30 days of a tournament event on the same lake is prohibited.
- b. Pre-fishing is prohibited after 8pm the night prior to the tournament.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. CKFC board, members, and / or event staff will not be held liable for any injuries, or death resulting in from participation in CKFC tournaments. See above for waiver form requirements.
- b. Entry Fees will not be refunded for disqualified anglers. Additionally, any anglers determined to be intentionally cheating will be prohibited from participating in any future CKFC events.

MEASUREMENT REQUIREMENTS

Anglers should photograph the fish as soon as possible and record the species and length of the fish on their scorecard (see *sample scorecard below*). Scoring is based on the regulations below and the discretion of the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will score fish as close as possible to longest length. In the case of a second opinion being needed, the Tournament Director will be assisted by other CKFC board members. Once the second board member makes a decision, a final decision will be made.

1. Picture criteria:

- a. The whole fish, tip to tail must be in the picture.
- b. The measuring device must be photographed from left to right with the fish oriented in the same fashion. Please see sample photo below for proper submission.
- c. Aside from your hand, all photos of fish must be clear of any obstructions.
- d. Fish must be laying with the lip touching the left edge of the bump board.
- e. Bass series: The mouth of the bass must be closed in the photograph. If the mouth is open, the submission will be deducted 1".
- f. Multi-Species: Open mouth is accepted without penalty. Any deviation will be discussed at the morning check-in meeting.

- g. Measurement markings on the ruler must be clearly visible. Please darken lines with Sharpie style permanent marker. If a measurement cannot be clearly identified, a deduction or disqualification of that submission may result.
- h. Assigned unique identifier must be visible/legible and attached to the measuring device. (Numbered Chip).
- i. One overhead photo per fish.
- j. You must "cull" your camera pictures down to the 5 fish that you want to submit. Those 5 fish must be circled on your scorecard.
- k. No pinching of the tail.
- I. All criteria above must be met or photo will not be scored.

2. Scoring Criteria

- a. All CKFC tournament anglers are required to use a verified Hawg Trough or Ketch board measuring device.
- b. Each angler will be provided a unique identifier and scorecard for each event.
- c. Up to 5 fish can be submitted for each event.
- d. The competitor with the highest total score (length in inches) is the winner. Next highest score will place second and so on.
- e. Longest fish allowed to be submitted is 30 inches, regardless if it's clearly longer than 30 inches. Smallest fish allowed is 8 inches.
- f. If there is a tie in total length, the longest fish from each competitor in the tie will become the tie breaker. If the longest fish are equal, the second longest fish will become the tie breaker, etc. If there is still a tie, we will combine the money for the tied slots and then split the money equally.

BIG FISH POT (Optional)

- 1. Payment must be made at morning check-in.
- 2. All picture criteria noted above must be met. Biggest (by length in inches) accepted fish entry will win back 100% of the Big Fish Pot.
- 3. In the event of a tie, we will go to the second biggest fish between all those that tied. If after two fish, there's still a tie, we will go to the third biggest fish...etc. If after 5 fish there is still a tie, we will split the pot between everyone still tied.
- 4. 30 inch maximum rule applies.

SAMPLE PICTURE:

- 1. Mouth Touching Fence and Mouth Closed for Bass Series.
- 2. Measurement lines are marked with Sharpie.
- 3. Base of Fence is marked with Sharpie. Sticker helps, too.
- 4. Identifier Fully Visible & Legible
- 5. The Bass below would score 16.75" with no deductions.



SAMPLE SCORECARDS:

Bass Series:

1. Circle your best 5 fish. Only Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass will be accepted. Fish species does not need to be noted in the Bass Series.

Multi-Species Series:

- 1. The Multi-species series generally follows a "2-2-1" or "3-2" best of 5 scoring format. There may be alternate formats depending on the body of water and catchable fish species. The allowable species of fish will be selected by the Tournament Director prior to the tournament. To the side of each of the length measurements recorded on the scorecard, please note the species of fish with a single initial. T trout, W walleye, B bass, P Pike.
- 2. In the "2-2-1" format, you may submit a maximum of 2 fish per species of fish selected. For example, if the 3 species of fish are Bass, Walleye, and Trout, you may submit up to any of the following:
 - a. 2 Bass, 2 Walleye, & 1 Trout
 - b. 2 Bass, 2 Trout, & 1 Walleye
 - c. 2 Trout, 2 Walleye, & 1 Bass
- 3. The "3-2" format is typically used where Trout and Pike are the primary lake species. In the "3-2" format, you may submit up to any of the following:
 - a. 3 Trout & 2 Pike
 - b. 4 Trout & 1 Pike
- 4. Any deviation from either of these formats will be clarified by the TD prior to the tournament.

