



## 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). The propulsion of kayaks will only be via paddle, pedal or electric trolling motor. Electric trolling motors are the only authorized type of motor. No more than one electric motor may be attached to a kayak regardless of combined horsepower/thrust/power rating. Gas motors and sails are not allowed as mechanisms for propulsion in our tournaments.

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 Ketch board as the fish measuring device. **NO OTHER MEASURING DEVICES ARE ALLOWED.**

### 1. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- a. CKFC anglers 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.
  - i. All CKFC tournament anglers must accept the term of the Waiver and Release of Liability in TourneyX prior to registration.
  - ii. Fill out the "CKFC Tournament Entry Form" online (link below). Just need to do this once a year. This must be accomplished by 9pm the Thursday before your first tournament:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2b\\_cVcpNJBcROMOghX4VVLmh\\_7P2zXLaogGjgsPxyeFICb1Q/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2b_cVcpNJBcROMOghX4VVLmh_7P2zXLaogGjgsPxyeFICb1Q/viewform?usp=sf_link)
  - iii. Parents/Guardians of anglers 12-17 MUST fill out and sign with their angler, the "Minor Waiver Attachment B" form and email it to [ckfcwaivers@gmail.com](mailto:ckfcwaivers@gmail.com) by 9pm on the Thursday prior to the tournament. Failure to do so will result in the minor being removed from the tournament roster and being refunded their entry fee. Waiver can be found here: <https://www.cokayakfishing.com/tournament-rules/>

1. 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 near the youth angler and assume full responsibility for the youth angler.
2. Anglers between the ages of 16 and 17 must fill out and sign a Minor Waiver (as stated above, to include a legal guardian's signature) but can fish the tournament unaccompanied.

## GENERAL RULES

### 2. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- a. Personal Flotation Device: **Coast Guard-approved, chest-type life preserver MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES while on the water! You will be automatically disqualified if you are caught not wearing one (you can take it off temporarily to change layers).**
- b. A signaling whistle must be always on your person while on the water.
- c. A safety beacon (white light - typically a 360-degree light or headlamp) must be turned on until safe light hours.
- d. Kayaks utilizing a motor must have proper registration, ANS sticker and lighting in accordance with state regulations.

### 3. 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 during the tournament hours.
- 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 the water) at any given time. Trolling is not allowed. Live bait is not allowed.
- f. **For Multi-Species tournaments:** Two rods are allowed to be in use (line in the water) Colorado requires you to have a second rod stamp on your license to use two rods at the same time. Trolling is allowed for multi-species tournaments. The use of live bait is allowed if that lake permits the use of live bait (for example Spinney does not allow live bait or baits with scent)

### 4. TOURNAMENT HOURS

- a. Tournament rules and hours will be discussed at each tournament captain's meeting or will be posted on the TourneyX tournament page. In general, we will go from safe light to 2 pm.

### 5. CHECK-IN / CHECK-OUT

- a. Anglers must view the virtual captain's meeting:  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NAmmSXSm0c>)
- b. Check-In/Check-Out for TourneyX tournaments:
  - i. Anglers must use the TourneyXPro app to check in before launching and starting the tournament.
    - 1. Using the TourneyXPro app, you **MUST check-in**
    - 2. Using the TourneyXPro app, you **MUST Check-out** no later than **30 min** after the end of the tournament hours. This lets us know you are safely off the water.
- c. If an emergency arises and an angler must leave the lake early, call (or text) the CKFC Tournament Director or another CKFC Board Member immediately. Leave a message if the phone call is not answered. TourneyX displays the Tournament Director's number when upon check-in.

## 6. FISH SUBMISSIONS

- a. Deadlines:
  - i. Fish submission deadline will be 30 minutes after the tournament ends. Example: tournament ends at 2pm (timestamp of picture must be BEFORE 2pm...1:59pm) Submission deadline to the TourneyXpro app must be submitted before 2:30PM.
  - ii. There is no exception to this rule, we don't have the ability to make any changes after the 30-minute submission deadline. So please make sure you can submit the pictures using the TourneyXpro app before the submission deadline! If you have any issues, you must reach out to a TD or board member for help before the deadline. Please give us time to work on this...not at 2:29 (using the example above).
- b. Bass Series fish submissions
  - i. The TourneyXpro app will auto-cull your fish. It will take your best 5 fish automatically. No need to do anything other than submit your fish using the app to the tournament leaderboard.
- c. Multi-Species fish submissions
  - i. The TourneyXpro app will auto-cull your fish. It will take your best 5 fish automatically. The only additional requirement in multi-species is that you are required to select the type of fish when submitting.
- d. General
  - i. Always verify that your fish submission was accepted. Check your emails! (Spam folders too)
  - ii. Make sure to check your emails, any scoring deductions/penalties will be sent via email.
  - iii. Make sure you have your **location turned on** for both the phone app and the TourneyXpro app. (This verifies the location where the photo was taken) If this is not turned on, **before taking photos your fish will be disqualified!**
  - iv. To learn how to use the TourneyXpro app, use this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwIXNuX3wJfBpbXD-4OeZGg/videos?fbclid=IwAR06TUlu0OC9m5jCWzx3Bkvl3FFYBsWilifwpxHL8-C1RmpylL4xzLFN\\_VY](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwIXNuX3wJfBpbXD-4OeZGg/videos?fbclid=IwAR06TUlu0OC9m5jCWzx3Bkvl3FFYBsWilifwpxHL8-C1RmpylL4xzLFN_VY)

## 7. 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 100% 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.

## 8. 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 8 pm the night prior to the tournament.
- c. If there are any off-limit areas, they will be addressed at the captain's meeting
- d. You must launch at public launch areas. Launch areas such as private docks/residences, campgrounds, etc. are not public launch areas.

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. CKFC board members, and/or event staff will not be held liable for any injuries, or death resulting 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 and will potentially face criminal charges.

## 10. MEASUREMENT REQUIREMENTS

- a. The only approved measuring device for CKFC events is a Ketch Board.
- b. Anglers should photograph the fish quickly to return the fish to the water as soon as possible.
- c. TourneyX Tournaments:
  - i. Enter the Species; there is a location under the catch submission area to select the species
  - ii. Enter the length measured by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Must clearly **touch the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch line**. You can't round up if it does not touch the  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch mark.
  - iii. Scoring is based on the regulations below and at the discretion of the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will score fish as close as possible to the longest length, based on where the longest part of the fish **touches a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch line**.

## 11. Picture criteria:

- a. First and most importantly: Anglers are responsible for their photo submissions! Please understand how to use the TourneyXpro app.
- b. Any issues must be reported to the Tournament Director, **before** the submission deadline (30 minutes after the tournament end time)
- c. The measuring device must be photographed from left to right; The fence of the measuring device must be to the left of the angler. (See sample photo below)
- d. The whole fish, tip to tail must be in the picture with the tail lying flat on the measuring device.
- e. The assigned unique identifier must be visible/legible.
- f. Fish must be oriented with the head to the left, and the tail to the right.
- g. The fish belly must be closest to the angler, with the dorsal fin furthest away from the angler (see sample photos below)
- h. Photo must be taken from directly above the fish and centered on the fish. Aside from your hand, all photos of fish must be clear of any obstructions. If the hand is in the picture, it must not obstruct any scoring criteria (unique identifier, fish's mouth, tail, eye, measuring board dimensions, etc.). Additionally, no portion of the hand may be within the fish's gills or beneath the operculum.
- i. Fish must be touching the fence (left edge of measuring device) of the measuring device
- j. If the fish has a missing eye or looks like it may be dead or dying, it is required the angler take a video of that fish going from the board, and actively swimming away.
- k. You cannot submit the same fish twice in the same tournament. Even if you caught it twice.
- l. Pinching of the tail is allowed.
- m. All criteria above must be met, or the photo will not be scored.
- n. **Bass Series: The mouth of the bass must be completely closed in the photograph. If the mouth is open, the submission will be deducted by one inch.**
- o. Multi-Species: Open mouth is accepted without penalty. Any deviation will be discussed at the captain's meeting.

## 12. Scoring Criteria

- a. Longest limit of fish.
- b. Scoring is based on  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch measurements. Must clearly **touch the  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch line** to count. No rounding up.
- c. The minimum fish submission size is 8 inches
- d. The maximum fish submission size is 32 inches. If a fish is 40 inches, you can still submit the fish, it will be entered as 32 inches.

## 13. Winners

- a. The competitor with the highest total score (by length, in inches) is the winner. The next highest score will place second and so on.
- b. If there is a tie in total length, the longest fish from each competitor in the tie will become the tiebreaker. If the longest fish are equal, the second longest fish will

become the tiebreaker, etc. If there is still a tie, we will combine the money for the tied slots and then split the money equally.

**14. Big Fish Pot**

- a. We take \$5 of each tournament entry and put it into a Big Fish Pot.
- b. All picture criteria noted previously must be met.
- c. The biggest (by a length in inches) accepted fish entry will win back 100% of the Big Fish Pot.
- d. In the event of a tie, we will go to the second biggest fish among all those that tied. If there's still a tie after two fish, we will go to the third biggest fish...etc. If after the full limit of fish there is still a tie, we will split the pot between everyone still tied. The 32-inch maximum rule applies.

**15. ADDITIONAL TOURNEYX FORMAT INFO:**

- a. Judging will be done by the CKFC Board Members. Typically, the Top 10 anglers' photos will be verified on-site at the tournament. After the tournament, all remaining photos will be verified as soon as possible to finalize the standings.

**16. Bass Series Notes:**

- a. Submit your fish to the TourneyX leaderboard as they are caught.
- b. A 5-fish limit is utilized for all Bass series tournaments. Once the 5-fish limit is reached, and a 6th fish is submitted, the shortest fish submitted will be automatically culled for you.

**17. Multi-Species Series Notes:**

- a. Submit your fish to the TourneyX leaderboard as they are caught.
- b. A 5 or 6-fish limit is utilized for all multi-species series tournaments. Once the limit is reached, and an additional fish is submitted, the shortest fish submitted will be automatically culled for you.

### SAMPLE PICTURE:

- Note 1: Mouth is touching the fence. The dorsal fin is at the top. The mouth is completely closed per bass tournament rules.
- Note 2: The base of the fence is marked with a marker. A sticker helps, too.
- Note 3: The identifier is fully visible and legible.
- Fish head to the left, tail to the right, dorsal fin at the top, belly down.
- Measuring board fence to the left; Inches increasing from left to right.

TourneyX: (16.25" w/ no deductions)

