



2026 PIGS Redfish Tournament Rules & Regulations

Tournament Start

- **Shotgun Start Location:** West of Marker 12 in Pineland Channel.
- The **Committee Boat** will be positioned between Marker 12 and Black Key.
- All teams must check in with the Committee Boat before fishing begins.
- During check-in, teams must display their livewell and boat number.
- All boats will stage in the designated area for the shotgun start.
- **Official Shotgun Start: 7:30 AM.**

Fishing Rules

- No wading. All anglers must remain in the boat while fishing.
- Live, dead, and artificial baits are permitted.
- Chumming for other anglers or holding fishing holes is prohibited.
- Tournament boats must remain at least **100 yards** from another tournament boat actively engaged in fishing.
- A boat is considered actively fishing when:
 - A trolling motor is deployed, or
 - An anchor or Power-Pole is down.

Regulations

- All state and federal regulations and bag limits must be followed.
- Redfish must be caught alive using traditional sporting methods with hook and line only.

Redfish Measurement Rules

- Eligible Redfish must measure within the legal slot of **18" to 27"**.
- Measurement will be conducted by the official Weigh Master using an Elite-style Check-It Stick with an angled board and Perfect Pincher.

Measurement Procedure

1. Fish will be placed belly-down on the measuring board.
2. The fish's head must be firmly tucked into the corner of the board.
3. The Perfect Pincher will be slid to the 26" mark.
4. Once the fish is positioned, the measurement becomes a hands-off process.
5. If the fish does not measure under 27", it will be removed, allowed to rest, and measured one additional time.
6. The Weigh Master's decision is final.

This is a gentleman's tournament. Sportsmanship and integrity are expected from all participants.

Weigh-In Procedures

- Once a fish has been weighed on the official scale, it may not be culled.
- Teams may weigh one fish early and return to fishing to catch a second scoring fish.
- Scales may open as early as **10:00 AM** if a fish appears distressed.
- Fish must be presented alive to be eligible for full credit.
- Fish will be determined alive or dead by the official Weigh Master while on the measuring board.
- If the gills move, the fish is considered alive.

Dead Fish Penalties

- One dead fish: **0.5 lb penalty**
- Two dead fish: **1.0 lb penalty per fish**

Additional Fish Care Rules

- No iced fish will be accepted.
- No mutilated fish will be accepted.
- Ice may be used only to cool the livewell.
- Fish may not be altered in any manner to affect length or weight.
- Tail trimming, nose drops, or any other manipulation will result in disqualification.

Weigh-In Deadline

- Scales open: **10:00 AM**
- Scales close: **3:30 PM**

All boats must be checked in and within **300 yards of the Tarpon Lodge dock no later than 3:30 PM** for their catch to be eligible.

Prizes & Payouts

Main Tournament

 First Place – Prize Package valued at \$3,000

 Second Place – Prize Package valued at \$2,000

Non-Guided Team Bonus

 \$750 Bonus (CASH PAYOUT)

A Non-Guided Team is defined as a team in which no member has earned income from charter fishing within the previous 12 months.

Optional Calcutta

Team Calcutta (Heaviest Redfish)

- Entry: \$200
- Payout:
 - 1st Place: 70%
 - 2nd Place: 30%

Optional Cabbage Key PIG Poker Run

¼ Pound added to your team's weight.

- At weigh-in, team must produce Oct. 17th date stamped receipt from Cabbage Key for minimum of \$100.
- At weigh-in, team must produce PIG Poker Chip obtained from Cabbage Key marina bar at the base of the steps on Oct. 17th.