

THE STEINHATCHEE FIDDLER CRAB FESTIVAL
10th ANNUAL FIDDLER CRAB FISHING TOURNAMENT
Saturday, February 17th, 2018

FISHING: This is An “Angler Contest”; Anglers can fish against each other on the same boat or from the shore. There are no limits on anglers per boat. Anglers must fish in waters from Horseshoe Beach Channel to Keaton Beach Channel and boats may only launch and return from landings within this area. Airboats are permitted. No outside area fish will be weighed-in. Federal, State and/or County fishing laws and regulations apply.

SAFETY: SAFETY IS ALWAYS FIRST. Safety is paramount; Captains are responsible for the safe and legal operation of their boats at all times. Captains are reminded that they should have an operational VHF radio on board their boat for safety and PFDs for each individual. In the event of an emergency on the water Channel 16 is monitored by the local Coast Guard as well as Tow Boat US and Sea Tow.

QUALIFYING FISH: Angler Division - Fish eligible for this tournament are redfish, spotted seatrout and flounder. All fish must be caught on hook and line and landed in whole condition. Anglers must strike and fight their fish unassisted to the landing net. Fish must be of legal length, bag and possession limits. The winning fish will be the HEAVIEST Redfish, Spotted Seatrout and Flounder, plus the Redfish with the Most Spots counted on both sides of the fish’s body. Spots must be separated to count. Spots that are not separated, irregular or misshaped will count as one spot. The weigh master’s count is final. In case of a tie, the earliest fish judged will win. Entering a fish that is not legal or has any signs of mutilation will not be weighed and will result in disqualification from the tournament. The weigh master judgement call is final.

Jr. Angler Division – Must be 12 and under to qualify. Jr. Anglers are allowed to weigh-in any legal fish, but NO stingrays or sharks. The winning fish will be the heaviest fish weighed-in.

AWARDS: Cash prizes will be awarded for Heaviest Redfish \$500, Heaviest Spotted Seatrout \$500, Heaviest Flounder \$350, and Most Redfish Spots \$350 at the Sea Hag Marina at the conclusion of weigh-in. Jr. Angler will win a \$100 gift certificate to Sea Hag Marina.

JUDGING: Weigh-in will be at the Sea Hag Marina. Anglers may bring their fish for judging any time from 2pm- 3pm. When weighing in you must present you registration card. Fish will NOT be weighed without registration card in hand.

CHECKOUT AND CHECK IN: This is a fund-raising tournament meant to be enjoyed by all. Please play by the rules. No boat check. You must be registered for this tournament by 9am on February 17, 2018. You can register in advance at Sea Hag Marina and pick up your registration packet and captains bag at the Captain’s Meeting. Each angler must register at a cost of \$30 and \$15 for Jr. Angers.

THE CAPTAIN’S MEETING IS MANDATORY FOR ANGLERS. It will be held at the Sea Hag Marina, Friday, February 16th, 2018 at 6pm.

WEATHER: Use your best judgment, but have fun.

Tournament Contacts: Sea Hag Marina, 352-498-3008, Kristin Skipper