

WINTER FISHING CONTEST

The club's Winter Fishing Competition is based on total accumulated points. The point system is based on the club's standardized species and tackle category chart, which appears on the reverse of the official club affidavit. A member catching and releasing any eligible fish will be awarded 200 points. Fish that officially weighed on a club certified scale and exceed the base weight shown on the standardized Winter Contest Species Chart will earn additional points using the High Point Fish calculation (see example below).

It is to each angler's advantage to enter as many different species of fish as possible and to catch these fish on a wide variety of tackle divisions. Only one fish per tackle division will be scored. For example, once a 200-point or higher jack is entered in Spin 8, no more points will be awarded to that angler for jack entries in the Spin 8 division.

When entering your catch, it will only be considered for the line class/tippet categories you indicate on the affidavit. The club does not automatically "bump up" any entries. Multiple catches of the same species and tackle classification can be entered on one affidavit. For example, if you caught and released two bonefish on fly 12, you could enter both fish on one affidavit by writing fly 12/20 on the line class blank and indicate 2 releases in the release blank.

The maximum number of awards any member can win in the Winter Contest is two. The overall Winter Contest Grand Champion is only allowed to win the overall award once during any three consecutive years. There are six different award categories in the Winter Contest. They are as follows:

- 1) TACKLE CONTEST – First place awards will be offered to the angler who scores the most points in each of the four tackle divisions (spin, plug, fly & general). Any fish released in accordance with general angling rules scores 200 points. The key to winning the tackle contest is to simply target as many different species of eligible fish as possible using specific tackle.
 - 1st Place Fly (minimum of 6 species and 1500 points)
 - 1st Place Spin (minimum of 10 species and 2500 points)
 - 1st Place Plug (minimum of 10 species and 2500 points)
 - 1st Place General (minimum 10 species and 2500 points)
- 2) HIGH POINT FISH – Six (6) awards (3 Inshore/Nearshore Species, 3 Offshore/Reef Species) will be presented to the anglers who catch the highest point scoring fish regardless of tackle. Points are calculated based on the weight of the fish. To calculate points for the High Point Fish competition divide 200 by the fishes' base weight figure on the species and tackle category chart (see reverse of affidavit). This will give you your fishes' point per pound figure. Simply multiply this figure by the fishes' actual weight to calculate the total point value.

EXAMPLE: A 20-pound snook caught on 12 lb. general tackle. Divide 200 by the fish's base weight of 8, this will give the point per pound value. The final step is to multiply the point per pound figure by the weight of the fish. This gives the snook's total point value.

$$\begin{aligned} &200 \text{ (point constant)} \div 8 \text{ (base weight for snook on 12 lb GEN)} \\ &= 25 \text{ (points per pound)} \times 20 \text{ lbs (actual weight of fish)} \\ &= 500 \text{ points} \end{aligned}$$

Each High Point Fish award winner (3 in offshore/reel species division, 3 in inshore/nearshore species division) will receive fishing tackle and a commemorative award.

3) RELEASE CHAMPION AWARDS – Awarded to the angler scoring the most release points regardless of tackle in the following divisions:

- Most Sailfish Releases – commemorative award
- Most Blue Marlin Releases – commemorative award
- Most White Marlin Releases – commemorative award
- Most Swordfish Releases – commemorative award
- Most Bonefish Releases – commemorative award
- Most Tarpon Releases – commemorative award (minimum size for tarpon release entries is 36 inches)

NOTE: Winners will be those who score the most catch and release points based upon the following point scales ~ Sailfish, Swordfish, Blue & White Marlin: 100 pts. live bait, 300 pts. dead bait, 500 pts. artificial lure, 1000 pts. on fly. Bonefish & Tarpon: 100 pts. live or dead bait, 300 pts. artificial lure, 500 pts. on fly. Remember, only fish caught in Florida can be entered. If necessary ties will be broken by each anglers total number of release points divided by the total number of fish caught and released.

4) OVERALL WINTER CONTEST CHAMPION – One award presented to the angler accumulating the most points using at least three of the of the four tackle classes (Spin, Plug, Fly or General).

- Winner receives assortment of Penn fishing tackle, plus a personalized commemorative award.

5) JUNIOR HIGH POINT FISH AWARDS – same as adult high point fish awards but applies to anglers age 10–18 years old only. For contest purposes Junior anglers are sub-divided into two (2) categories, Juniors (ages 10–14) and Young Adults (ages 15–18). Six awards will be presented in each sub-division, to the junior/young adult who catch the highest point scoring fish (3 Inshore/Nearshore Species, 3 Offshore/Reef Species) regardless of tackle. Catches must be made totally unassisted.

6) PEE WEE AWARDS (contest runs annually Nov. 1st – Oct. 31st) – Pee Wee anglers will receive one award annually for any fish entered on any tackle. One award per Pee Wee only, regardless of the number of entries.