



**Eighth Annual Frostbite Fish-Off  
2019 Competition Rules  
Trout Unlimited  
Southern Colorado Greenback Chapter 509**

**TEAM RULES**

- Any standard method of fly fishing is acceptable, (i.e.), nymphing (strike indicator, lead weights, 3 flies maximum), dry fly, Euro nymphing, streamers.
- One fly rod and fly reel, not more than twelve feet/three hundred sixty six centimeters in length may be used at one time.
- Only one competitor may fish at a time – only one line in the water at any one time.
- Rods may be rigged and ready to fish prior to competition.
- Competitors may have spare rods and reels and are responsible for carrying and protecting their own equipment.
- **Team members should stay together during competition but if they want/need to scout their beat competitors must inform the controller of their intentions.**

**FLY LINES**

- Any factory made, floating, sinking, or sink tip line may be used.

**COMPETITION LEADERS**

- A single leader may be used of any length.
- Leaders may be knotted or knotless, tapered or level.

**COMPETITION FLIES**

- Competitors may use floating, weighted or sinking artificial flies.
- Each fly must be dressed on a single hook, without limit as to size.
- The length of the dressed fly will be at the discretion of the competitor.
- A maximum of three flies are permitted on one rig at one time.
- Fly Floatant or Sink It is permitted
- No scent, smell or attractant type substance may be applied to flies. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification from the tournament.

**LANDING NETS**

- The material of the landing net must be soft cotton or other non-abrasive material and preferably of knotless construction.

- Landing nets must not exceed 48 inches overall length, when fully extended.

#### **DURATION OF EVENTS**

- There will be four (4) separate 1.5 hour sessions for the event.
- Morning Session 9:00a-10:30a and 11:00a-12:30p
- Lunch will be provided at a common pick up point – Goodnight Barn near Valco Bridge
- Afternoon Session 1:30p-3:00p and 3:30p-5:00p

#### **VENUES AND BEAT DRAWINGS**

- The two (2) morning and two (2) afternoon sessions will be randomly drawn by a team member on the evening prior to the tournament.
- Every team will fish 2 different beats in each section.
- Beats reassignment just to keep competitors together is not allowed and beats may not be traded.
- If a team representative is not present, beats will be drawn for the team by a member of the tournament committee.

#### **FISHING THE BEATS**

- Competition waters will be divided into upper and lower sections with nine (9) beats in each.
- Beats will be established with the prime objective of providing all competitors with equal fishing opportunities.
- All beats will be clearly defined and may not be altered in any way.
- A competitor may only cast his flies within the marked boundaries of his beat and he must remain within the boundaries of the beat during the session.
- Only one competitor may fish at any one time. Teammates may net each other's fish.
- If the angler in the adjacent beat does not object, a competitor has a maximum of ten minutes to play and land a fish that was hooked in their beat and has moved up or down stream into the adjacent beat.
- In the event non-contestants interfere with fishing opportunity in the assigned beat, the Sector Judge may reassign the team to the alternate beat, when requested by the team.
- Reassignment is the sole discretion of the Sector Judge.
- In the event of a beat reassignment, the team will be given 15 minutes to relocate and fish out the remaining time, for a total of 1.5 hours.

#### **PROHIBITIONS – PARTICIPANTS .....**

- ... or agents of participants may not fish competition waters within 5 day of the competition (Pueblo Dam to Pueblo Blvd) - practice may take place on any water downstream of Pueblo Blvd.
- ... may not use electronic or other communications devices during a competitive session.
- ... may not use binoculars or visual aid devices beyond polarized sunglasses.
- ... may not request advice or accept material help related to fishing from anyone during a competitive session
- ... may not receive spotting assistance from non-team members

## CONTEST SUPERVISION

### SECTOR JUDGES

There will be 2 Sector Judges for each the Lower and Upper Sections. The arrangements for ensuring that Sector Judges are knowledgeable, competent and conversant with the contest rules is the responsibility of the Tournament Committee. Rules, and any modifications, are to be reviewed and approved by the Contest Coordinator.

#### Duties & Responsibilities

- The proper conduct of competition within their assigned sector.
- Supervision of the controllers to ensure that they are keeping accurate records and are enforcing the observance of the competition rules.
- Assist controllers in rule interpretation if there is any doubt about a possible infraction of the rules.
- Supervise the recording of suspected infractions of the Rules and reporting them to the Competition Coordinator.
- Ensure that no individual has access to competitors during competition sessions. All observers should be kept well away so that they do not interfere or communicate with competitors.
- Review the measurement and record keeping made by Controllers.
- Other duties may be assigned to by the Competition Coordinator.

### BEAT CONTROLLERS

There will be a Controller for each beat. The arrangements for ensuring that beat Controllers are knowledgeable, competent and conversant with the contest rules are the responsibility of the Tournament Committee.

#### Duties & Responsibilities

- Accurately record the details of each eligible fish, including the length to nearest 1/4 inch and the time of capture using form provided during training.
- Call in morning results and hand in final scoring sheets to results committee.
- Warn competitors of any breach of the Rules that appear probable.
- Record any infraction of the Rules and report this information to the Sector Judge
- Help coordinate fishing efforts of competitors and non-competitors within beat.

#### Penalty for Infraction of Rules

- Officials will only provide one warning for any infraction of the rules.
- Any fish caught while breaking a rule will not be scored – warnings included
- If the same infraction is repeated at any time throughout the competition the competitor will be disqualified from the current session.
- Lack of sportsmanship towards non competing fishermen, other competitors or teams, or officials may result in disqualification.
- Infractions will be communicated through Sector Judges to ensure uniform enforcement of rules throughout the day.
- Any action by competitors or officials, which would produce fraudulent or biased results, may result in disqualifications.

## FISH

- All species of trout at least 10 inches in length qualify to be measured. For measuring purposes, the length will be from the tip of the nose to tip of the tail in inches
- Only fish “fair hooked” in the mouth area, i.e. in front of the rear edge of the gill cover are eligible. No snags or “unearned runs” will be measured.
- If a competitor wishes a fish to be scored, he must land it in a net, remove the hook and pass the fish to the controller for measurement and recording.
- After measurement the angler or his partner must revive the fish and release it, taking care not to damage the fish.
- If a competitor decides that a fish is ineligible or is undersized, he is not required to net it, but must release it into the water taking care not to cause any damage and ideally without touching it.
- A fish hooked during a competition session is eligible if landed within ten (10) minutes of the end of that session.
- In the event of the loss of a fish by a Controller before measurement, the team and Controller will agree on an estimated length rounded up to the nearest inch.

## SCORING

- Fish will be measured and rounded up to the nearest ¼ inch – 10 inch minimum.
- Scores will be kept for each team and individual competitor.
- The two (2) longest fish per session/beat will be scored and the total length of eight (8) fish will determine the tournament awards.
- Ties for positions between individuals or teams will be broken as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> tie breaker - longest fish; 2<sup>nd</sup> tie breaker – 2nd longest fish; 3<sup>rd</sup> tie breaker – 3<sup>rd</sup> longest fish.

## ATTENTION ANGLERS

The tournament date was changed to avoid spawning or pre-spawn behavior. In any case, please be careful when wading. An update will be given to tournament competitors/officials prior to Saturday.

## PERMITS REQUIRED

A one day or annual Colorado State Park Pass will be required for the tournament along with a Pueblo Nature Center parking pass if fishing the lower beats. Participants will be notified prior to tournament if any change to this requirement.

## AWARDS and PRIZES

- First, second and third place team prizes will be awarded:
  - First place - \$1000/team
  - Second place – \$700/team
  - Third place - \$400/team
- Fourth and fifth place teams will be awarded:
  - Fourth Place - \$200 – (\$100 fly shop gift cards/angler)
  - Fifth Place \$100 – (\$50 fly shop gift cards/angler)
- Additional awards will be presented for:
  - Largest Rainbow/Cuttbow Trout - \$100 fly shop gift card
  - Largest Brown Trout – \$100 fly shop gift card

- Largest Sucker – Case of PBR or \$25 gift fly shop card if under 21 years of age