

Official KayakMaster Rules for 2006

1. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY: Participation is open anyone 18 years of age or older. Minors are eligible to participate with a parent or guardian signature on the release form. (Must meet all legal requirements.) Minors must also have the signature of his or her parent or legal guardian on the entry form as applicable to any state, commonwealth, county, or federal regulations or law; obligation to know these rules falls upon the parent and not upon KayakMasters. A completed entry form and entry fee must be received no later than the published deadline.

2. REGISTRATION AND CAPTAINS' MEETING: ACA member discount registration is \$90 up to two weeks before the captains meeting, then \$100 up till the captain's meeting. There are no additional fees for team entry. Registration will be open at the Captains' Meeting. It is MANDATORY that all contestants attend the Friday Night Captains' meeting (see schedule at end of document). If a contestant is unable to attend the Captains' Meeting he or she must prearrange eligibility with KayakMasters before being allowed to fish. Additional wrist bands for the awards banquet are \$10.

- Entry forms with insufficient fund checks will be returned and not allowed to participate with out cash or certified funds for entry. Each angler is responsible for her or his own entry individually. KayakMasters Tournament Series is not responsible for mail delivery service. KayakMasters does accept credit cards over the phone, (1-409-753-1035)

- Entry fees may be transferred to another participant or refunded provided notification is received by KayakMasters Tournament Series up to eight (8) days prior to the event. Entry fees will not be transferred or refunded for any reason seven (7) days prior to the event or later, but may be pushed forward to a future KayakMasters Event.

3. SAFETY: safe boating will be observed at all times. DURING COMPETITION, EACH CONTESTANT IS REQUIRED TO FOLLOW U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS INCLUDING POSSESSION OF COAST GUARD APPROVED TYPE III PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD), 360 DEGREE LIGHT, AND A WHISTLE. **FRESHWATER EVENTS REQUIRE THAT PFD BE WORN WHILE CONTESTANT IS IN HIS/HER KAYAK!**

4. STARTING TIME: Starting time means launch time. The exact starting time will be announced at the captains meeting and will be one half hour before sunrise at the tournament location. You can start fishing at starting time.

5. COMMUNICATIONS: the use of mobile communication is allowed.

6. SPORTSMANSHIP: all contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation. Intoxication will be cause for immediate disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or the use of illegal drugs is allowed. This rule extends through the signing of the check-in form at tournament headquarters. The illegal use of drugs, participation in any criminal activities, or other conduct reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules and the law are grounds for disqualification and/or rejection of any application for participation and the return of any prizes awarded. KayakMasters will seek legal remedy.

7. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS: Artificial lures only. No live or dead bait, no tipping with once living creatures such as fish or shrimp. 100% artificial baits such as fish bites, RT slugs, Berkeley power baits or Gulp and other impregnated plastics will be allowed.

8. PROHIBITED: There is absolutely NO CHUMMING, NO NATURAL BAIT, NO TIPPING WITH BAIT and NO FERRYING (i.e. using another vehicle or boat, motorized or not to transport your kayak to a fishing location.)

9. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Saltwater contestants may fish in the following designated waters: waters within a twentyfive mile radius of the Captains Meeting site, unless otherwise specified under "Tournament Announcements." All fishing must be in public water accessible by kayak via a public launch.

- During the hours of competition, contestants may not obtain or receive assistance, including but not limited to following a non-competitor's boat, the placing of markers by a non-competitor, being towed by or riding on motorized vessels, or receiving electronic, voice or data communication from a non competitor. No craft may contain more than one person.

- All angling must be conducted from the Kayak or Canoe or, if anchored, within sight of the vessel. Other non- motorized vessels will be permitted at the discretion of the Tournament committee. No electric or combustion engines permitted on the boat during the event. The Tournament committee at the Captains' meeting must authorize boats for use in events. Contestant may leave the boat to stand or to wade while fishing but must be in sight of their boat. Kayaks, Canoes, or permitted non-motorized (human powered) craft are the only mode of on the water transport allowed.

10. SCORING: Catch and release criteria, will be determined by the length of each fish, combined in the case of the slam, and individually for each category. Each contestant will be issued a camera and measuring device for uniformity, and a list on which to record photos taken. Contestants have the option to use their own digital camera if the tournament media reader can read their camera's media. The first photo on the roll must be a photo designated at the captain's meeting. Fish must be photographed in or on boat on the provided tape measure, clearly showing the length of the fish and the "marker" obtained at the captains' meeting. More than one photo of a fish can be taken. Length is determined from the forwardmost point of the fish to the natural (un-pinched) tip of the tail. The judging committee will review the photos, identified by camera # only, to verify reported results and determine place winners. The tournament director is responsible for the final call regarding split decisions.

Cameras must be checked in by 4pm along with measuring devices, by the returning fisherman, who will sign in. Your signature confirms your safe return. Please sign in whether or not you are submitting your camera for review. Measuring sticks are property of KayakMasters and must be returned at check in.

Tournament Director is not liable for photo processing and condition of camera. In the event of a tie the most visibly larger fish of contestant's catch will be used to break tie. Redfish, Flounder and Spotted Sea Trout are targeted species in saltwater. Largemouth Bass are the target species in fresh water.

11. LATE PENALTY: Contestants who have not checked in by 4 pm are disqualified.

12. PROTEST: must be made in writing and delivered to an KayakMasters Tournament Series tournament official within 30 minutes of the official check-in time at the Captains' meeting or within 30 minutes of the official check- in time at weigh in. Any participants involved in or accused of misconduct will be expected to make themselves available to rectify the alleged infractions; the tournament director is the final authority.

13. RELEASE OF LIABILITY: A waiver and release of liability statement is part of the entry form. It is required of each contestant that they take responsibility for themselves while participating in Tournament activities.

14. CAMERA RELEASE: Cameras supplied by KayakMasters remain the Sole Ownership of KayakMasters Tournament Series to be used at their discretion. Contestants grant KayakMasters Tournament Series and the sponsors, the unconditional right to use their name, voice, photographic likeness and biographical information and fishing tips and instruction in connection with KayakMasters Paddling Tournament Series, video/audio production, promotions and/or articles and press releases, and shall not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use.

15. RULE CHANGES: Rule interpretation will be left exclusively to the KayakMasters Tournament Series tournament director. The decisions of the KayakMasters Tournament Series tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.

16. CASH PRIZE STRUCTURE for 2006 KayakMasters* IN SHORE SLAM, Flounder-Trout-Redfish, or Fresh Water Slam of 3 longest bass (and/or Swipers* when applicable) Grand Prize- \$1,000 cash

- Second place slam \$500.

Largest Flounder or Bass* - 1st place \$500 - 2nd place \$200

Largest Redfish - 1st place \$500 - 2nd place \$200

Largest Trout - 1st place \$500 - 2nd place \$200

Cash amounts are subject to change based on number of entrants. Minimum number of entrants to guarantee cash prizes is 50.

Prizes will also be given by raffle; each contestant will receive 2 tickets at the Saturday return sign in. Additional tickets may be purchased. Contestants are eligible for only one of the categorized prizes but remain eligible for all raffled prizes.

AMATEUR DIVISION PRIZE STRUCTURE: First Place Slam or Longest 3 bass for fresh water is Ocean Kayak Prowler 15 or Prowler 13, fully outfitted, ready to fish! Other prizes will depend on Sponsor's generosity but will include Rods, reels, PFD's, paddles, and other accessories.

17. POINTS STRUCTURE: Each contestant paying to fish this event will be awarded 49 points. Inshore Slam/ BASS winner receives an additional 51 points for a total of 100. Additional points are awarded as follows:

Second Place Slam 50 points

First place in each category 49

Second Place 47

Third Place 45

Angler's total point accumulation is carried forward; the KayakMasters Tournament overall points Champion will be named along with the runner up. In order for an angler to qualify as the final points champion he or she must have placed in at least one previous KayakMasters Tourney. Tie breaker will be the number of times the contestant placed. There will be 4 Texas tournaments (2 in fresh water, 2 in salt water) the over all score will reflect the top 3 performances for each angler (that way anyone who completes in all 4 has an advantage of improving their odds).

Teams:

Kayak fishing teams of up to 4 members may compete for the best placement of their individual team members. Only team members placing in the individual competition will garner points for their team. Teams will be awarded points; 3 points for first and 2 for second. The winning team at each tournament has the privilege of taking home the Woody (trophy), but must return it at the next KayakMasters event. The team of the year winner will have amassed the highest point total in 4 tournaments. There is no fee for team competition in 2006.