

2021 Cobia World Championships & Crab Cruncher Classic Rules

- 1. This is a boat tournament.**
- 2. The 2021 Cobia World Championships will be primarily a tag and release tournament - with the tournament champion being the boat that turns in the most completed tag cards throughout the tournament. Prizes will also be awarded for the largest cobia caught and weighed during the tournament.**
- 3. To further promote conservation, cobia will only be allowed to be weighed for the 2021 Cobia World Championships from 4pm to 8pm on the following weekend dates (April 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30 and May 1 & 2) at Harbor Docks restaurant in Destin, FL. All cobia must be brought in by boat on the day they were caught.**
- 4. An initial supply of tag cards will be given to each boat upon entry in the 2021 Cobia World Championships. Anglers are encouraged to also obtain tag kits if they anticipate using more than the initial allotment (10). Additional free tag kits can be obtained through Alex Fogg at 443.995.6416 or afogg@myokaloosa.com.**
- 5. All tag cards must be completed and turned in to be entered into the Tag Card Raffle. All information must be filled for tag card to be considered completed. Tag cards can be turned in at Harbor Docks or via coordination with Alex Fogg.**
- 6. All tagged cobia must be a minimum of 24 inches.**
- 7. All released cobia entered in the 2021 Cobia World Championships must be netted (or landed in a non-harmful way) and brought on board for measuring, tagging and photographing.**
- 8. Cobia MUST be clearly photographed with the tournament designator (will be distributed prior to tournament beginning) to be eligible to enter in the tournament. Photo must be sent to Alex Fogg via text at 443-995-6416 or email to afogg@myokaloosa.com by end of the day the cobia is released. Alex will verify submission of all catches, if no confirmation is received entry is not considered complete and will not count.**
- 9. Any released cobia that appears to be injured or harmed in any way (such as gaff holes/tears) will not be allowed to be entered.**
- 10. Any cobia must weigh a minimum of 45lbs to be eligible to be weighed in both the Cobia World Championships and Crab Cruncher Classic.**
- 11. Weigh-ins for the Crab Cruncher Classic will be held on April 9 & 10 from 4pm til 8pm and April 11 from 4pm til 7pm at Harbor Docks.**
- 12. The Crab Cruncher Classic Champion will determined by the largest cobia weighed during the tournament. In the case of a tie, the first fish weighed will be deemed the winner.**
- 13. Fishing is restricted to Florida state waters only. No cobia caught from any area outside of Florida state waters may be entered into the Cobia World Championships or Crab Cruncher Classic. Florida's state waters extend 9 nautical miles from the shoreline, and the acknowledged Alabama - Florida state boundary is located at (87° 31.100 W).**

14. FAD Rules

a. The use of illegal fish aggregating devices (hereinafter called "FADs") is strictly prohibited during the Cobia World Championships. For tournament purposes, FADs will be defined as any permanent or non permanent structure or device that is deployed into the Gulf of Mexico for the purpose of attracting fish to its location that has not met proper United States Coast Guard and/or Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission guidelines. Participating vessels and/or individuals found to have participated in the deployment of, assisted in deployment of, and/or acquisition of coordinates of previously deployed FADs from any source in 2021 will be disqualified from the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic pending results of a polygraph test. The captain/owner of each registered vessel must sign the FAD Rules Acknowledgment Waiver accompanied with the Official Tournament Entry Form to be eligible to participate in the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic.

b. Any cobia knowingly or intentionally found, hooked, and/or caught on or near a FAD will not be eligible to be entered in the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic. If in the course of traditional cobia sight fishing a cobia on or near a FAD is found, hooked, and/or caught that cobia will not be eligible to be weighed in the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic, unless it is determined that there was at no point any knowledge of said FAD. Participating vessels and/or individuals found to have knowingly caught and weighed any cobia on or near a FAD will be disqualified from the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic, pending results of a polygraph test.

15. Intentionally snagging or foul hooking cobia is strictly prohibited. Any cobia determined to have been intentionally snagged or foul hooked will be disqualified.

16. All fish must be caught on rod and reel.

17. The Cobia World Championships and Crab Cruncher Classic is open to all anglers.

18. The Junior World Champion will be the angler thirteen (13) years or younger who weighs the heaviest cobia.

19. The Ladies World Champion will be the female angler who weighs the heaviest cobia.

20. Any protest must be made in writing within 24 hours from when the potential issue occurred and be accompanied by a \$500 cash deposit. If protest is upheld, the deposit will be refunded. If the protest proves invalid, the deposit will be forfeited.

21. Decision of the tournament committee is final. Violation of tournament rules will subject the vessel, captain, and/or angler to disqualification. In the event of disqualification, tournament entry fees will be forfeited.

22. Any or all prize winners and contestants may be subject to polygraph test. In the case of a failed polygraph test, participants will be disqualified from the Cobia World Championships/Crab Cruncher Classic.

23. All prize monies MUST be accepted and picked up by 6:00 pm May 31, 2021 at Harbor Docks office. At 6:01 pm on May 31, 2021 any remaining monies will be forfeited and donated to the annual Take-A-Kid Fishing Day.

24. All rules are subject to change. Any rule changes will be announced during the Captains' Meeting at Harbor Docks on March 31, 2021 at 6pm. The Crab Cruncher Classic Captains' Meeting and signup party will be held at Harbor Docks at 6pm Thursday, April 8, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact Eddie Morgan at 850.502.9733.