

NORFOLK ANGLER'S CLUB  
PRIZE FISH CONTEST RULES

SALTWATER MINIMUMS FOR PRIZE FISH ENTRY

AMBERJACK	RELEASE ONLY	50"
ATLANTIC BONTIA	3 LBS            8 OZ	N/A
BASS, BLACK SEA	5 LBS            0 OZ	N/A
BASS, STRIPED	40 LBS           0 OZ	44"
BLUEFISH	16 LBS           0 OZ	36"
COBIA	55 LBS           0 OZ	50"
CREVALLE, JACK	RELEASE ONLY	40"
CROAKER	3 LBS            0 OZ	20"
DOLPHIN	25 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
BRUM, BLACK	80 LBS           0 OZ	46"
DRUM, RED	RELEASE ONLY	46"
FALSE ALBACORE	RELEASE ONLY	32"
FLOUNDER	7 LBS            0 OZ	26"
GROUPER, SNOWY	25 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
GROUPER, WARSAW	43 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
KINGFISH/ROUNDHEAD	1 LB             8 OZ	16"
MACKEREL, KING	20 LBS           0 OZ	44"
MACKEREL, SPANISH	4 LBS            0 OZ	26"
MARLIN, BLUE	RELEASE ONLY	N/A
MARLIN, WHITE	RELEASE ONLY	N/A
POMPANO	1 LB             8 OZ	16"
SAILFISH	RELEASE ONLY	N/A
SHARKS	RELEASE ONLY	72"
SHEEPSHEAD	10 LBS           0 OZ	24"
SPADEFISH	9 LBS            0 OZ	22"
SPEARFISH	RELEASE ONLY	N/A
SPOT	1 LB             0 OZ	13"
SWORDFISH	100 LBS           0 OZ	ANY
TARPON	RELEASE ONLY	36"
TAUTOG	9 LBS            0 OZ	23"
TRIGGERFISH, GREY	4 LBS            0 OZ	20"
TROUT, GRAY	9 LBS            0 OZ	30"
TROUT, SPECKLED	5 LBS            0 OZ	24"
TUNA, BIGEYE	70 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
TUNA, BLUEFIN	100 LBS           0 OZ	60"
TRUE ALBACORE (LONGFIN)	40 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
TUNA, YELLOWFIN	70 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
TILEFISH, BLUELINE	10 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
TILEFISH, GOLDEN	30 LBS           0 OZ	N/A
WAHOO	35 LBS           0 OZ	N/A

## FRESHWATER MINIMUMS FOR PRIZE FISH ENTRY

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	8 LBS	0 OZ	22"
BASS, ROCK	1 LB	0 OZ	12"
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	5 LBS	0 OZ	20"
BASS, STRIPED	20 LBS	0 OZ	37"
BASS, WHITE	2 LBS	8 OZ	18"
BASS, HYBRID STRIPED	8 LBS	0 OZ	24"
BOWFIN (GRINDLE)	10 LBS	0 OZ	30"
CARP	20 LBS	0 OZ	34"
CATFISH, BLUE	30 LBS	0 OZ	38"
CATFISH, CHANNEL	12 LBS	0 OZ	30"
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	25 LBS	0 OZ	40"
CHAIN PICKEREL	4 LBS	0 OZ	24"
CRAPPIE	2 LBS	0 OZ	15"
FRESHWATER DRUM	6 LBS	0 OZ	24"
GAR	10 LBS	0 OZ	40"
MUSKELLUNGE	15 LBS	0 OZ	40"
NORTHERN PIKE	6 LBS	0 OZ	30"
PERCH, WHITE	1 LB	4 OZ	13"
PERCH, YELLOW	1 LB	4 OZ	12"
SAUGER	2 LBS	0 OZ	18"
SUNFISH	1 LB	0 OZ	11"
TROUT, BROOK	2 LBS	0 OZ	16"
TROUT, BROWN	5 LBS	0 OZ	25"
TROUT, RAINBOW	4 LBS	0 OZ	22"
WALLEYE	5 LBS	0 OZ	25"

## PRIZE FISH CONTEST RULES

1. Contest will run from 01 January to 31 December. Entries must be turned in within 30 days of the date of catch. All December entries must be turned in by the regular January meeting.
2. All blanks on entry forms must be completely filled in to be considered for award.
3. Only fish caught for recreational purposes, in accordance with state regulations, are eligible.
4. The fish must be taken on hook and line only. Power reels are not permitted. No assistance at the rod or line shall be permitted, except holding the leader while the fish is being gaffed or boated.
5. The fish must be caught during the legal season for that species and from waters open to public fishing.
6. The territorial limits for this contest shall be: Shoreline/surf fishing - the waters of Virginia. Boaters - the waters of Virginia and North Carolina as long as boats depart/return to a Virginia port.
7. The contest is open to all members in good standing whose dues have been paid before the catch. There is no entry fee.
8. NAC contest rules for identifying the prize fish for each species will closely parallel the rules used to determine the annual trophy fish for the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament (VSWFT) and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) for freshwater species. Specifically:
  - a. Per VSWFT/VDGIF rules, for those fish species where the heaviest weight is recognized as the trophy winning fish, so too will NAC recognize the heaviest fish entered for that species meeting VSWFT/VDGIF citation criteria. All entries must be weighed at an official weigh station. If a “weight” fish is not entered, then the longest length fish meeting the VSWFT/VDGIF citation criteria for release will be the NAC prize fish winner.
  - b. For those species of fish where RELEASE ONLY citations are awarded by the VSWFT/VDGIF, NAC will recognize the longest fish in each species as the NAC prize fish winner. Per VSWFT /VDGIF rules, fish length is determined as follows:
    1. Lay the fish **on top of or beside** a flat measuring rule. Do **not** lay the rule over the curvature of the fish's body.
    2. Close the fish's mouth and measure from the tip of the snout (or lower jaw) to the end of the tail to the nearest ¼ inch.
    3. Have an observer verify the length and complete the witness information on the application. Or, take a picture of the fish and complete the length witness information yourself.
  - c. For Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish. As estimated length and weight are difficult to determine without possible injury to the fish, NAC will recognize the prize fish winner by the number of release fish in each species by any one angler.
9. In event of a tie in any species, the earliest fish taken in the season will determine the winner.

10. A copy of the VSWFT/VDGIF citation application or the NAC PRIZE FISH ENTRY FORM must be provided to the NAC Awards Director for NAC prize fish consideration.
11. First place award winners will be recognized at the club's annual awards banquet.
12. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place points will be assigned for each species. The anglers with the highest overall points total will be recognized as the NAC Anglers of the Year in the following categories: Male/Female – Salt/Fresh water.
13. NAC will also recognize two Release Anglers of the Year - one saltwater, one freshwater. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place points will be assigned for each species. The anglers with the highest overall points total will be recognized as the NAC Saltwater or Freshwater Release Angler of the Year. Again, only those fish meeting the length minimums for state release citation will be considered for this NAC award.
14. The Prize Fish Committee will also consider recognition of an "Exceptional Catch(s)" such as Most Outstanding Saltwater/Freshwater Catch.
15. Youth anglers must be age 15 or less on the date of the catch. For youth anglers, there are no minimum size limits for fish and virtually all fish qualify for recognition.
16. Acceptability of fish entered in this contest will be entirely within the discretion of the Prize Fish Committee, whose decision will be final.