

**HI-MAR STRIPER CLUB
2024 SPRING STRIPED BASS
TOURNAMENT**

**OFFICIAL RULES AND
REGULATIONS**

UNDERSTANDING THE RULES

It is the responsibility of all participants to familiarize themselves with all the rules and regulations and agree to abide by said rules and regulations. Participants also agree that all decisions of the Tournament Committee are final.

GENERAL RULES

This is a Catch, Photo, Release Tournament. All fish caught and photographed during the tournament and received at the official email address by 4 PM **on Saturday June 1, 2024**, will be considered. Winners will be determined by members of the Tournament committee after reviewing emailed photographs of the longest Striped Bass, laid flat on the official tournament ruler, measured by placing fish's closed lips against ruler front stop to the center of the tail fork. The entire official ruler and the tournament Boat ticket must be visible in the photograph. Anglers may enter and keep legal fish as determined by State and Federal laws.

WHO CAN BE A CAPTAIN?

Members who register as captain or alternate-captain must be at least 18 years of age and must have had their eighteenth birthday prior to fishing the tournament.

CAPTAINS MEETING

Mandatory- **Friday, May 31 beginning at 5:30 PM-** Ross Brewing Co. 909 Main St. Belford, NJ

JUNIOR ANGLER DIVISION

- Top Junior Angler will receive a gift (rod & reel)
- Junior Angler must actually catch the fish and a photo emailed to CPR@Hi-Mar.com showing the Junior Angler holding the fish with the Tournament Placard showing the Boat Number.
- Junior Angler Prize is for junior anglers, 15 years of age and younger.
- Junior Angler must be listed where required on the tournament forms.

GENERAL TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The Tournament will be held rain or shine. It is the sole responsibility of the Captain of each entered boat to determine if weather and sea conditions are safe to fish.
2. You, by entering this tournament do hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the General Release and Indemnification Agreement and agree to abide by the Official Rules and Regulations prescribed for competition in the Hi-Mar Striper Club Fall Striped Bass Tournament
3. Boats are limited to six (6) persons per boat, including captain and crew.
4. Rod and Reel only, no restrictions on the line test used.
5. State and Federal Regulations prevail. Every effort should be made to handle and return fish to the water without harm.
6. This is a **Catch, Photo and Release** Tournament. Any Striped Bass caught and photographed on a participating boat during the Tournament may be entered. The photo must be emailed to the official tournament email address (CPR@Hi-Mar.com) and received by **4 PM Saturday June 1st, 2024** to be considered. Boat #, Angler's Name and fish Length shall be in the Subject line of the email containing the entered fish's photo.
7. **Winners will be determined by members of the Tournament Committee after reviewing the emailed photographs of the longest combined length of two (2) striped bass. Fish MUST be laid flat on the official tournament ruler, measured by placing fish's closed lips against the ruler front stop to the center of the tail fork. The entire official ruler and the tournament Boat ticket showing the entered Boat Number must be visible in the photograph. Photos submitted must be clear enough to accurately determine the length of the fish. The decision of the Committee concerning eligibility of the fish shall be final. The Striped Bass shall be measured using the provided measuring tape from the tip of the snout to the tip of the Tail. (in accordance with NJ Fish & Wildlife requirements)**

8. The email box (CPR@Hi-Mar.com) for entries closes at 4 PM on Saturday. No striped bass will be eligible for a prize if the entry photo is not delivered to this mailbox by that time. **No Exceptions.**
9. All fish must be caught during the hours of the tournament and be presented as fresh not frozen.
10. Once the tournament begins, two or more boats congregating (close enough to pass fish) will be disqualified from tournament competition. The only exception is in the case of a life-threatening emergency.
11. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to inspect all boats entered in the competition at any time.
12. All protests concerning the determination of the tournament winners shall be made to the Tournament Committee in writing and shall be accompanied by a \$100 cash deposit. All protests must be made no later than 30 minutes after the close of the tournament. If the protest is upheld, the \$100 will be returned; otherwise, the \$100 cash deposit becomes the property of the tournament. All entrants agree that the decision of the tournament committee shall be final.
13. Each entry is limited to one place per boat per vessel (LE. First, Second, Third,)
14. Any Tournament sponsor or Hi-Mar member entering the tournament in compliance with the tournament rules are eligible for any and all prizes.
15. All boats must have an operational VHF radio on board. The tournament weigh station will be Channel 69.
16. Captain's and their crews are responsible for following all local, state, and federal fishing and boating laws. Participants are cautioned that fishing for or possessing Striped Bass in Federal Waters (beyond 3 miles from shore) is illegal.
17. The Hi-Mar Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any person or persons.
18. Participants in tournaments should scan VHF channel 16 along with the tournament channel to keep abreast of any marine warnings issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. Weather warnings should be heeded, and captains should seek safe port if threatened.
19. Payment of the entry fee into a tournament constitutes a representation by each entrant that he or she has read and understands the tournament rules and will abide by such rules and that the decisions of the tournament's committees and personnel.
20. This tournament is a captains choice tournament; it is up to the participating captain to determine whether his or her craft is sea-worthy for existing sea conditions. The Hi-Mar Tournament Committee may cancel a fishing day if Gale Warnings have been posted by the Coast Guard. The captain is responsible for all members of his crew both on and off the ocean. If the Tournament is postponed, the Tournament Committee will announce a time when all photos of fish must be received by. You will have 1 ½ hours from the time of the announcement to email your photos, however 4 PM is the deadline for submittal of all photographs.. All fishing must cease at the time of announcement. If the tournament cannot continue or is cancelled, the fish photos received in the official email box prior to the stoppage of the tournament will determine the winner. A minimum of 7 hours must be fished for the tournament to be official.
21. If the tournament is cancelled prior to the 7 hours required to be official, a drawing will be held on Saturday at 6 PM at Ross Brewing Co, to determine the winners.
22. Eligible Fish Species: Striped Bass
23. Captains Meetings: Friday Evening: 5:30 PM at Ross Brewing Co. 909 Main St. Belford, NJ.
24. Fishing Hours: Tournament officially begins at 5 AM and ends at 4 PM on Saturday.
25. There is a 60- mile radius limit in which you can fish. It runs from the tip of Sandy Hook; this includes the present 3-mile limit with no fishing in the EEZ zone. The 60-mile radius runs from Little Egg Inlet at the south end of Long Beach Island to the south and the west side of Moriches Inlet to the east.
26. Additional rules and/or regulations shall be clarified at the captains meeting.
27. Awards presentation will be at Ross Brewing Co, 909 Main St. Belford, NJ at 6 PM..
28. At the end of the Captains Meeting, each boat must deposit their completed yellow boat# card in the container by the door when exiting. **Failure to deposit this card at the end of the meeting will result in IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.** This ensures that each captain or designee has heard the rules and regulations and does not start fishing before the 5:00 A.M.starting time.