

Suggested changes to the 2026 STFC Annual Fishing Tournament Rules

1. Modify rule #15: Aggregate Length Contest to only include the four (4) core species of flounder, speckled trout, red drum and black drum.

Rationale:

- These four species have the highest member participation rate – thus are the most sought after species in the tourney
- All are regularly caught in our inshore waterways, in the surf and off the piers making them accessible to all fishermen
- For those who use paid charters, these species are the primary targets of most, if not all, inshore captains in our area

2. For the core species of flounder, speckled trout, red drum and black drum, implement a measurement handicap as follows:

- Fish caught on a private boat / jet ski - no change to the submitted length
- Fish caught on a charter / guide boat - subtract 1 inch from the submitted length
- Fish caught on a pier, in the surf or on a kayak - add 1 inch to the submitted length

====>This handicapping would apply to the individual species competitions and would roll into the aggregate length calculation

Rationale:

- Same as mentioned in Rule Suggestion #1, in addition...
- Fishing from a boat provides an irrefutable advantage
- Fishing with a guide provides an even greater advantage