



Competition with Conservation

The Maverick Boats Yamaha Outboards

20th Annual Flatsmasters Tournament Series

Presented by Ingman Marine

2020 Format, Schedule, & Rules

The Premier Backcountry Multi-Species Catch, Photo, Release Series

Schedule

April 4	Grand Slam Plug Tournament (1 trout, 1 redfish, 1 snook- Artificials only)
May 30	Backcountry Classic (1 trout, 1 snook- All baits allowed)
August 29	Summer Lure Classic (1 Trout, 1 Redfish, - Artificials only)
September 19	Red-Snook Challenge (1 redfish, 1 snook- All baits allowed)
October 3-4	The 20 th Annual Flatsmasters Championship Day 1- (1 trout, 1 redfish, 1 snook- Artificials only) Day 2- (1 trout, 1 redfish, 1 snook- All baits allowed))

Entry Fee- \$400 per team per tournament if paid in full in advance for the year - \$1600

Single Tournament Entry will be \$450 per tournament if space allowed

Team Dues for the Year will be \$100 per team (up to 3 anglers)

You are allowed 3 substitutions total per year for any member of your team (Substitution fee is \$25)

Please add FL State Sales Tax to all entry fees- 7%

Registration opens to general public on January 1st, 2020

Prior year Teams take priority over new teams

Full year entries take priority over single tournament entries

Field is limited to 50 teams



Competition with Conservation

2020 Flatsmasters Official Rules

ENTRY FEES AND DUES

1. Entry Fee will be \$1,600 for the Series-(4 tournaments) + sales tax and online fees if applicable. Preference will be given to teams registered for the entire year
Single tournament entry fees will be \$450 + sales tax and fees (if space is available)
2. Each Tournament is limited to a maximum of 50 teams
3. Teams may include up to 3 anglers- Team dues will be \$100 per team for the year. This includes your teams measuring device for the season. Replacement measuring devices are \$35
4. Each team is allowed 3 substitutions for the year for any member of your team- substitution fee is \$25 per angler. No substitutions for Championship.

FORMAT

5. This is a catch-Photo-Release Tournament Series- No fish are to be held in either wading baskets or livewells at anytime
6. Winners and standings are determined by overall length of required fish for that event.
7. Each tournament will feature a different combination of species and different bait restrictions
8. The combined total length of your longest eligible fish will be your score for that event
9. Scoring will be by the inch down to $\frac{1}{4}$ " increments- If your fish doesn't touch the line length will be rounded down to the next $\frac{1}{4}$ ".
10. Each team will receive points toward the Power-Pole Team of the Year Race- 100 points for First Place declining by 1 point until the last team to enter a fish- All teams with no fish entered will receive zero points for that event. The 4th leg of the Series- The Red-Snook Challenge- will be counted as a Double Point Tournament with First Place receiving 200 Points declining by 1 point until the last team to enter a fish.
11. Flatsmasters Championship will be a no-entry fee, 2 day event. The top 20 teams after 4 events will be invited to compete in the championship tournament. For championship, no substitutions.

TEXT-TO-ENTRY PROCEDURES

12. Teams will enter fish by our Text-To-Entry System- All Photos must be texted to 941-210-0111
This is not a voice number- do not try to call
13. For each fish entry you must enter 3 photos- 1. On measuring board, 2. Holding fish horizontal, 3. In water prior to release- SEE TEXT-TO-ENTRY FLIER. Send photos as a group along with your team number & name- type of fish & length in inches.
14. You will receive an automated confirmation from the system, then a text from the tournament headquarters confirming your entry. Make sure that you receive this confirmation or your entry may not count.
15. Tournament ends at 3:00pm- No more Text-to Entry submissions accepted. Teams must be checked-in at the Laishley Crab House Banquet room by 4:00pm to qualify for points and prizes.
At least one member of your team must be available during your fish presentation
16. Your entire team must be present if you are in the Top 10 Places- to receive prizes and awards



Competition with Conservation

2019 Flatsmasters Official Rules

OPERATIONAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

17. All teams must check in with staff on patio prior to numbered start to receive Team ID badge.
18. Teams must check back in with tournament staff by 4:00pm inside Laishley Crab House banquet room. At least one member of your team must be present to receive points. To receive prizes or awards (Top 10) - all members of the team must be present for weigh-in, award ceremony and polygraph test.
19. All teams must have an operational VHF on board for numbered start
20. All anglers must wear USCG approved life vests anytime the outboard engine is running
21. The boat operator must be attached to the Kill Switch anytime the outboard is running
22. Teams must obey all boating and fishing regulations at all times
23. Teams must follow all no Wake, Slow Speed, and Manatee Zones
24. Any deliberate burning of any shorelines by any team member (searching for fish while on plane) within 15 days prior to or during the tournament is prohibited and will result in disqualification from the current and future Flatsmasters Events.
25. No changing of boats without tournament approval, emergency phone # is 941-628-0702
26. No tournament boats may come together for any reason or pass anything between boats during tournament hours. Exception for emergency purposes only.
27. No angler may fish in the confines of any commercial marina. A commercial marina is defined as any marina with a guide dock, boat ramp, bait dispensing facility, and/or fuel dock. In addition there will be no fishing within 100 yards of any public boat ramp, guide dock/ramp, bait dock, or fuel dock not in a commercial marina
28. **NO WADING IS ALLOWED IN ANY FLATSMASTERS EVENT**- If you must exit the boat, you cannot possess a fishing rod and you may not maneuver the boat to gain fishing position unless you are attempting to unground the boat.
29. Sportsman Rule - All participants in The Flatsmasters Tournament Series will conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner during all Flatsmasters activities. This includes prior to and following all Flatsmasters events including Capt. Meetings Weigh-Ins, and all other Flatsmasters related events. Unacceptable behavior will result in expulsion from all future Flatsmasters events. Derogatory comments and or unacceptable use of social media is also grounds for expulsion from future events. Disqualification or misconduct in any other fishing tournament within 36 months prior to the tournament date is grounds for an application not being accepted or returned.
30. Polygraph tests will be given at each event. Each Team agrees to submit, by their signature on the official entry form, to the polygraph test to determine the results of the tournament and shall not contest the results. Failure to be available for the test is grounds for disqualification. The Tournament Director will decide which angler on the team will take the test. If the Director or polygrapher determines that an angler is unable to take a test, all prizes and points will be forfeited. Polygraph tests may be required up to one week after the event.



Competition with Conservation

2019 Flatsmasters Official Rules

OPERATIONAL RULES AND PROCEDURES- continued

30. Protests are allowed up to 15 minutes after the last team's weigh in. All protests must be in writing and accompanied by \$300 fee. If protest is upheld the fee will be returned, if denied, tournament will retain the protest fee. A polygraph test will be given to determine protest.

31. The Flatsmasters Redfish Series is a professional sporting event. All contestants agree to make their boat and team available to all media, Flatsmasters staff, TV & photographers during the entirety of any Flatsmasters Event. All anglers agree to the media and liability release by submission of their entry form and/or fee to participating in any Flatsmasters event.

32. The Flatsmasters retains the right to amend or add/delete to these published rules at any time during the tournament season in order to maintain the quality and competitiveness of The Flatsmasters.

The Flatsmasters may refuse any tournament application, or deny a previous application by returning the entry fee or balance of fees to the team.

Tournament Business Office– 941-637-5953

There is no one at this number on tournament weekends

Please use the number below

Tournament Weekend Emergency Number

941-628-0702

Tournament Weigh-In Number

941-210-0111 (no voice calls)

2020 Flatsmasters Payout

All payouts based on 50 boats per tournament
to calculate actual prize money
(total # of boats divided by 50 x prize money)

Individual Tournaments

1 st Place	\$7,500.00
2 nd Place	\$3,000.00
3 rd Place	\$2,200.00
4 th Place	\$2,000.00
5 th Place	\$1,750.00
6 th Place	TBA
7 th Place	TBA
8 th Place	TBA
9 th Place	TBA
10 th Place	TBA

Flatsmasters No Entry Fee Championship

Boat package and all prizes guaranteed- Cash payout based on 50 entries per event

Each event contributes \$2,237.50 cash to Championship based on 50 entries

To calculate actual contribution take total # of boats in that event divided by 50 x \$2,237.50

Calculate for each event- total amount of cash prizes is actual total collected from all 4 events

1 st Place	2021 Hewes Redfisher 18 Flats Boat with F115 Yamaha Outboard valued at \$40,000.00
2 nd Place	\$3,000.00
3 rd Place	\$2,200.00
4 th Place	\$2,000.00
5 th Place	\$1,750.00
6 th Place	TBA
7 th Place	TBA
8 th Place	TBA
9 th Place	TBA
10 th Place	TBA

Second Day Second Chance Award- Power Pole Micro valued at \$600

(Team not in the top 10 on Day 1 with the most inches on Day 2)



Competition with Conservation

Official Entry Form

Team Name - _____

Angler #1 - _____ T Shirt Size - _____

Address - _____

City - _____ St- _____ Zip - _____

Cell Phone # - _____ (phone to be used to text entries)

E mail address - _____

Angler #2 - _____ T Shirt Size - _____

Address - _____

City - _____ St- _____ Zip - _____

Cell Phone # - _____ (phone to be used to text entries)

E mail address - _____

Angler #3 - _____ T Shirt Size - _____

Address - _____

City - _____ St- _____ Zip - _____

Cell Phone # - _____ (phone to be used to text entries)