

2010 SPEARING Magazine Polespear Open

(Saturday May 22, 2010 – Tarpon Springs, Florida)

SPEARING Magazine invites all spearfishermen/women to participate in the Inaugural SPEARING Magazine Polespear Open. This one-day tournament will be held in Tarpon Springs on Saturday May 22, 2010. This is a spearfishing competition designed for the spearfishermen who wishes to expand upon his or her spearfishing skills by challenging themselves to use and learn a more traditional spearfishing tool, the polespear. Recognition will be given on an individual basis for total aggregate points and to the individual turning in the single largest fish of the tournament.

Agenda/Rules:

- 1) **Tournament:** This will be a one-day tournament held on Saturday May 22, 2010 at the Anclote River Park Boat Ramp. The rain date will be Saturday, May 29, 2010.
- 2) **Registration:** Registration is \$30 per person, due at the Captain's meeting the day of the tournament, between 6:15 and 6:50 AM. Final registration ends at 6:50 AM.
- 3) **Diving Region:** No diving limits. Diving is allowed anywhere in the Gulf of Mexico, as long as divers leave and return to the Anclote River Park boat ramp.
- 4) **Safety First.** This is a recreational competition, we do this for fun. We are here primarily to enjoy each others company. Do not push your training limits or violate safe practice.
- 5) **Gear:** Polespears and Hawaiian slings only!! Any style of tip is permitted. **NO** powerheads. **NO** spearguns allowed on any boats.
- 6) **Format:** This tournament will consist of two divisions: a **freedive division** and a **scuba diving division**. Each diver must specify the division prior to the shotgun start on his or her entry form. **ONLY** one division may be entered, and that method of diving must be used throughout the competition time.
- 7) **Competition time:** The Competition Directors (Bryan Anderson and Ritchie Zacker) will announce the official time at the morning of competition. Competition begins with a shotgun start at the last Anclote river marker at **7:00 AM and ends at 5:00 PM**. All fish must *physically in the weigh-in line* and at least one diver from the team that boated them must be in the weigh-in line no later than the **5:00 PM cut-off** in order to receive points for their fish.
- 8) **License:** All competitors must possess a valid State of Florida Saltwater Fishing License to compete in this competition.
- 9) All fish belong to the competitors.
- 10) **Eligibility: OPEN TO EVERYONE!** Beginner, experienced, freedive, and scuba.
- 11) **Competition cancellation:** We will make our best effort to run the competition on the scheduled date. However, **“Small Craft Advisories/Warnings”** posted as of 11:00 pm Thursday before the day of the competition will result in automatic postponement. The Competition Director may also decide to postpone the competition if other unfavorable dive conditions prevail. Consult www.spearfishingplanet.com, Florida Gulf coast section to confirm a cancellation.

- 12) **Entry fee:** Everyone pays the morning of the competition. Cost is **\$30.00 per person, CASH ONLY. REPEAT, CASH ONLY!**
- 13) **Awards:** *Awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place individual freedivers and scuba divers respectively, as well as an Overall Champion, and an award for the Largest Overall Fish turned in.*
- 14) **Eligible fish/sizes**
- Gag grouper – 23 inches overall
 - Red grouper – 21 inches overall
 - Black grouper – 23 inches overall
 - Amberjack – 31 inches to fork
 - Cobia – 34 inches to fork
 - Kingfish – 25 inches to fork
 - Spanish mackerel – 13 inches to fork
 - Wahoo – no size limit
 - Permit – 21 inches to fork
 - Hogfish – 13 inches to fork
 - Snapper – 13 inches overall
 - Sheepshead – 13 inches overall
 - Triggerfish – 15 inches to fork
 - Flounder – 13 inches overall
 - Sea Bass – 13 inches overall
- 15) **Only ONE fish per species will be permitted to be weighed in.**
- 16) **Points:** Each diver is to turn in *only their TEN (10) largest fish, and only one fish of any species.* Fish are required to be properly iced and gutted. A diver will receive one point per pound and five (5) points per fish. Maximum weight points for a single fish is 30 pounds. (e.g.- 27.5 lb Amberjack would be scored as $27.5 + 5 = 32.5$ points. 45.5 lb Cobia would be scored as $30 + 5 = 35$ points)
- 17) The Largest Fish competition will be calculated separately at the weigh-in. Heaviest fish wins.
- 18) **Disqualification:** Violation of any State laws, unsportsmanlike conduct, or violation of any tournament rules will result in disqualification. No swapping of fish is allowed. If a diver violates any State and/or Federal laws, exhibits unsportsmanlike conduct, or violates any of the tournament rules he or she will be subject to disqualification.
- 19) **Rules/Protests:** These rules may be expanded or modified by the Competition Chairmen if necessary, in the interest of safety, or for the benefit of the participants. Once the competition begins, any rule changes must be agreed to by both of the Chairmen. Protests may be presented to the Competition Director at any time. There is a \$40 fee for filing any formal protest and the Competition Director's decision will be final.

QUESTIONS? Contact:

Competition Directors:

Bryan Anderson: (727) 253-1944 (speargun@gmail.com)

Ritchie Zacker: (813) 679-5714 (zackerone@verizon.net)

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REGISTRATION & WAIVER

I am over the age of 18. If not, my legal guardian authorizes my entry in the competition by signing this waiver below. I hereby acknowledge that if weather conditions turn to small craft advisories or small craft warnings, it is my responsibility to monitor weather radio and seek safe harbor if conditions warrant. I hereby acknowledge that I am aware of the dangers involved in boating, breath-hold diving and spear fishing. I am aware that these activities require physical exertion and stress. I am aware that the boat captain is responsible for the safe operation of the boat and the safety of the passengers therein. I am participating in these activities with the full knowledge of and the acceptance of all the risks these activities entail and the dangers involved. I am voluntarily participating in this competition. I willingly agree to accept the risk of injury, disability, physical and/or emotional suffering, property damage or death to others or myself. **I agree that I, my survivors, beneficiaries, heirs or personal representatives, will not seek any compensation, damages, legal costs or expenses, including attorney fees, from the Competition Directors, SPEARING Magazine, and any members of said organizations, volunteers, sponsors, or advertisers for any injury, property damage, or death, suffered by myself or others during or as a result of my participation in this competition.**

By signing below you are affirming that you have read this waiver, are agreeing to all the liability waivers, releases that this document implies, and expressly represents.

Diver: _____		Circle ONE: FREEDIVE SCUBA	
Address: _____			
City _____		State: _____	Zip _____
Phone: () _____		Work: () _____	
E-mail Address: _____			
Age _____			
PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE		WITNESSED BY	DATE
_____		_____	_____