



The Cabbage Key Open

The Tournament:

The Cabbage Key Open sponsored by Lake and Bay is an invite only tournament devoted to raising money for the Marine Institute located on Fort Myers Beach and the Marine Science program at FGCU.

The Cabbage Key Open originated in 2002 as a tournament simply known by many as the “Hooters” tournament at Cabbage Key.

Thanks to the contributions from our friends at “Hooters”, the tournament got off to a fast start which helped propelled the tournament into one of the more popular tournaments in the area.

We congratulate the past winners and sponsors and thank everyone involved for helping us raise money for the Marine Institute and FGCU. Thank you for making the tournament such a great event and we’ll see you again this year.

The Sponsors:

Special thanks to:



The Contest:

This year, the tournament will begin Thursday evening, October 22, 2009 with registration from 3pm to 6pm followed by a banquet/captains meeting starting at 6pm. Fishing will be on Friday, October 23, 2009 and Saturday, October 24, 2009 where boats start at Cabbage Key marker 60 at 8:30am and finish at Cabbage Key at 4:00pm.

You may fish as many anglers per boat (\$300.00 entry fee per angler) as you want. One boat is one team. Guides registration is also \$300.00 and they are invited to all

tournament functions. The first 150 entries will fish. Lady anglers will fish with their regular teams as in the past.

The total weight of the two largest legal Snook and one largest legal Redfish for each boat on both the first and second day of the tournament (6 fish counted) will determine the first three places.

Fish must be weighed in at the Cabbage Key dock and released alive. You may weigh-in anytime after 8:30am and return to fishing and weigh-in again anytime between 8:30am and 4pm on the same day. Fish not alive at weigh-in will not count. After release, the fish must swim away on its own power to qualify.

The Rules:

1. State fishing laws must be followed.
2. Boats must leave Cabbage Key Dock at 8:30 am each day and must return to Cabbage Key dock before 4:00pm
Early start or late arrival disqualifies boat and anglers for that day.
3. Artificial bait or live bait.
4. Double line and leader may not exceed 30 inch – max leader 40 lbs test.
5. Spinning, casting and fly equipment allowed.
6. No double/triple hooks except on artificial lures.
7. Everyone on boat including guides may fish.
8. Boat may assist disabled tournament boats and be late to weigh-in. Disabled boat will be disqualified.
9. No wade fishing allowed. All anglers must fish from their own boat.
10. No angler can receive help or assistance during the tournament from any other boat or person. This includes but is not limited to chumming holes, information on fishing from cell phones or hole sitting.

The Prizes

First Place: \$3,000.00
Second Place: \$1,500.00
Third Place: \$1,000.00

The Schedule of Events:

Tournaments dates: Thursday, October 22, 2009 through Saturday, October 24, 2009

Thursday, October 22, 2009

3:00 to 6:00 pm Registration – all teams must register
6:00 to 7:00 pm Cocktail Party
7:00 to 8:00 pm Banquet Captain/Rules meeting
8:00 to close Cash Bar

Friday, October 23, 2009

6:30 to 8:30 pm Breakfast available at Cabbage Key
All boats must check-in at Marker 60
8:30 am Boats leave Cabbage Key Marker 60 to fish
4:00 pm Deadline for the final return of boats to Cabbage Key dock
Cash Bar
6:30 to 7:30 pm Cocktail Bar
7:30 to 8:30 pm Dinner
8:30 to close Cash Bar

Saturday, October 24, 2009

6:30 to 8:30 pm Breakfast available at Cabbage Key
All boats must check-in at Marker 60
8:30 am Boats leave Cabbage Key Marker 60 to fish
4:00 pm Deadline for the final return of boats to Cabbage Key dock
Cash Bar
6:30 to 7:30 pm Cocktail Bar
7:30 to 8:30 pm Dinner/Awards Banquet
8:30 to close Cash Bar

Contact Us:

If you have questions about tournament entry or sponsorship please contact Robert A. Wells III at Rob@tarponlodge.com.