

2021 HOMER HALIBUT TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Alaska State Rules – All registered anglers must have a 2021 Alaska Department of Fish and Game fishing license and a valid King Salmon Stamp if fishing in the Salmon Sub Category. All anglers must comply with all Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game regulations. Accusations of ADF&G rule violations must be reported directly to the Alaska State Troopers at 235-8239. Safety equipment must be in compliance with Coast Guard regulations.
2. Registration – All anglers must have completed a tournament entry form prior to fishing. A paid licensed Charter Boat Captain and a deck-hand do not need to be registered in the Tournament UNLESS they are planning on fishing in the Tournament. All individuals on a boat that is participating in the Tournament must be registered in the Tournament. The Homer Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center reserves the right to photograph all entrants, reproduce any photographs for publicity and retain all photo rights.
3. Participating anglers must fish from a vessel that departs from and returns to the Homer Harbor on the same voyage. Vessels may depart from the Seldovia Harbor but must return to the Homer Harbor. No overnight fishing allowed.
4. Communication – All participating boats must have a VHF radio or cell phone aboard and should monitor channel 69 at all times for tournament announcements. Important tournament information will be broadcast on this channel. You can reach the tournament headquarters at 399-7477.
5. We request that all halibut landed be reported to Tournament Headquarters on VHF #69 or cell phone 399-7477 at time of landing. (boat name, angler, time, etc.).
6. Fishing – One (1) rod per angler. Fishing lines in at **6am** for all boats. No lines or bait of any kind may be put into the water until starting time. Fishing ends at **5:00pm** on each scheduled fishing day. Any fish hooked prior to the deadline may be played until boated or released, provided that said fish is announced hooked on the tournament channel before the deadline. No proxy fishing allowed.
7. All fish must be taken on sport tackle only and from ocean waters.
8. Weigh In – All fish must be weighed in by the registered angler at Tournament Headquarters by **7:30pm**. Anglers must call tournament headquarters in advance to arrange for fish to be weighed in before 2:00 pm. No live fish will be accepted as an entry.
9. All fish eligible for cash prizes may be subject to examination by the Tournament Officials and/or consulting biologists should there be any question as to the “freshness” of the catch. It shall be the responsibility of the angler to keep all eligible catches in suitable and proper condition until weigh-in. In the event of any disputes arising from such examination, the decision of the Tournament Officials shall be final. The Tournament Officials may retain any fish for any reason.
10. Only one day need be fished for the tournament to be considered official & prizes to be awarded.
11. Prizes – All entries and prize awards are subject to review and final determination by the Tournament Committee. All prize winners are subject to verification of child support payments and IRS withholding and are responsible for all taxes & fees associated with prize winnings. Prizes may be subject to withholdings based on IRS requirements and W2-G and W-9 forms are required by all winners. Prize money will be awarded upon final results being approved by the Committee. In order to receive prize money, entrant must first execute a standard declaration and release form confirming compliance with the Tournament Rules. All participants are subject to a polygraph test at the discretion of the Tournament Committee and refusal to take such test will result in automatic disqualification. Decisions by Tournament Committee will be final and binding.

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12. Violations – All complaints of rule violations must be submitted in writing within 24 hours of the end of fishing. Vessels and anglers violating ANY tournament rules and State/Federal guidelines will be permanently banned from entering in future tournaments sponsored by the Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center.
13. Weather – In case of bad weather on Friday, June 4th, the Tournament will be postponed one day. If weather is still an issue then it will be postponed until the following Friday and Saturday. In case of questionable weather prior to start of fishing, the Tournament Officials will assess the conditions every thirty minutes, with the final decision for the day being made prior to 9 a.m.
14. Cancellation Policy - No refunds will be given for tournament entry after noon on Thursday, June 3rd unless the tournament is canceled or postponed. If the tournament is postponed before 10 am the day of the tournament, full entry fee will be refunded or applied to rescheduled date. All anglers registered in the tournament at time of cancellation must notify tournament officials before the start of the postponed day's tournament if they plan to withdraw. There will be a 5% cancellation fee for reimbursement unless the tournament has been postponed or cancelled. No refunds will be issued to anglers who have entered fish. To cancel a registration, send the request to jhd@homer.alaska.org. All refunds will be mailed to entrants within 10 working days of cancellation date.
15. For the Grand Slam Side Category, each boat must appoint a Team Leader, who must be an angler or the captain of the boat. The Grand Slam side category is entered by Boat/Team
16. The boat Team Leader is responsible for receiving and disbursing the Grand Slam prize money and will be responsible for all applicable state and federal taxes.
17. If a boat enters a side category, only fish caught on that boat can be entered under that boat name.
18. All tagged fish must be completely intact and the tag untampered.
19. Prizes – The winning boat/angler in each side category wins 50% of the total boat entries for that category. All other proceeds of the boat side categories go to the tournament.
20. All tournament participants shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Homer Chamber of Commerce, its officers, employees, agents or contractors from any and all liability (including attorney fees) or claims for damage, including personal injuries, environmental damage, death and property damage arising out of or resulting from participating in the Homer Halibut Tournament. I have read and hereby agree to follow the 2021 Official Tournament Rules.
21. The Tournament and hosting facilities assume no liability or responsibility for any damage or loss.
22. My signature also authorizes the Homer Chamber to use any photographs taken of me during the Tournament for promotional and marketing purposes.
23. One fish of each species per registered angler can be weighed for prize consideration.
24. In the event of a tie, all prizes shall be split between the anglers in an equitable manner by the Homer Halibut Tournament Committee Chair.

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What You Need to Know

ALL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS MUST COMPLY WITH THE CURRENT STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 MANDATES INCLUDING FACE COVERINGS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Fishing Rules Enforcement: Report any violation of tournament rules to the Homer Chamber of Commerce. If someone is breaking ADF&G or Coast Guard rules, contact the state enforcement office at 235-8239. The dispatcher will immediately contact the troopers on the water. The Alaska State Troopers Patrol Boat will be on the water all day.

Fish and Game Regulations: Please refer to 2021 Southcentral Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations

ANNUAL LIMIT, HARVEST RECORDING REQUIREMENT: Must comply with ADF&G

Alaska Boating Safety Law: The safety of anglers fishing during the tournament is a top priority. If you would like to set up a vessel safety check, contact the Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiner in your area Homer: 299-0232 or 299-6150. Soldotna/Kenai/Nikiski: 776-8457 or 398-6548. Anchorage: 349-7903. You are required to meet U. S. Coast Guard safety equipment regulations and requirements.

For a complete copy of Alaska's Boating Safety law, access the link www.alaskaboatingsafety.org or contact AK Boating Law Administrator at (907)269-8705.

QUESTIONS? Tournament Headquarters: 235-7740 (Mon thru Thurs) or 399-7477 (Fri & Sat)

For information on the hours the Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center will be open, call 907-235-7740 or visit www.homer.alaska.org

Friday and Saturday, TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS will be located in the Homer Harbor by the Deep Water Dock, 4667 Freight Dock Road and opens at 5am each day of the tournament.