



### **Fourth Annual Lionfish Derby-Rules**

June 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Green Turtle Cay, Bahamas

- 1) ONLY LIONFISH (*Pterois Volitans*) MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE DERBY. NO OTHER FISH, CONCH OR LOBSTER MAY BE PRESENT ON THE BOAT AT ANY TIME DURING THE DERBY.
- 2) For the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012-Lionfish Derby ONLY, collection of lionfish may occur through use of SCUBA, snorkel, or compressor-supplied air. All other applicable Bahamian fisheries regulations and laws governing the Commonwealth of the Bahamas are in full force and will be strictly enforced.
- 3) Lionfish may be taken by pole-spear, Hawaiian sling, hand net, or lobster hook. No chemicals, or other collecting mechanisms are allowed.
- 4) Teams will be limited to 4 persons. To qualify for prizes, participants must be registered and show proper identification. All participants must sign a Legal Waiver Form to be considered registered in the Derby.
- 5) Award for most frozen lionfish will be given at the Captains Meeting, where all frozen lionfish shall be turned in.
- 6) Smallest lionfish award goes to smallest lionfish brought in **alive**. Bring a bucket!!!
- 7) Non-refundable registration fees are \$150 per foreign boat, and \$100 per Bahamian boat, with up to four people participating. Each registered boat captain checking in at the Captain's meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> will receive: one pair of HexArmor protective gloves, 2 drink tickets and 2 Awards banquet tickets for use at the Green Turtle Club during the Derby. Extra awards banquet tickets previously purchased may be picked up at this time. Extra banquet tickets may be purchased on June 16<sup>th</sup> for \$40 each.
- 8) Protective gloves must be worn when handling lionfish. Participants are required to carry a thermos bottle on the boat containing hot, but not scalding, water for first aid purposes.
- 9) Derby hours: Sunrise until 4:00 pm June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. All fish must be present at Scoring Station (between Brendals Dive Center & Green Turtle Club cleaning tables) by 4:00pm to qualify for prizes.
- 10) All lionfish must be caught the day of the Derby. PLEASE KEEP LIONFISH ON ICE. The Derby reserves the right to use some of the lionfish for a "tasting appetizer" at the Awards Banquet and for research.
- 11) Vessels may be subject to random inspection by Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources officers.

- 12) Derby teams must physically check in at the Captain's meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> or at the Scoring Station the morning of June 16<sup>th</sup> after 7:00 am prior to participating in Derby. Special door prizes will be given to a lucky few who check in on June 16<sup>th</sup>! Team members not checking in or who have not signed the Legal Waiver Form will not be considered entered in the Derby-regardless if registration fees were paid.
- 13) Lionfish may be taken anywhere in Abaco waters as long as the collection occurs during Derby hours and the fish are present at the Scoring Station by 4:00 pm. Prizes will be awarded for most lionfish, largest lionfish and smallest lionfish, and any other categories as decided by Derby Officials. All lionfish must be in whole condition (no heads or tails). Largest and smallest fish will be determined by total length of the fish measuring from tip of snout to tip of tail.
- 14) Any live lionfish at Scoring Station will be euthanized in ice water prior to being measured.
- 15) All entrants agree to allow Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources to take and use photos for media and promotional purposes.
- 16) The Derby takes place regardless of weather conditions. Captains make decision about whether to venture out.
- 17) Any decisions of the Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources are final.
- 18) In the event of a tie, the winning team will be determined by the earliest recording of its lionfish at the Scoring Station.
- 19) All cash award payments will be made to Team Captain by bank check drawn on a Bahamian bank.
- 20) The Lionfish Derby is an honor system tournament with the captain being responsible for team compliance with the Rules.
- 21) Anyone found violating Derby Rules by the Derby Officials or Department of Marine Resources will be disqualified from receiving any prize money.