



The excellence of the Vancouver Island Salmon Classic will come from both the spectacular cash prizes and the execution of every aspect of this world class event. With so many quality anglers trying to achieve the title as Salmon Classic Champions, these rules have been created to provide equal opportunity to win by removing all interpretations of the rules with absolutes. We will have countless officials ensuring these rules are followed and there will be zero leniencies for anglers that do not fully adhere to the following.

Vancouver Island Salmon Classic Preliminary Rules:

1. Teams are required to sign in by 6pm on Thursday evening (September 2nd, 2010) at the Sooke Harbour Resort & Marina Reception area. There you will be given directions to the meet and greet reception and the team rules briefing. Your team rules kit, map, measuring tape, boat numbers, flag, team jackets, t-shirts and hats will be given to you at this time.
2. All team captains must attend the meet and greet reception and team rules briefing at 6:30 pm, no exceptions
3. All tidal water sport fishing regulations must be followed by all teams fishing during the VI Salmon Classic and team members must have a valid license
4. All VI Salmon Classic fishing to be confined to; those waters open to the retention of Chinook salmon in Canadian tidal waters ranging from Beechey Head and then west to Point No Point. A derby marker will mark the western boundary at Point No Point.
5. All teams must; a) stay a minimum of 50 feet off the Vancouver Island shore b) stay a minimum of 30ft away from all other vessels (except derby patrol or DFO vessels) c) Not venture outside of the derby fishing boundaries
6. Exemptions to rule #5
 1. Teams are permitted to transit in and out from Sooke Harbour Marina & Resort by way of the navigation channel through Sooke Harbour and out to the derby fishing area
 2. While mooring at Sooke Harbour Marina & Resort
 3. In the event of an emergency and with official derby consent
7. All hooks on board while fishing in the VI Salmon Classic must be **manufactured barbless hooks**. No exceptions. Spot checks will be conducted.
8. No team shall fish more than 4 rods/lines
9. No salmon weighing less than 15 pounds shall be registered

10. Each team may enter up to their legal limit of salmon onto the VI Salmon Classic leader board. Only each team's top four (4) heaviest salmon will remain on the leader board and contend for prizes. The remaining registered salmon will be bumped off the leader board.
11. Once a team retains its daily limit of Chinook salmon on board their vessel that team shall cease fishing for that day. No exceptions
12. Guides are permitted in the VI salmon Classic. If the guide is the 5th person on board a team's boat they cannot be on the official team roster. The 5th person (guide) will be required to wear a (supplied) bright coloured vest which will easily identify that individual as the guide to other participants.
13. Only those persons listed on the team roster may touch the rod and play a fish after the moment of a strike. Guides who are not on the team roster may work the gear during set up but must not touch the rod at any time after the fish strikes. Guides may clear the other rods not involved with a fish and also net the fish.
14. All teams must display their team number on either side of their vessel and tournament flag so that they are easily visible to other boaters, teams and tournament patrol vessels
15. The top 3 prize winning fish will be held by the VI Salmon Classic for biological testing to verify that they were caught in compliance with derby rules.
16. In the event of any dispute, all official derby rulings will be considered final and binding
17. Any confirmed infraction of derby rules will result in the immediate disqualification of the team in question and a lifetime ban of any future participation in this event
18. All teams MUST sign in each morning prior to departing the marina and before any fishing takes place. VI Salmon Classic staff will be set up each morning in the reception/office area for team sign in. Your boxed lunches will handed out to team members at this time.
19. Friday and Saturday official derby start is at 6am, teams must wait for the horn blast before leaving the waters off the marina docks. Skippers are reminded to use caution rounding Whiffen Spit, if the leading boats encounter rough water outside the spit they will be slowing down, boats behind should be aware of the boats in front of them.
20. Once a fish has been landed the team must call a patrol immediately if they wish to register that fish into the tournament. Teams will be given an official time upon contacting a patrol vessel to register a fish. This time will be used to determine a winner in the event of a tie. Teams may continue fishing while waiting for the patrol boat to arrive.
21. Each team will have a 2 day limit of colour specific and numbered tie straps. You must attach them in sequence to each fish you are registering. Place the tie strap through the lower jaw and out the gill cover.
22. When a patrol vessel arrives to verify your fish, you will be asked to measure the fish for length. Do this by laying the fish on top of the measuring tape supplied in your team kit. Measure from the fork in the tail to the tip of the head. You are not required to broadcast your fish length over the radio. Do this person to person with the official on the patrol vessel.
23. The patrol official will ask you to hold up your fish for him to inspect visually. He will want to see that the tie strap is in place and that the fish is not in a state of rigor. Fish that are in a state of rigor will not be accepted (unless the time between the call to a patrol vessel and excessive time for the patrol vessel to arrive was the cause)

24. In the event of a tie for any major cash prize the team with the earliest catch registration time will be declared the winner of that prize.
25. After your fish has been accepted and registered by a patrol official you may continue fishing and weigh that fish later in the day or you can run it into the scales right away. You must contact VI Salmon Classic base officials to inform them if your team is coming into the scales to weigh a fish. This can be done by VHF or by cell phone.
26. All fish must be registered and have been assigned an official weight (by the weight master) before the official tournament closing time for that day. Fish inline to be weighed after the days closing horn sounds will not qualify. No exceptions!
27. Scales close at 8pm on Friday and 5pm on Saturday
28. Official weight of each fish will be determined by the tournament weigh master, his decision is final
29. All registered fish must be cleaned by derby officials immediately after receiving the official weight from the weigh master.
30. **Any team wanting to take a break from competition during official derby hours will be required to call derby officials for permission to return to Sooke Harbour Resort & Marina docks. They then will sign out at the reception area. Upon returning the team will sign back in at the reception area and must then have a derby official inspect their vessel and person before resuming fishing.**
31. All teams MUST contact derby base at completion of each days fishing (VHF or cell phone) and then sign out at the resort reception/office area
32. All team vessel fueling is restricted to the Sooke Harbor Resort & Marina facilities. Teams should ensure their vessels are full of fuel before the tournament begins. There are no pumping facilities on site. Extra fuel added by using jerry cans only.
33. Teams registered in the 2010 Vancouver Island Salmon Classic will have the first chance to enter the 2011 event. Teams wishing to hold their spot in the next year's tournament must pay a minimum \$1,000.00 deposit before April 1st of the following year. After April 1st unsold space will be sold to teams on the waiting list.
34. Because our Sooke Harbour Resort & Marina units are privately owned by individuals, things can change with specific room selections. Owners have 6 months prior to the derby to removed they unit from the rental program. Although unlikely, If the unit is unavailable, we would then call participants and provide our alternative options.

Please note: All rules are subject to change before September 2nd, 2010 and the addition of further rules may be added at the discretion of the Vancouver Island Salmon Classic Officials.

Each Team Captain will be provided these rules in writing on September 2nd, 2010 and will be required to adhere to each and every rule to avoid team disqualification.

For greater clarity please contact Matthew Mackenzie for questions.

Warm regards,

Matthew Mackenzie

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