



### **PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR RULES:**

1. PKT Level 1 Registration: \$500 – Registration will open May 1st, 2026. Level II and Level III are OPTIONAL. The PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR will be open to all fishing teams. Teams register for the PKT online. Payment may be made by credit card (MasterCard, Visa & American Express accepted.) A service charge will be added to ALL credit card transactions or you can mail a check after completing registration. NO REFUNDS ON PAYMENTS–NO EXCEPTIONS. All team registrations must be approved by the PKT tournament committee.
2. Entry Forms: You must register and fill out entry forms for each affiliated qualifying event that you wish to fish (Low Country Open, Hooked on Miracles, JIYC KMT Tournament, Carolina Kingfish Classic). The PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR will abide by each individual qualifying tournament rules and boundaries.
3. Boats: Boats may be changed during the season, however you cannot change boats during an event.
4. Eligible Species: King Mackerel (*Scomberomorus Cavalla*).
5. Teams: Any team that wishes to receive points toward their qualifying total must: 1) Be registered in the qualifying event under the same boat name as registered in the PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR, 2) Have EITHER the registered captain or registered co-captain on board the boat during competition. If the PKT registered Captain or Co-Captain is not on board the fish will not qualify - No Exceptions.
6. Order of Merit: Season long points system
7. Scoring System: For 2022, the kingfish weights will correlate to points. 35.27 LBS = 35.27 points Etc.

8. Series Points System: The Palmetto Kingfish Tour is a 3 tournament series with an aggregate competition. Teams will carry their points from each event to their total series aggregate (3 Events total). At the end of the third event, teams will drop their (1) lowest event weight (point) and the top 2 out of 3 will determine overall points for the series. 1 fish minimum must be weighed to count for points.

9. Tackle: All fish must be caught on rod and reel.

10. Sponsors, tournament directors, tournament committee members, volunteers and employees of all affiliated events and host sites including the Palmetto Kingfish Tour are eligible to participate and win primary prizes just like any other entrant.

11. Landfall: Following check-out, or once fishing hours have begun, no boats will be permitted to touch land until reaching the dock for weigh-in. Special consideration will be given to medical conditions and special circumstances that may arise during the day of fishing. The committee must be notified in advance of any situation that may warrant an exception to this rule.

12. Boat Check: Tournament officials reserve the right to inspect any boat participating in the tournament prior to the start of fishing each morning. There will be random boat inspections at each event. Any boat that refuses inspection will be automatically disqualified from the tournament. No fish are allowed to be on-board caught from previous days. Either donate your fish or keep them in a cooler off your boat or you will be disqualified.

13. Hand Signal Photo: Teams will be required to provide a photo of the fish that they are weighing in with a designated hand signal. Hand Signals will be texted/emailed to all participating Captains and Co-Captains the evening before each day of competition. This photo must be taken shortly after the fish has been gaffed, is on the deck or going into the fish bag. The fish must be "hot" and not iced down. Captain or Co-Captain must be in the photo and must show the hand signal in the photo.

Once in cell range the Captain or Co-Captain will be required to text or email the photo of the fish to the PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR Committee at 843-834-5489 or email [palmettokingfishtour@gmail.com](mailto:palmettokingfishtour@gmail.com). Subject should include your boat name. Each team will have until 9pm to submit their required photo.

If a team fails to text or email a photo of their fish by the cut off time period they will be disqualified from earning points or money in that particular qualifying event. Each PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR qualifying event will administer mandatory polygraph tests given reason for a potential rules infraction. No exceptions!

14. If any PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR team is disqualified from a qualifying event, no points will be received for that event and the PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR team will be subject to disqualification without refund and removed from contention for any future PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR opportunities. This decision is at the sole discretion of the PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR committee.

15. In the event of a points total tie at year-end, the team which has weighed the largest King Mackerel during a qualifying event will receive the higher position.

16. The team that amasses the highest PALMETTO KINGFISH TOUR point total at the end of the four qualifying events will be awarded the "Team of the Year" in each respected division.

17. Weather: Weather cancellations are made by the tournament director. In the event of a tournament being canceled due to weather, points will also cancel for that event, and the prize money will be rolled into the following event. Announcements regarding weather & other important tournament information will be communicated to team captains & co-captains via text messages, phone calls and email. It is expressly understood that the permitting of fishing by tournament officials does not ensure the safety of registered anglers or any other occupants of their vessels. Captains, anglers, and all other members of registered boats must determine in their own judgment whether to fish under the given conditions based on factors including but not limited to the seaworthiness of their boat and their own seamanship.

18. Protests: All protests must be made within 1 hour of the conclusion of the weigh-in along with \$500 cash or check made out to GRANDER CUSTOM TACKLE, LLC. Protests should be made based on first-hand eyewitness information. All decisions made by the tournament committee regarding protests are final. If the protest is validated, the \$500 will be returned. If the protest is not overturned then the \$5000 becomes property of the Palmetto Kingfish Tour. All decisions are FINAL!

19. Polygraph: By entering the tournament all captains, anglers, and occupants of their boats voluntarily consent to submit to a polygraph examination as deemed necessary by tournament officials. All decisions of the polygraph examiner will be final. Any captain, angler, or occupant of a registered boat who refuses to take a polygraph or provides untruthful answers as determined by the examiner will be disqualified from the tournament without further notice. Such a disqualification will eliminate payment or provision of any prize money, awards, and/or refund of entrance fees.

20. Release: By signing the entry form, It is expressly understood that all participants enter at their own risk and to the fullest extent permitted by law hereby release, discharge, and hold harmless the Palmetto Kingfish Tour, it's parents, and affiliates, their officers, directors, owners, volunteers, and employees. By registering in the tournament, each team member consents to the use, without payment or restriction, any photograph, video, tape recording or sound in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever. By signing this entry form and paying the entry fee, my team and I acknowledge that we have read the release and are bound by the same.

21. Tournament Discretion: The tournament director or the acting tournament committee reserves the right to implement his discretion at any time during the tournament as it may apply to the rules or any other circumstance that should arise during the course of the event.

22. All anglers must have a valid South Carolina saltwater fishing license and comply with South Carolina and Federal Laws.

23. VHF Channel: Tournament officials will monitor VHF 72 during competition hours. VHF 16 is an international distress frequency and should only be used for emergency calls and Coast Guard assistance.

24. Winnings: Checks for the winning teams will be made out to the individual on the team that filled out the W9 Form. 1099's for all winnings will also be made out to the person listed on the check that was written for the team's winnings. The Captain or Co-Captain from each winning team must be present to receive a check. If no one from the PKT team is able to attend the Awards Ceremony, please notify us.



**3 Tournaments. 1 Chmapionship. 1 Crown!**



**PKT ENTRY FEE:**

- LEVEL I: \$500.00 ONE-TIME (MANDATORY)
- LEVEL II: \$1500.00 (OPTIONAL/ DIVISION ONLY)
- LEVEL III: \$3000.00 (OPTIONAL / DIVISION ONLY)

Basic Entry Allocation:

50% → Regular Season Payouts

50% → Championship Payouts

**PKT CHAMPIONSHIP TWTs: \$1500.00 Divisional / \$1500.00 Overall**

 **DIVISIONS**

OPEN - \$25,000 based on 50 boats

HIGH ROLLER - \$75,000 based on 50 boats

MACK DADDY - \$150,000 based on 50 boats

 **REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE (3 EVENTS):**

**June 11** - Low Country Open

**July 11** - James Island Yacht Club KMT Tournament

**July 23** - Hooked On Miracles

**August 7** - PKT Championship (Carolina Kingfish Classic)

 **QUALIFICATION FOR PKT CHAMPIONSHIP**

Must weigh 1 King Mackerel during the Season to qualify.

Best 2 out of 3 finishes count for season long leaderboard that will recognize Team of the Year. Merchandise prizes will be awarded to Team of the Year!

◆ **Simple Buy-In** ◆ **Fair Competition**

 **OPEN DIVISION PAYOUT Based on ~ 50 boats:**

**Each Event (3 Events):**

~\$4,100 per event

Top 3:

1. \$2,000
2. \$1,100
3. \$1,000

 **HIGH ROLLER DIVISION PAYOUT Based on ~ 50 boats:**

**Each Event (3 Events):**

~\$12,500 per event split 60/30/10

Top 3:

1. \$7,500
2. \$3,750
3. \$1,250

 **MACK DADDY DIVISION PAYOUT Based on ~ 50 boats:**

**Each Event (3 Events):**

~\$25,000 per event split 60/30/10


Top 3:

1. \$15,000
2. \$7,500
3. \$2,500

 **PKT OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT**

GUARANTEED PURSE of \$12,500 based on 50 Boats.

**OPEN Division Championship Payout**

 ~12,500,000 PURSE (PAYOUT TOP 5) 50/20/15/10/5

**HIGH ROLLER Division Championship Payout**

 ~\$37,500,000 PURSE (PAYOUT TOP 5) 50/20/15/10/5



**MACK DADDY Division Championship Payout**

 ~\$75,000,000 PURSE (PAYOUT TOP 5) 50/20/15/10/5

**OPTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CALCUTTAS - BET ON YOUR TEAM!**

\$1,500 Overall x 50 boats could be an extra \$75,000!

PURSE POTENTIAL COULD BE HUGE!

 **200,000** 

PURSE based on 50 teams going ALL IN!



