

2nd Annual Hudson River Fishermen Association's Striper Derby

Registration ends April 14th!

Mail-ins must be postmarked no later than April 14th.
On-line registrations accepted up to midnight April 14th.



2nd Annual H.R.F.A. Striper Derby

April 17th to May 15th

BIGGER & BETTER WITH MORE WAYS TO WIN!

Catch & Release and/or Catch, Tag and *Then* Release Striper Derby.
Only stripers from the Hudson River or East River accepted.



PRIZES

- Largest striper: 1st \$600, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$150, 4th \$75 and 5th \$50
- Largest shore caught striper: 1st Place only. \$150
- Most tagged stripers: Weekend trip for two to Montauk with the American Littoral Society
- Largest tagged striper: Fluke fishing trip for two with the American Littoral Society
- Weekly prizes for largest striper and best photograph posted on Instagram
- Calcutta: 1st Place only. \$125 plus generous gifts from *The Fisherman* magazine.

ENTRY FEES

- HRFA Member: \$35.00
- Non-Member: \$80.00
- New Member: \$60.00 (Includes \$35.00 entry fee plus tax deductible \$25.00 for one-year membership in the HRFA)
- Calcutta: \$15 for 3R sticker from *The Fisherman* magazine



AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY
Caring for the Coast



Photo by Mona Mak



Hudson River Fishermen's Association (H.R.F.A.)

Striped Bass C & R and C, T & R Derby

April 17 through May 15, 2020

Catch & Release Cash Prizes

- Boat or shore: 1st \$600.00, 2nd \$300.00, 3rd \$150.00, 4th \$75 and 5th Place \$50
- Shore: 1st Place \$150
- Calcutta \$125 plus gifts donated by *The Fisherman* magazine

Entry Form



Catch, Tag & Release Prizes

Donated by the American Littoral Society

- Most – Montauk trip for two
- Largest – Fluke trip for two

Name: _____

Address _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 14th

Please indicate desired Entry Fee option:

____ H.R.F.A. Member: \$35.00

____ Non-Member: \$80.00

____ New H.R.F.A Member: \$60.00 (Saves \$15.00 - includes \$35 Entry Fee + \$25 1-year *tax deductible* membership and all its privileges)

____ Calcutta: \$15.00

Make Checks Payable to: H.R.F.A. Striper Derby

Mail to: H.R.F.A.

P.O. Box 421

Cresskill, NJ 07626

or

H.R.F.A.

P.O. Box 421

Piermont, NY 10968

NOTE: Participation in the HRFA Striper Derby requires a digital camera and a standard ruler or tape measure (a free HRFA Striper Derby tape measure is included with each entry). Participation also requires access to a working e-mail address.

The undersigned angler ("Angler") on behalf of himself/herself and personal representatives, assigns, heirs, executors, and successors hereby fully and forever releases, waives, and discharges the H.R.F.A. and all sponsoring or cosponsoring companies, organizations or individuals related to the Derby (collectively "Releasees") from all liability to the Angler and his/her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, executors and successors for loss(es), damage(s), claims thereof on account of injury to Angler or his/her property or the resultant death of Angler whether caused by active or passive negligence of the Releasees or otherwise, in connection with the Angler's participation in the Derby ("Losses"), and further covenants not to sue any of the aforementioned parties for such Losses. Angler is fully aware of the risks and hazards inherent in participating in the Derby and elects to voluntarily participate. Angler hereby assumes all risks of loss(es), damage(s), or injury(ies) that may be sustained by him/her while participating in the Derby. Angler represents and warrants to the Releasees that he/she is in good physical condition and is able to safely participate in the Derby. Angler warrants that all statements made herein are true and accurate and understands that Releasees have relied on them in allowing Angler to participate in the Derby.

ANGLER HAS READ THE FOREGOING AND INTENTIONALLY AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS THE GENREAL RELEASE, WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.

Angler's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Hudson River Fishermen's Association



H.R.F.A. Striped Bass Derby

Starts: 7:00am Friday April 17, 2020 Ends: 12:00pm Friday May 15, 2020

This is strictly a no kill derby.

Catch, Photo & Release and/or Catch, Tag, Photo and Release Derby.

NOTE: Entry photographs are to be emailed to: 2020striperderby@hrfanj.org

Official 2020 Derby Rules

1. Pre-Derby

1.1. Entrants ('Anglers') are responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to all of the following rules. Got questions? Contact a Derby Committee member: Joseph Albanese, 908-456-2968, joealbanese2@gmail.com or Scott Havner, 845-300-1562, fishon7231@verizon.net.

1.2 Entry fees are as follows:

- HRFA Member: \$35.00
- Non-Member: \$80.00
- New HRFA Member: \$60.00 (Saves \$15.00 – includes \$35.00 entry fee plus \$25.00 1-year *tax deductible* membership and all privileges of same)
- Calcutta: \$15.00

1.3. On-line registration opens March 1, 2020 and closes April 14, 2020. Once properly set-up registration may be done online at www.hrfanj.org. Registrations also accepted by mail. Simply complete the application form and mail it along with a check made out to "HRFA – Striper Derby" to one of the following two addresses:

H.R.F.A.
P.O. Box 421
Cresskill, NJ 07626

H.R.F.A.
P.O. Box 421
Piermont, NY 10968

1.4. Derby participants must have access to a valid, working e-mail address. Just prior to the start of the Derby, the Derby committee will e-mail each participant their own unique 3-digit Derby number. That number must appear in any picture of a fish submitted for consideration in the Derby. We recommend that participants write that number on an index card or sheet of paper in print dark enough and large enough to show up in photographs. When taking a picture of fish to be entered, place the card or piece of paper in the photo with the fish.

1.4.1 Derby participants will also be entitled to an official Striper Derby 60" vinyl tape measure. If applicant includes a stamped self-addressed envelope one will be mailed to him/her. It is preferable that participants use this 'official' tape measure, which includes the non-profit organization logos for the HRFA, and its Derby partner the American Littoral Society plus a space to enter the Angler's unique 3-digit Derby number in Magic Marker.

1.5. Lines in the water shall not start prior to 7:00am on Friday, April 17, 2019. Fishing will end promptly at 12:00pm on Friday May 15, 2020. Times are based on the Derby committee clock.

1.6. Once the Derby begins, there will be no refunds for any reason.

1.7. By signing the entry form or signing up through the website, you are agreeing to the disclaimer on the entry form.

1.8. Cash prizes will be awarded for the largest five (5) stripers caught and released. (1st Place \$600.00, 2nd Place \$300.00, 3rd Place \$150.00, 4th Place \$75 and 5th Place \$50) All cash prizes are based on a minimum of 50 entries to the Derby. If there are fewer/more entries, cash prizes will be pro-rated accordingly.

1.9 The primary goal in practicing catch and release is conservation of the species. A further goal of this Derby is to encourage tagging stripers for science. Therefore, the HRFA has partnered with the American Littoral Society to award additional prizes for stripers 14" or greater that are tagged prior to release. No tagged striper under 14" will be considered. The Angler with the most stripers of 14" or greater length tagged and released will win an American Littoral Society weekend trip for two (2) persons to Montauk. The Angler with the largest striper tagged and released will win an American Littoral Society fluke tagging trip leaving a port in NJ for two (2) persons. In order for an entry to qualify in this category the striper photograph must clearly show the American Littoral Society tag properly inserted into the fish. Furthermore, the tag number and completed postcard must be included in order for the entry to count. This applies to each and every tagged entry.

This year, if the angler entered into the special Calcutta when registering, there will be a 1st Place cash prize of \$125 plus awards from *The Fisherman* magazine for supporting their 3Rs campaign. Their 3Rs campaign promotes conservation of the species and will raise funds to place satellite tags in Hudson River stripers for science.

1.10 Springtime fishing for stripers in the Hudson River and East River is often done with bloodworms or other types of bait. Circle hooks are highly recommended for bait fishing because they minimize the risk of gut hooking a fish. Thus, circle hooks reduce mortality rates of fish released back into the wild. Additional suggestions for improving survival rates:

- Use barbless hooks to ensure quick hook removal and cause minimal harm to the fish.
- Get the fish back into the water as quickly as possible.
- Handle fish with wet hands or gloves to minimize removal of their protective mucous coating.
- Resuscitate fish by pulling it forward in a figure eight motion by pulling on its lower lip. Never move it backwards.
- Leave hooks set deep in the fish by clipping off the leader as close to the hook as possible.

2. During the Striper Derby

2.1. Boundaries are all legal Hudson River and East River waters. Anglers are free to fish both from boat and/or from either NY or NJ shorelines.

2.2. Fishing areas must be open to the public during the time period an individual is fishing the Derby. If a fishing area is closed to the public during certain times of the Derby, then it is closed to Derby fishing during that time period. All respective NJ/NY state laws must be obeyed.

2.3. All fish must be caught on a rod and reel and within compliance of the law.

2.4. Entrants must hook and fight the fish on his/her own and must be the only person handling the fishing rod. The only assistance the angler may have is to have someone net, tail or leader the fish during the landing.

2.5. Submitting a Fish

Photographs are to be emailed to: 2020striperderby@hrfanj.org

2.5.1. To be counted, all fish must be measured and photographed with a measuring device clearly showing the length of the fish and your Derby number clearly visible. Since all stripers must be released alive any striped bass of 14" or greater may be eligible to win prizes. If tagged, the American Littoral Society tag must be visible in the photo and accompanied by the tagging postcard and tag number.

2.5.1.1. Fish must be released alive in order to qualify for this Derby.

2.5.1.2. Fish will be measured with from tip of the nose to the end of the tail held in a normal position. (not squeezed, pinched or stretched)

2.5.1.3. The measuring device must be placed along the bottom (belly) side of the fish.

2.5.1.4. The photo must be taken with the camera directly over the fish pointing straight down.

2.5.2. Individuals may supply their own tape measure or ruler. The measuring device must be lying straight alongside the fish and be clearly visible in the picture for the full length of the fish being submitted.

2.5.2.1. If any part of the measuring device is hidden by the fish, the Derby number card, or any other object, the entry will be disqualified.

2.5.2.2. If the length of the fish cannot be determined from the photograph, the entry will be disqualified

2.5.3. Any fish not photographed as described in rules 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 and all of their sub-rules will be disqualified. It is the responsibility of the angler to ensure the fish is photographed properly.

2.5.4. Individuals must supply their own means of taking a digital photo. Digital cameras, cell phones, smart phones, video cameras, and iPads with photo capabilities will be accepted.

2.6 The HRFA will do its best to provide participants with daily updates on Derby standings by one or more of the following methods: e-mail blast to participants, posting on the HRFA Face Book pages and/or www.hrfanj.org.

3. Derby Conclusion

3.1. At or before the conclusion of the Derby, all entrants who wish to enter their fish must e-mail the photograph of their largest fish and that of any tagged striper of 14" or greater length to the Derby committee.

Photographs are to be emailed to: 2020striperderby@hrfanj.org.

3.1.2. Photographs must be submitted the same day as capture and no later than 12:00pm Friday May 15, 2019. They may be submitted at any time prior to this deadline.

3.1.3. With the photograph, submit within the body of the e-mail the following:

3.1.3.1. Your name

3.1.3.2. Your unique 3-digit Derby number

3.1.4. Submit only one photograph. If multiple photos are submitted for the same fish, the Derby committee will judge the first received, or the first in the list of photos if they are all sent in one e-mail.

3.1.5. No photoshopping or other photo editing is permitted. Original unedited photographs only.

3.1.6. The Derby committee reserves the right to make editing adjustments to the submitted photo for clarity, such as to read the ruler or the Derby number.

3.1.7. The Derby committee makes the final ruling on the length of the fish submitted.

3.1.7.1. The Derby committee will determine the length of the fish by rounding up to the nearest half inch based on the submitted photograph.

3.1.7.2. The Derby committee, based on the submitted photograph, will judge the viability of the release of the fish.

3.1.7.3. The Derby committee reserves the right to make editing adjustments or to disqualify the entry (at their discretion) of any submission that attempts to show a false measurement using a forced perspective technique.

3.1.8. The Derby committee is not responsible for submissions failing to arrive by the deadline due to technical reasons beyond the committee's control, such as internet disruptions, power outages, etc.

3.1.9. Within the rules of this Derby it is possible for a single entry to win more than one prize. For example, the largest striper caught may also be the largest fish tagged. In this example the Angler is eligible to win both the HRFA's 1st place cash prize of \$600 plus the American Littoral Society's prize of a two (2) person trip to Montauk (valued at \$850). However, while an entrant may enter multiple fish for this Derby, only the largest submitted entry will be considered for a cash prize. This gives another Angler the opportunity to win a cash prize.

3.1.10. Entrants have the right to request a second judging of a submitted fish. They must make the request in writing and state why they think the measurement was mis-judged. Entrants may only make one request for a second judging per Derby. Any further requests must go through the Appeals process as described in Rule 3.2. Derby committee rulings on second judgments are final.

3.2 Winners will be announced no later than May 19, 2020. The Striper Derby Awards Ceremony will be part of the HRFA's General Meeting on Tuesday June 9th at the Ridgefield Park Elks Club.

3.3. Any and all appeals must be made, in writing and given to a member of the Derby committee by midnight May 15, 2020. Appeals must be accompanied by a \$25 processing fee. If the appeal is granted, the money will be refunded. No investigations will begin without the processing fee. All decisions made by the Derby Committee will be deemed final.

3.4. The HRFA reserves the right to use any photographs submitted for prizes for its meetings and events, and for future promotion of the Derby.

3.5. If two or more fish of the same length are tied for an award, the submission received first will break the tie. The inbox time of the committee e-mail address will be used to determine time of receipt.

3.6. Any Angler submitting a fish which was tampered with or was not caught by him or her within the rules and regulations of this Derby, will be disqualified with no refund of any entrance fees and may be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Entrants may be asked to take a polygraph test. Failing the test or refusing to take it within 7 days of the request will result in an automatic disqualification of the entrant with no refund of any entrance fees and forfeiture of any prizes.

3.7. Anglers who have been disqualified from this or any fishing Derby may be prohibited entry to this Derby.