

FUNDRAISING

Fishing for the Mission 22, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, employs a therapeutic approach to aid veterans in their recovery through fishing. Our programs are designed to provide veterans with meaningful fishing adventures, where we can introduce them to our behavioral services and marine vocational training opportunities. Additionally, we are dedicated to raising awareness and implementing preventive strategies to address the tragic loss of over 22 veterans to suicide daily in the United States. Since the start of the Global War on Terror in 2001, there have been over 7,000 combat-related deaths and, shockingly, over 120,000 veteran suicides. This public health crisis is unacceptable. With only one percent of our nation serving in the armed forces, it is crucial for the remaining 99 percent to support veterans in crisis. Every dollar raised goes directly towards supporting our mission of assisting veterans in need.

Tautog-of-War Frenzy Catch 22 Tournament REGISTRATION

Participants must register at www.fishingforthemission22.org under our events page. For those with limited internet access, checks can be mailed to the address below with the full name and phone number included (please, no cash). Signup through the website is highly encouraged and the preferred method.

Fishing for the Mission 22

47 Main Street

Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

Please ensure that you carefully review and understand the tournament rules below. There is no captains' meeting or kickoff party before the event, so if you have any questions, our team will thoroughly explain the tournament's rules and regulations, address any concerns, provide updates, and discuss any changes to the tournament structure via our business line at 774-810-2223.

TOURNAMENT DATES

The tournament will commence on Saturday, October 5, 2024, at sunrise and conclude on Sunday, October 6, at 3:00 p.m. An up-to-date leaderboard will be actively

maintained throughout the event and will be posted at the end of each night after scales close.

Maco's Bait and Tackle is the official weigh-in headquarters for the Tautog-of-War Frenzy Catch 22 Tournament. Scales will be open on Saturday, October 5, until 5 p.m. The scales will close at 3 p.m. sharp on Sunday, October 6, 2024. Participants may weigh their fish after this deadline only if they have checked in with the weighmaster and are in the queue by 3 p.m.; this cutoff will be strictly adhered to without exceptions. Each submitted fish must be caught by the registered angler with a rod and reel.

All fish must be officially weighed and recorded at one of the Maco's Bait and Tackle locations designated below:

- Maco's Bait and Tackle (Wareham location)

3173 Cranberry Hwy, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

- Maco's Bait and Tackle (Pocasset Location)

4 Barlow's Landing Road, Pocasset, MA 02559

After the tournament, the awards ceremony will be held at Stone Path Malt, located at 11 Kendrick Rd, Wareham, MA 02571, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. This awards party is open to the public as we aim to raise awareness, advocate, and prevent veteran suicide.

ENTRY FEE AND PAYOUT RULES

- \$100.00 per angler

- \$350.00 discount package for a boat with four anglers (each angler is allowed to weigh their heaviest fish of the day)

Each angler may weigh in their heaviest fish per day. Only one fish per angler can be weighed each day, and it **MUST** be personally caught. Each tautog must comply with state regulations and have a minimum size of 16 inches.

Please note: The legal minimum tautog size is 16 inches, with a daily limit of up to three fish, and only one fish may exceed 21 inches. Please refer to the Recreational Saltwater Fishing Regulations website for detailed tautog regulations. It is the responsibility of each angler to be familiar with the rules and regulations of each fishery.

PRIZE PAYOUTS (strictly based on a minimum of 400 signups; see full details below):

CASH PRIZES

- 1st Place: \$5,000 (grand prize)
- 2nd Place: \$2,500
- 3rd Place: \$1,250
- Catch 22 Shootout: \$200 (The top 22 tautog weights after the top three grand prize payouts will each receive \$200)

PLEASE NOTE:

The total prize pool for the two-day event is \$13,200. Cash prize payouts are contingent upon a minimum of 400 entries. If we do not meet our fundraising target of 400 participants, prizes will be adjusted to ensure fairness for both the organization and participants. All prize distributions, including grand prizes, require 400 registered anglers. Each angler is eligible to claim one grand prize and one Catch 22 payout. Should the minimum number not be reached, the prize pool will be adjusted to 32 percent of the total number of entries. This is a charity event aimed at supporting our fishing programs, resource center, and veteran suicide prevention efforts, so please be mindful of the minimum signup requirement and prize payout structure.

All division and daily prizes will be awarded at the ceremony on Sunday, October 6, 2024, at Stone Path Malt. If winners are unable to attend, checks can be collected from our resource center at 47 Main St, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532, or mailed directly at your cost and our convenience for a \$50.00 donation processing fee. We encourage each winner to respectfully attend the awards ceremony. In the event of a tie, the earliest registered fish will be declared the winner. All participants are responsible for any taxes and fees associated with winning prizes.

WEATHER

Participants enter the tournament at their own risk and discretion. As a charity event to support our nation's heroes, there are no refunds for bad weather; enter at your own risk.

PROTESTS/COMPLIANCE

A registered angler may protest another angler's catch by submitting a written protest to the tournament committee. Such protests must be filed by 2:30 PM EST on Sunday, October 6, 2024. The tournament committee will address and resolve any protest, with their decision being final. Noncompliance with any tournament rule, regulation, or applicable Massachusetts State Fishing guidelines may result in the disqualification of an angler or their catch. Disqualified anglers will not be entitled to any prizes, awards, or refunds.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

All participants and guests assume full responsibility for their personal safety and property, expressly acknowledging the risks associated with tournament participation. As a condition of entry, participants agree to release and hold harmless the tournament's affiliates from any claims related to injuries, death, or property damage incurred during the event. By participating in the Tautog-of-War Frenzy Catch 22 Tournament, entrants agree to this liability release and cannot retract it.

The tournament committee reserves the right to amend rules and regulations to maintain the integrity of the tournament. The committee also reserves the right to cancel the event due to safety concerns, including inclement weather, acts of God, or other uncontrollable factors. In the event of cancellation, prizes will be distributed via a lottery among all registered participants, with the number of prizes proportionate to signups and sponsorships. No refunds will be issued; participation is at one's own risk.

This charity fundraising tournament supports our therapeutic fishing and marine vocational programs, behavioral services, and resource center. It also aims to raise awareness about the more than 22 veterans lost to suicide daily in the U.S. This family-oriented event will host veterans, active-duty members, and military supporters. We expect all attendees to show the utmost respect and courtesy. Unsportsmanlike conduct will lead to immediate disqualification and potential exclusion from future FFTM22 events.

It is your responsibility to read and understand the rules and regulations.

Have fun, and good luck!

Fishing for the Mission 22 is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, EIN: 88-3576789.