2017 Morgan Stanley Triple Crown Tournament Rules

1. The Morgan Stanley Triple Crown Tournament runs from July 1, 2017 thru October 31, 2017.

2. Only MSC members may participate in the Morgan Stanley Triple Crown Tournament. Professional guides are not eligible to participate in the tournament and fish caught with a professional guide are also not eligible . An entry fee of \$20/angler is required to enter the contest. August 31, 2017 is the last day to enter the tournament, and ONLY fish caught after you officially sign up will be counted.

3. Contest requires catching the following fish; Tarpon, Snook and Redfish. There is no size limitation on any of the three species. Anglers must try to catch a Tarpon greater than 30 inches and the largest Snook and Redfish in order to win the contest.

4. The approved fishing area for the Morgan Stanley Triple Crown Tournament is limited to the backwater boundaries established by the MSC Fishing Committee ; Northbound; Gordon's Pass, Southbound; Rabbit Key Pass, Westbound; three(3) nautical miles into the Gulf including Gullivan Bay and Eastbound; west of US Highway 41. Also, all fishing areas must be accessible by the general public.

5. Confirmation of all fish caught and reported will be required; (1) a photograph with ruler for a Snook and Redfish with the mouth closed and the tail pinched and (2) a photograph of a Tarpon. To register a Tarpon in this tournament, the angler needs only to bring the Tarpon to the boat and touch the leader ( the leader must be no longer than 6 feet.) A photograph of the Tarpon must be provided and the photograph must clearly identify the fish as a Tarpon. No measurement will be required and gaffing the fish is prohibited. An angler that meets these requirements will be awarded a 5.5 foot fish regardless of the size of the fish caught, except that the fish must be 30 inches or larger . All efforts need to be undertaken to minimize stress to the fish, reduce mortality and minimize risk of injury to the angler. As soon as the leader is touched and a picture taken while the fish is in the water, the leader needs to be cut or the fish should be dehooked and released.

All measurements of Snook and Redfish are to be in 1/4 inches. If a measurement is 1/8 inch or larger, then round up to the next 1/4 inch. If a measurement is under 1/8 inch, then round down to the nearest 1/4 inch.

A photograph of a Snook or Redfish aligned along a ruler clearly showing the length of the fish with the mouth closed and the tail pinched will need to be provided in order to register the fish. Fish caught and reported without the required photograph will not be accepted.

6. All fish caught that are to be entered should be reported within three days of catching the fish. A standings table will be developed and updated for all participating anglers on a weekly basis. In the event of a tie, the earliest fish(s) caught will be used to break ties.

7. The winning angler will be determined based on a point system. For any Tarpon that is 30 inches or larger that is caught and reported, every inch is worth one (1) point and the angler will be awarded a 5.5 foot Tarpon and 66 points. For all Snook and Redfish that are caught and reported, every inch is worth two (2) points. As an example, if an angler caught a Tarpon (66 points), a 25 inch Redfish (50 points) and a 23.5 inch Snook (47 points), the resultant point total would be 163 points. The angler with the highest total points will be declared the winner. Additionally, second, third, fourth and fifth prizes will also be awarded to the four runner-up contestants.

8. It is expected that not all anglers will be able to catch all three fish species, therefore a sixth and seventh prize will be awarded to the anglers that catch the largest Snook and the largest Redfish provided that those anglers are not eligible for the top five awards. Additionally, in order to make the tournament more competitive, all entrants will be deemed initially to have caught a small fish from all three species ; a 30 inch Tarpon, a 15 inch Snook and a 15 inch Redfish. All entrants will begin the contest with 90 points.

9. We encourage catch and release during the event, however legal fish may be kept. Please keep only fish you plan to eat.

10. Questions and registration inquiries may be directed to Victor Ordija at <u>vicord1@comcast.net</u> or call 239-494-6741 (home) or 239-628-7971(cell).