

2026 SURF SERIES TRAIL RULES

1. The Surf Series Trail is a tournament trail made up of five events.
2. The Surf Series Trail features one division—the Aggregate Weight Division.
3. The Aggregate Weight Division winners are determined by totaling up an angler's points (weight—see rule #4) of up to five fish weighed in over the course of the five qualifying events. The “up to five fish” can be from any event's leaderboard species (including TWT fish) weighed in during that event; however, no more than one of any one species in any one event can count towards Surf Series Trail points. For example, if you weigh in more than one bluefish over the weekend in the Pleasure Island Fall Surf Fishing Challenge, only your heaviest of those bluefish will count towards Surf Series Trail points, but you can have one bluefish, one sea mullet, and one pompano (etc.) from the Pleasure Island Fall Surf Fishing Challenge count towards Surf Series Trail points.
4. Points will be accumulated under the Surf Series Trail participant's name, and participants will be awarded points in each individual tournament corresponding to their qualifying fish. For example, if a participant weighs a 1.2 lb. sea mullet, the participant will receive 1.2 points.
5. The entry fee for the Surf Series Trail is \$100 per angler. Surf Series Trail participants will still need to pay the entry fee to enter each individual event they choose to compete in.
6. The five tournaments that serve as qualifiers for points towards the Surf Series Trail are the following: Pleasure Island Team Surf Fishing Challenge, Topsail Spring Surf & Pier Fishing Challenge, Hatteras Island Surf Fishing Challenge, Pleasure Island Fall Surf Fishing Challenge, and Topsail Fall Surf & Pier Fishing Challenge.
7. In the Pleasure Island Team Surf Fishing Challenge, any participant, as well as more than one participant, on any team can be awarded points based off of the one heaviest fish from each of the qualifying species.
8. In the Topsail Spring and Topsail Fall events, a Surf Series Trail participant can be entered in the Surf Division or the Pier Division of that event for points to qualify for the Surf Series Trail.
9. In order for any TWT fish to count towards Surf Series Trail points, the participant must be entered in the TWT of that qualifying event.
10. Surf Series Trail participants are subject to all the rules and any date changes of each individual qualifying event. In the event that a qualifying event is cancelled, then there will be no make-up as it relates to points (possible qualifying fish).
11. Participants may fish any or all the events. A participant is not required to fish a minimum number of events.
12. In the event of a tie at the culmination of the five qualifying events, the tie will be broken by the participant's single heaviest fish. In the event a tie still exists, the winner will be declared by the participant that weighed in their single heaviest fish first.
13. By entering the Surf Series Trail, the participant consents that the Surf Series Trail may use without payment or restrictions any photographs in which he or she appears for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to resale, advertising, commercial, or promotional material.
14. Infractions of the individual tournament rules and/or Surf Series Trail rules may impact a participant's ability to fish any additional qualifying events and/or receive any winnings in the Surf Series Trail.
15. Participants may be subject to a polygraph test at any time during the course of the Surf Series Trail, and a failed polygraph will be grounds for immediate disqualification from the Surf Series Trail.
16. Any protests shall be accompanied by a \$350 cash deposit, and the protest must be made within one hour of the close of scales of the event where an action occurred that prompted the protest. The \$350 cash deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld, and the \$350 cash deposit will be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
17. All rule decisions are left to the Surf Series Trail Committee, and all decisions are final.
18. The Surf Series Trail Committee has the right to refuse entry from any applicant.
19. All participants are responsible for reading and following all individual tournament and Surf Series Trail rules.

Questions? Contact Fisherman's Post at (910) 452-6378 or surf@fishermanspost.com.