

RULES & REGULATIONS

3^{ER} TORNEO INTERNACIONAL DE PESCA DE BASURA

PUERTO VALLARTA • BAHÍA DE BANDERAS
18 DE OCTUBRE DE 2026

INTERNATIONAL TRASH
FISHING TOURNAMENT 2026

RULES & REGULATIONS

- All participants must follow these **Rules & Regulations**, the instructions issued by the Tournament Judges, and the guidelines established by the **Organizing Committee**.
- All participating teams must have completed the **Registration Form and Donation**.
- The Tournament will last **5 hours**, beginning at **9:00 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m.**
- Trash Fishing will be conducted **exclusively at sea**, using the **2 fishing nets provided to each team**.
- All collected waste must be sorted by type, as described in the infographic, and placed in the transparent bags provided for delivery.
- Organic waste such as logs or branches **must not be collected**.
- Waste such as **“treated wood,”** meaning wood chemically modified to resist moisture, insects, and deterioration, **will be classified as General Waste**.

WASTE CATEGORIES

- **PET & Recyclable Plastics** (see infographic)
- **Glass**
- **Aluminum**
- **Styrofoam**
- **General Waste (Non-Recyclable)**
- Participants may use their hands to collect waste that has been trapped in nets, provided that they do so carefully and use common sense.
- **Sport fishing is strictly prohibited** during the event.
- Teams must consist of a **maximum of 5 participants**. However, up to **2 children who are at least 8 years old** may participate and will count as team members.
- Teams consisting of **more than 5 participants will not be eligible for prizes**. However, their participation will be allowed, and the waste they collect will still be included in the Tournament's total waste collection.
- The **Boat Captain** shall be the highest authority on board while the team is aboard the boat.



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KIT PICK-UP

- At least **one team member** must attend the Kit Pick-Up and present the **Official Pass** sent by email.
- Each kit consists of:
 - 5 official Tournament T-shirts
 - 5 official Tournament caps
 - 1 reusable tote bag
 - Waste-sorting infographic
 - Liability Waiver, which **must be signed by ALL participants** and submitted the day of the Tournament.

DEPARTURE AND RETURN PASS

- Departure will take place on **Sunday, October 18, at 9:00 a.m.** from Los Muertos Pier.
- Teams must arrive **at least 1 hr. before departure, by 8:00 a.m.**, in order to:
 - Register and submit the **signed Liability Waiver** (only complete teams may do so).
 - Submit their **Departure Pass**.
 - Receive the **Trash Fishing Kit**, consisting of 2 nets, 5 pairs of gloves (which must be returned to Tournament staff), and trash bags.
 - Board their assigned boat.

NOTE:

No team may depart without submitting the Liability Waiver duly signed by all participants.

- To submit their collected waste, teams must return to **Los Muertos Pier no later than 2:00 p.m.** and deliver their waste **within the official Tournament time limit.**
- **UPON PRESENTING THEIR ENTRY PASS**, teams must return the 2 fishing nets before unloading their collected waste at the pier and taking it to the weighing area.
- If any net is lost, **the cost of replacing it must be covered by the team.**
- The deadline for submitting collected waste and taking it to the weighing area is **2:30 p.m.**, provided that the team has presented its **Entry Pass no later than 2:00 p.m.**
- Teams will have **30 minutes to unload and present their collected waste** at the weighing area.
- Waste delivered after this time will **not be considered for the competition**, but it will still be included in the total amount of waste collected during the Tournament.
- Weighing will be conducted by **authorized Tournament staff**, using scales designated for each type of waste.
- Tournament staff will keep a record of the different types of waste collected by each team.
- Waste that has **not been properly sorted will not be counted toward the team's competitive weight.** It will instead be classified as General Waste and included in the overall total collected during the Tournament.

- PET bottles, bottles, containers, or any other type of container containing liquids **must not be emptied into the sea and must be classified as general waste.**
- In the event of a tie in weight, **the team that presents its collected waste at the weighing area first will be declared the winner.** The judging panel will resolve any dispute.
- If a boat experiences a mechanical failure that compromises safety, it may request assistance by radio from another boat and **must contact** the numbers listed below.
The team may request assistance transporting its collected waste to the pier under the affected team’s name, provided this occurs within the established Tournament time and the organizers are notified by phone.
- **322 278 9421 / 311 263 1857**

AUTHORIZED MARINE AREA FOR TRASH FISHING

- Bahía de Banderas marine area.

BOAT CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- The **Boat Captain** shall be responsible for the **navigation, operation, and safety of the boat and its passengers throughout the Tournament.**
- The organization will provide the boat, **but shall not replace or assume the Captain's legal and operational responsibilities as the person responsible for navigation.**

GROUND'S FOR AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION

- The team caught emptying or throwing containers and/or bottles containing liquids into the sea or filling them up.
- Engaging in sport fishing.
- Collecting waste from any beach.
- Disrespectful behavior toward participants, volunteers, or crew members that constitutes a serious violation of the spirit of the Tournament.
- Endangering the safety of people, crew members, boats, or marine wildlife, or disregarding instructions from the Committee or the Boat Captain.

- A **Special Prize** will be awarded to the team that collects the strangest or funniest item. To participate, the team must submit a video as evidence showing the official shirt of the **3rd International Trash Fishing Tournament 2026.**
- The **Judging Panel** will review the videos to verify their validity and select the winner of this category. **Any team that fails to submit a video will not be eligible to compete in this category.**

PRIZES

- The teams that collect the **greatest total weight within the established time limits** will be declared **CHAMPIONS of the 3rd International Trash Fishing Tournament,** with awards for **1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place.**

ENTANGLED WILDLIFE PROTOCOL

- If a marine animal is found trapped in waste or a net, **its release and safety shall be the priority.**
- The team must notify the organization and carry out the authorized release procedures.
- Document the event.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The **Organizing Committee** shall be the highest authority of the Tournament and may admit, reject, or disqualify any participant or team for conduct contrary to these Rules & Regulations or the proper conduct of the event. **Disqualification of a participant shall also disqualify their boat and team, with no right to prizes or refund of the registration fee.** Violations of these Rules shall be grounds for disqualification **without the right to appeal,** which must be communicated to the participant or announced before the awards ceremony.

The Committee may **suspend, postpone, or cancel the Tournament** due to weather, sea conditions, operational circumstances, or any other situation that may compromise the safety of participants, crew members, or boats. **Safety shall always be the priority.**

Any matter not covered by these Rules & Regulations shall be resolved by the Organizing Committee, whose decisions shall be final and binding.