

# New Orleans Aqua Aces Diving Club 2017 Rodeo Rules

1. Registration / Ticket purchase is open until close of business Wednesday June 21st 2017 from an Aqua Aces Officer or thru a PAYPAL link located at [www.aquaaces.net](http://www.aquaaces.net) Registration fee is \$50.00. This includes a rodeo t-shirt, and three drink tickets. Pre-registration by ticket purchase, phone or e-mail is required. All participants must be known by the Aqua Aces prior to the start of the rodeo. Phone-ins are welcome to Treasurer Tim Todd (504) 915-3313 or President Alan Reese (504) 723-9536. Email entries can be sent to [aquaacesnola@gmail.com](mailto:aquaacesnola@gmail.com)
2. Valid fishing license is required of all participants.
3. Diving is open to all waters.
4. Competition starts Thursday, June 22nd 2017 at 12:01 AM and ends Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 1:00 PM.
5. All fish subject to autopsy.
6. Scales open Sunday, June 25th 2017 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM only. Scales close at 1:00 PM.
7. All decisions by Rodeo Officials will be final.
8. Headquarters for the Rodeo and weigh-in will be at The Aycock Barn, 409 Aycock St., Arabi, LA 70032.
9. No power heads allowed.
10. Fish must be speared and apprehended by Diver without assistance.
11. Fish speared from boats are not eligible.
12. Skin and SCUBA are allowed. Fish speared with the aid of a buoy may only be entered on the master board.
13. Diver must be present for entrance prizes, Sunday, June 25th at 1:30 PM.
14. Each main board category will receive a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy, 3 skin diving trophies, 1 Queen, 1 Junior, in addition to best boat and best club trophies.
15. A 1st place trophy will be awarded to the diver who brings in the most Lionfish. In case of a tie the earliest fish total submitted will be declared the winner. The Lionfish category will not be awarded any points.
16. All master board: 1<sup>st</sup> place fish -3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 2 points, and 3<sup>rd</sup> -1 point, with those points going toward the King/Club/Boat Award. In addition, the top 3 skin divers, Queen, and junior divers will receive points toward best club award with the skin divers 3, 2, 1 points, Queen 3 points, and Junior 3 points toward the club award only.
17. Separate boards will be kept for the purpose of tabulating points toward 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Skin-diver, The Queen and Junior Champion Award. The 3-2-1 point system will be used with ties broken by cumulative weights of fish on these boards. Only fish shot skin diving will count for Skin-diver Category and only Ladies may shoot for the Queen Award. The use of a buoy is only allowed by divers NOT using compressed air.
18. Ties for King/Club/Boat will be determined by the cumulative weight taking awards.
19. In case of any ties due to weight the earliest fish entered wins.
20. For the Miscellaneous Category: No Tarpon Under 60 lbs! No Redfish, Jewfish, Manta Rays, Sharks or Ocean Sunfish or fish subject to HMS Regulations.

21. There will be 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place award for the skin diving board. Those points going towards the best club only. There will be one award given to Queen and Junior Divers. Those points will count towards best club as follows: 3 points for Queen, and 3 points for the Junior diver toward the best club award.
22. Eligible Fishes are as follows: Jackfish, Jack Crevalle, Barracuda, Catfish, Cobia, Drum, Garfish, Grouper, Mangrove Snapper, Spadefish, Red Snapper (misc. Snapper if closed or only if harvested within 3 marine leagues of shore, approx. 9 miles), Sheepshead, Triggerfish (non grey only if grey triggerfish is closed), and Miscellaneous (Fish Only) (See Rule 20)
23. During the 2017 Aqua Aces Diving Club Rodeo a Skindiving Category is maintained. The use of Reels, Handheld Bungees, Riding Rigs and shafts tethered directly to a speargun will be allowed. Fish taken skin-diving by these means will count toward the 2017 Aqua Aces Master Board. The 2016 Aqua Aces Rodeo is not an HMS registered event so HMS type fish will not be allowed. Any fish harvested using a buoy will not be allowed on the skin diving board.
24. Participants are responsible for disposing of all fish entered into the Rodeo.

## Diver definitions and buoy explanation:

**Junior Diver:** Any diver that is 17 years of age or less beginning on the first day of the rodeo competition.

**Free diving** is defined as a diver that descends with one breath of air. He is allowed the use of a riding rig, reel, bungee, **and buoy** to subdue fish. **Fish subdued with a buoy may be entered on the master board only.** The line cannot be attached to the boat or a fixed object before descending. (ie, you cant tie your rig off before descending to shoot a fish or use the boat as a buoy) Also, the diver is not allowed to use the boat to travel to the buoy. If the buoy cannot be spotted, the diver is allowed to enter the boat to spot the buoy, but must then reenter the water to retrieve the buoy. Since this rodeo does not have a free diving board, those fish will be entered onto the main board only and not the skin diving board. **If compressed air is used to "untangle" a fish, the fish becomes ineligible for submission on any board.**

**Skin diving** is defined as a diver that descends with one breath of air. He is allowed the use of a riding rig, reel, and bungee. A **skin diver is not allowed to use a buoy.** Those fish may be entered onto the skin diving board, but will also qualify on the main board if they are larger than the fish in the category of the main board. **If compressed air is used to "untangle" a fish, the fish may be entered onto the main board only.**

Fish card must state if a buoy was used. Compressed air is not allowed for any diver using a buoy. Skin divers are not allowed to use buoys. Skin and free divers may enter fish on the master board if eligible.

Competition begins Thursday, June 22nd at 12:01 AM and ends Sunday, June 25th 2017 at 1:00 PM.

Awards Ceremony will follow at approximately 2:00 PM.

Sunday, June 25th 2016 Aqua Aces Rodeo Weigh-in Day 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Scales Open. Food will be served from 11:00AM - till.

Scales Will Be Open 10:00 AM To 1:00 PM only.

**[www.aquaaces.net](http://www.aquaaces.net)**