



**Green Turtle Cay Lionfish Derby  
June 24, 2017  
Green Turtle Club, Abaco, Bahamas  
Mandatory Legal Waiver Form**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Boat: \_\_\_\_\_

BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS A WAIVER WHICH MEANS YOU WILL BE GIVING UP ALL LEGAL RIGHTS CONCERNING ANY COURSE OF ACTION AGAINST FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, THEIR AGENTS, VOLUNTEERS, CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES AND ALL INDIVIDUALS AFFILIATED WITH LIONFISH DERBY BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR LEGAL POSITION BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY. PLEASE INITIAL NEXT TO EACH ITEM. YOUR SIGNATURE AT THE BOTTOM INDICATES AGREEMENT WITH ALL OF THE ITEMS, REGARDLESS IF ONE OR MORE OF THEM IS NOT INITIALED. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH ALL OF THE ITEMS (PARAGRAPHS), DO NOT SIGN THE BOTTOM. PARTICIPATION IN THE LIONFISH DERBY IS CONDITIONED UPON YOUR EXECUTION OF THIS WAIVER. IF YOU DO NOT SIGN THIS WAIVER, YOU ARE NOT A PARTICIPANT IN THE LIONFISH DERBY.

**DEFINITIONS:**

1. Lionfish Derby: Although the Derby is run by Friends of the Environment, in the context of this document, Friends of the Environment shall mean, the directors, members, volunteers, officers, advisors of Friends of the Environment, and all owners of property where the Derby is headquartered, where the official counting occurs, and all related acts.
2. Diving: In the context of this document, Diving shall mean free diving, snorkel diving, SCUBA diving, spear fishing, netting (or otherwise using any methods allowed under the rules) to harvest Indo Pacific Lionfish while in or on the water.
3. In the context of this document, the word "I" shall mean me, my heirs, survivors, assigns, representatives, estate, legal guardian, attorneys in fact, or anyone else who may be empowered to act on my behalf. Or, if I am signing as the legal guardian of a registrant, then it shall mean my ward, me, my ward's heirs, survivors, assigns, representatives, estate, attorneys in fact, legal guardian, and anyone else who may act on behalf of my ward, principal, or minor.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_I understand the inherent risks associated with diving. When harvesting fish, I understand that the risk of injury or death is even greater. I have read the Derby Rules and agree to comply with them completely and waive my rights as to this activity against Friends of the Environment.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_I understand that weather conditions may change rapidly, and that Friends of the Environment is not responsible for my decision to participate in this event. Friends of the Environment's decision to NOT cancel the Derby does not act as an endorsement of good weather or marine conditions. I will determine these conditions myself and assume all risks inherent with weather conditions.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge that Indo Pacific Lionfish have venomous spines that can inflict a serious sting and/or cause serious injury or death. I will make every effort not to touch the spines, even after the fish are dead. I accept full responsibility for my handling of Lionfish and for all risks associated with this inherently dangerous activity.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that Friends of the Environment is in no way directing my activities, or otherwise acting as an advisor or principal. I assume all risks, not only associated with diving and harvesting Lionfish, but also boating and traveling.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that not only can injuries and/or death occur from the risks of diving, but that diving is physically exerting. I agree that I am responsible for making decisions about my own physical condition in conducting these activities.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby agree to waive my right to sue Friends of the Environment, The Green Turtle Club, and any of their respective affiliates, assigns associates, or sponsors by participating in the Lionfish Derby, for any injuries, death, emotional distress, pain and suffering, and all other forms of economic and non-economic damages and all claims and causes of action. I waive any and all claims. I will hold Friends of the Environment harmless from any claims brought on my behalf and agree to indemnify them in case of any claim made against them. Also, I hereby provide a full release for photo and television images.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that in the event of any dispute pertaining to any activity associated with or arising out of the Lionfish Derby, that the laws of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and/or the Bahamian Government and/or its territories shall apply, and not the laws of the United States of America or any of its territories. Venue of any dispute shall be in the court closest to the incident that has jurisdiction of this matter within the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. I further acknowledge that in any event of a dispute, the prevailing party shall be entitled to attorney's fees and costs as awarded by any Bahamian Court.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that the official counting and awards setting is at The Green Turtle Club, and that there may be dangers or other hazards associated with that setting, as well as with a Derby that involves spear fishing and harvesting of Lionfish. I will watch my children, if applicable, and understand all hazards and take full responsibility for my children. I agree to read and follow all of the published rules of the Derby.

Initials\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that Friends of the Environment is not a reseller of any prizes donated to the Derby. Friends of the Environment is merely a temporary custodian of said prizes and is not responsible for any grievance or claim I may have with respect to a prize. There are no refunds of fees or purchases.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contestant Printed Name                      Contestant Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Printed Name                      Witness Signature                      Date

## Lionfish Derby-Rules 2017

- 1) ONLY LIONFISH (Pterois Volitans) MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE DERBY. THE TEAM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED IF ANY OTHER FISH, CONCH OR LOBSTER ARE PRESENT ON THE BOAT AT ANY TIME DURING THE DERBY.
- 2) For the June 24th, 2017 Lionfish Derby ONLY, collection of lionfish may occur through use of SCUBA, snorkel, or compressor-supplied air. All other applicable Bahamian fisheries regulations and laws governing the Commonwealth of The Bahamas are in full force and will be strictly enforced.
- 3) Lionfish may be taken by pole-spear, Hawaiian sling, hand net, or lobster hook. Lionfish may be taken for this day only within the 200 yard limit of the shoreline. No chemicals or other collecting mechanisms are allowed.
- 4) Teams will be limited to 4 competing persons. To qualify for prizes, participants must be registered and show proper identification. All participants must sign a Legal Waiver Form to be considered registered in the Derby.
- 5) Protective gloves must be worn when handling lionfish. Participants are required to carry a thermos bottle on the boat containing hot, but not scalding, water for first aid purposes.
- 6) Derby hours: Sunrise until 4:00 pm on June 24, 2017. All fish must be present at Scoring Station by 4:00pm to qualify for prizes.
- 7) All lionfish must be caught the day of the Derby. PLEASE KEEP LIONFISH ON ICE. The Derby reserves the right to use some of the lionfish for a "tasting appetizer" at the Awards Banquet and for research.
- 8) Vessels may be subject to random inspection by Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources officers.
- 9) Derby teams must physically check in at or before the Captain's meeting on Friday June 23 by 7 PM in order to participate in the Derby. Team members not checking in or who have not signed the Legal Waiver Form will not be considered entered in the Derby.
- 10) Lionfish may be taken anywhere in Abaco waters as long as the collection occurs during Derby hours and the fish are present at the Scoring Station (The Green Turtle Club marina) by 4:00 pm. Winners will be awarded a first, second and third place monetary prize for the most lionfish caught, a monetary prize for the largest lionfish and smallest lionfish caught. All lionfish must be in whole condition. Largest and smallest fish will be determined by total length of the fish measuring from tip of snout to tip of tail.
- 11) All entrants agree to allow Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources to take and use photos for media and promotional purposes.
- 12) The Derby takes place regardless of weather conditions. Captains make the decision about whether to venture out.
- 13) Any decisions of the Derby officials and Department of Marine Resources are final.
- 14) In the event of a tie, the winning team will be determined by the earliest recording of its lionfish at the Scoring Station.
- 15) All cash award payments will be made to Team Captain.
- 16) The Lionfish Derby is an honor system tournament with the captain being responsible for team compliance with the Rules.
- 17) Anyone found violating Derby Rules by the Derby Officials or Department of Marine Resources will be disqualified from receiving any prize money.