

2020 Jones & Fisher County 4-H Virtual Fishing Challenge Information

Jones & Fisher County 4-H are hosting a virtual fishing challenge open to all youth in the two-county area. 4-H enrollment not required. Adults can participate too! Entries will be submitted online via Facebook. Please see details below for more information!

See link below to learn how to identify specific fish species in Texas.
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/aquaticspecies/inland.phtml>

Tournament Schedule

Species	Dates
Any Fish	Start: Sat. April 11 th @ 8am End: Sat. April 18 th @ 8pm

Location

- Fish anywhere permitted by law (freshwater, ponds, stock tanks, rivers, lakes, etc.).
- Boats are not required.

Safety and State Fishing Regulations

- Be sure to follow all Texas regulations regarding fishing licenses, bag limits, length requirements and other rules <https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/fishing/>
- Each family entered is responsible for the safety of youth anglers during the challenge.
- All anglers must abide by state and local regulations regarding COVID-19.

Eligibility

- Must reside in Jones or Fisher county, or member of either county 4-H, or attend school in either county.
- You must join the Jones-Fisher 4-H Virtual Fishing Challenge group on Facebook.
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/832474167162947/>

How to Submit Entries

- Pictures of fish caught will be submitted virtually by:
 - Posting to the Jones-Fisher 4-H Virtual Fishing Challenge Facebook group located here:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/832474167162947/>
 - See Rules for Entries on Page 2.

Entry Fees

- **FREE** Just go and have fun as a family!

Prizes

- Youth: For every fish submitted, name will be entered in a drawing for prizes. (specie limits apply)
- Adults will receive recognition but will not be eligible for prizes.

Educational Opportunities

- During this virtual tournament, you will learn how to:
 - Properly identify local fish species
 - Properly measure fish

Fishing Tournament, Contests and Participation Rules

1. **Event Date and Time:** April 11 starting at 8am – ending April 18 at 8pm.
 - Submissions before or after the time will be disqualified.

2. **Entry Requirements:**

Each of the following should be provided along with the picture of your fish:

- Name of Angler
- County: Jones or Fisher
- Age: Youth or Adult
- Fish Identification
- Fish must be photographed on a measuring tool. See below for specifications.
- A random, common household item will be required to be in your entry photos for validity. This item will be announced Saturday, April 11th at 7 am in the Jones-Fisher 4-H Virtual Fishing Challenge Facebook group page. This item **MUST** be in your photo for your submission to be accepted. Any entries without this item will be declined and you will be asked to make a new submission. For example, if the item is a screwdriver, it **MUST** be next to the fish in your picture.

3. **Judging Criteria:**

- Preferred method of measurement is the fish laying on a Check-It-Stik (as seen in picture below) or similar measuring board. If you do not own a Check-It-Stik or similar, you can also use a tape measure to measure the length of the fish.
- If using a tape measure, make sure it is at the front of the mouth.
- **An essential skill of any angler is to be able to legally measure a fish.** Mouth of fish must be touching the board, or end of tape measure, and tail pinched. If measurement cannot be read from photograph, the entry will be disqualified. Length is measured in inches from mouth to tip of tail, not the fork. See example below:



For each qualifying entry, the angler will get one entry into prize drawing. Limit five entries per species. (example; an angler may submit five largemouth bass and five spotted bass). Anglers who submit at least one fish in four of the species groupings (black bass, temperate bass, catfish, crappie, sunfish, other) will be entered into an additional drawing for larger prize.

In support of local business during the COVID-19 pandemic, prizes will be purchased locally in the two-county area, and may include fishing rods, tackle and equipment, movie tickets, food and drink certificates, and more.

Anglers may enter any of the fish listed below, even if not meeting legal length requirements; however, all fish failing to meet state requirements must promptly be returned to the body of water of which it was caught immediately after picture is taken.

Eligible Fish Species

- **Black Bass**
 - Large Mouth
 - Spotted
- **Temperate Bass**
 - White
 - Striped
 - Hybrid
- **Catfish**
 - Blue
 - Channel
 - Flathead
 - Black Bullhead
 - Yellow Bullhead
- **Crappie**
 - White
 - Black
- **Sunfish** (*Most people call these perch, but will fall into a sub-specie listed below*)
 - Bluegill
 - Green
 - Longear
 - Redear
- **Other Species**
 - Common Carp
 - Smallmouth Buffalo
 - Longnose Gar
 - Freshwater Drum
 - Any other not listed

See link below to learn how to identify specific fish species in Texas.

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/aquaticspecies/inland.phtml>

Remember: All fish submissions must be properly identified to become eligible for prize drawings. If you are unable to identify a fish, please note on submission, and we will assist you.