



2025 Salish Sea Salmon Challenge Rules and Regulations



For more information or to buy tickets visit: <https://www.sviac.ca>
or call Gerry at 250-516-0120

1. Official Fishing Date & Times

Saturday, May 31st 2025, from daybreak until 3:00 p.m.

2. Derby Headquarters and Fish Weigh Station Location

The **Salish Sea Salmon Challenge (SSSC)** will be headquartered at the **Esquimalt Anglers Marina – 1101 Munro Street in Esquimalt**. There will be ONE official Weigh Station for the derby located at Esquimalt Anglers Marina. The event coordinator, derby officials and weigh master will be stationed at the derby headquarters during weigh scale open times.

3. Weighing in Fish

- (i) - There is only one official weigh station for the **SSSC** located at **Esquimalt Anglers Marina – 1101 Munro Street in Esquimalt**.
- (ii) – The weigh station will open on **Saturday, May 31st at 8:00am** and remain open until **3:00pm**.
- (iii) – Contestants weighing fish in the **2025 SSSC** **MUST BE** in the weigh scale line up by the derby closing time (**3:00pm**) for their entry to be valid.
- (iv) – Contestants weighing in fish **MUST** provide the weigh scale staff with their derby ticket and a valid tidal waters fishing license with necessary salmon stamp attached for their entry to be validated.
- (v) – Contestant derby rod tickets **MUST** all be assigned to a person's name for the derby and the weigh master **MUST** know that information before any fish can be weighed in on that ticket.
- (vi) – Each participant may enter **ONE (1) salmon**.
- (vii) – All salmon entries **MUST** be greater than **ten (10)** pounds in weight.
- (viii) – The **2025 SSSC** is run under DFO tidal-water recreational standards and regulations in place at the time of the event. Only fish legally caught using recreational tackle and under a valid recreational fishing license can be entered.
- (ix) – Only salmon that meet the species and size criteria set out in the tidal water recreational fishing regulations and **2025 SSSC** rules in place at the time of the derby will be accepted at the scales (contestants are responsible to ensure they are fishing in compliance with DFO regulations).
- (x) – if there is a slot or maximum size limit for any species in place at the time of the 2025 SSSC, only salmon within that slot limit will be accepted at the weigh scale.
- (xi) – In the event of a “tie” or “draw” (equal weight) for the largest salmon at the official scale, the fish weighed in first as per the weighmasters derby time clock will be judged the winner.

- (xii) - fish are not to be cleaned, gutted or physically damaged prior to being weighed in.
- (xiii) – any person attempting to weigh in fish caught illegally, not in compliance with derby rules, caught outside the boundaries and/or caught outside the derby times will be disqualified immediately.

4. Fishing Boundaries

Please refer to the maps at the end of this document that details the official Salish Sea Salmon Challenge derby boundaries. SSSC contestants may fish only in Canadian tidal waters off: Sidney, Oak Bay, Victoria, Esquimalt, Colwood and Metchosin, where those areas are open to recreational fishing. For reference purposes the fishable areas of the **SSSC Derby** are within DFO Fisheries Management Areas 19-3, 19-4, 19-5 and 19-6. If there are **Southern Resident Killer Whale fishing closures in place at the time of the derby, contestants must not fish in those areas.**

Any contestants fishing outside the fishing boundaries during the derby or attempting to weigh in a fish found to be caught outside the official boundaries will be disqualified. Fishing in US waters is NOT permitted.

5. Fishing

- (i) – all fishing must be conducted within the **2025 SSSC** rules.
- (ii) – all derby participants **MUST** abide by Fisheries and Oceans Canada tidal waters recreational sport fishing regulations and be bound by any DFO fisheries management variation orders in effect at the time of the event.
- (iii) – salmon caught outside the derby boundaries or at a time before or after the derby hours are not eligible.
- (iv) – derby participants can only register **ONE (1)** salmon in their name per ticket.
- (v) – contestants may fish with only **ONE** rod per ticket.
- (vi) - no boats entered in the derby may come within 30 feet of any other boats. (Except official government vessels or derby officials).
- (vii) – No boats entered in the derby may come within 30 feet of the shore except when docking or removing the boat from water at a launching ramp.
- (viii) – To be eligible to enter a salmon for the Peetz Division Prize, you must have caught your fish using a Peetz brand Fishing Rod and Reel. On weigh in, participants **MUST** produce a photo showing your fish and your Peetz Rod and Reel, and have another derby participant attest to your use of a Peetz Rod and Reel.

6. General Rules

- (i) – **2025 SSSC** tickets are \$100.00 – each ticket includes **ONE** rod entry.
- (ii) – **2025 SSSC** tickets are non-refundable.
- (iii) – by purchasing a ticket and entering the derby, individuals agree to abide by the **2025 SSSC** rules.
- (iv) – South Vancouver Island Anglers Coalition and the Salish Sea Salmon Challenge derby organizers will appoint event officials to oversee the smooth and fair operation of the event.
- (v) – **2025 SSSC** officials may, where necessary, make a ruling on or decisions related to the application of the official derby rules.
- (vi) – in the event of any dispute, the derby organizers and derby officials decisions will be respected and deemed as final.
- (vii) – **2025 SSSC** officials have the right to conduct further examination or inspection of disputed or suspect catches that are in contention to win any prize, draws or event contests.

7. Salish Sea Salmon Challenge Prize Board

Total Prize Pool - \$21,000

First Prize - \$10,000

Second Prize - \$5000

Third Prize - \$2500

Fourth Prize - \$1500

Fifth Prize - \$1000

Peetz Division Prize - \$1000 - Largest Chinook Salmon Caught with a Peetz Brand Rod and Reel (Photo of Salmon and Rod / Reel Required and Participant Attested)

SSSC DERBY BOUNDARY MAP - Fishing area includes Canadian waters open to tidal-water recreational angling from the South Vancouver Island shoreline to the international US border in DFO Fisheries Management Areas 19-3, 19-4, 19-5, 19-6.

