

Official Rules & Regulations: Liberty Marina Striper & Blue Tournament

1. **Eligibility:** All anglers must possess a valid Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Permit.
2. **Tournament Boundary:** Fishing is permitted in the **Danvers River, Beverly Harbor, and Massachusetts State Waters** (within 3 miles of shore).
3. **Launch & Return:** All vessels must depart from Liberty Marina or nearby Danvers River slips. Lines in at **5:00 AM**; boats must be back at the dock by **4:00 PM** to qualify for weigh-in.
4. **Tackle:** All fish must be caught using **hook and line** only. Circle hooks are **mandatory** when using natural live or dead baits for striped bass, per [Mass DMF Regulations](#).
5. **Scoring (Catch-Photo-Release):** To ensure sustainability, winners are determined by **total length** (inches).
 - Participants must use the tournament measuring board provided and provide a clear photo of the fish against the board with the "Tournament Logo" visible.
6. **Safety:** All USCG Safety Regulations must be followed. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to cancel or postpone due to small craft advisories in the Danvers River/Salem Sound. Tournament

2026 Recreational Saltwater Fishing Limits

Massachusetts recreational regulations for popular saltwater species by:
Open season / Minimum size / Possession limit



Striped Bass

Year round / 28" to less than 31" / 1 fish

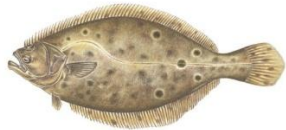
Visit mass.gov/saltwater-regulations for more information about striped bass gear restrictions, filleting requirements, and how to properly measure total length.



Black Sea Bass

May 16 - Aug 31 / 16" / 4 fish

Sep 1 - Oct 14 / 16" / 2 fish



Fluke (Summer Flounder)

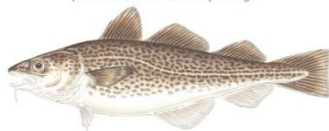
May 24 - Sep 23 / 16.5" (shore); 17.5" (vessel) / 5 fish



Atlantic Mackerel

Year round / No minimum size limit / 25 fish

Possession limit applies as daily angler harvest limit or per angler possession limit while fishing.



Atlantic Cod

Western Gulf of Maine: Sept 1 - Oct 31 / 23" / 1 fish

Southern New England: CLOSED



Atlantic Bonito

Year round / 16" curved fork length (both species) / 5 fish (Atlantic bonito and false albacore combined)



Tautog

Apr 1 - Dec 31 / 16" - 21" / limit varies by season

Apr 1 - May 31 / 3 fish • Jun 1 - Jul 31 / 1 fish

Aug 1 - Oct 14 / 3 fish • Oct 15 - Dec 31 / 5 fish

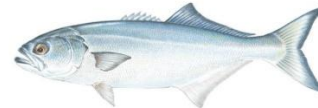
During the open season, 1 fish per person per day may exceed 21" and the aggregate vessel limit may not exceed 10 fish.



Scup

May 1 - Dec 31 / 9.5" (shore); 11" (vessel) / 30 fish

During the open season, aggregate vessel limit may not exceed 150 fish.



Bluefish

Year round / No minimum size limit / 5 fish



Winter Flounder

North of Cape Cod: Year round / 12" / 8 fish

South of Cape Cod: Mar 1 - Dec 31 / 12" / 2 fish



Haddock

Gulf of Maine: Apr 1 - Feb 28 / 17" / 15 fish

Southern New England: Year round / 18" / No limit



False Albacore



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Marine Fisheries
mass.gov/MarineFisheries



Posters are valid as of May 1, 2026, and do not include all species or rules. For more information, please visit our website: mass.gov/saltwater-regulations

Enter your catch in the Commissioner's Cup Saltwater Fishing Derby! mass.gov/swderby

