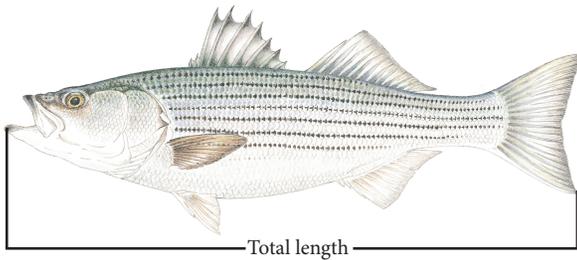


**Eligible species and minimum
qualifying lengths for
Catch and Release awards**

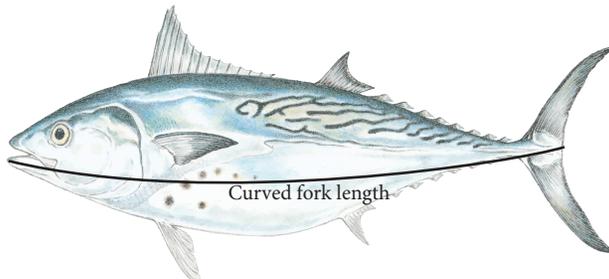
Atlantic Cod	42 inches
Bluefish	35 inches
False Albacore	26 inches
Fluke	24 inches
Striped Bass	45 inches
Winter Flounder	19 inches

How to measure fish

Most fish must have the total length measured. This is from the tip of a closed jaw straight to the farthest point of the tail. The tail may be squeezed for easier measuring.



False albacore must have a curved fork length measured instead. These are measured from the tip of a closed jaw to the fork in the tail.



**IMPORTANT
CONTACT INFORMATION**

Derby Coordinator: John Boardman
john.boardman@state.ma.us
(508) 990-2860 ext. 120

Division of Marine Fisheries Offices

Headquarters

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02144
(617) 626-1520
Fax: (617) 626-1509

Field Stations

**Annisquam River
Marine Station**

30 Emerson Avenue
Gloucester, MA 01930
(978) 282-0308

**South Shore
Marine Station**

1213 Purchase Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 990-2860

Matt Ayer: North Shore
and Metropolitan Boston
Regional Biologist

John Boardman: South
Shore Regional Biologist

Dave Martins: Cape Cod
and Islands Regional
Biologist

Environmental Law Enforcement

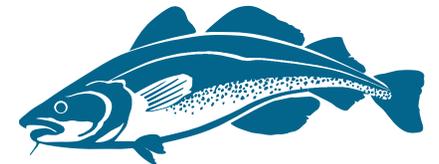
Toll-free number: 1-800-632-8072

**For more information, visit
<http://www.mass.gov/dmf/saltwaterderby>**

**MASSACHUSETTS
SALTWATER
FISHING DERBY**



Marine Fisheries
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Eligible species and minimum qualifying weights for Weigh-In awards

Albacore	30 pounds
Atlantic Bonito	5 pounds
Atlantic Cod	30 pounds
Atlantic Halibut	50 pounds
Atlantic Mackerel	2 pounds
Bigeye Tuna	100 pounds
Black Sea Bass	4 pounds
Blue Shark	300 pounds
Bluefin Tuna	500 pounds
Bluefish	12 pounds
Broadbill Swordfish	150 pounds
Common Thresher Shark	200 pounds
Cusk	20 pounds
Dolphin (Mahi Mahi)	15 pounds
False Albacore	10 pounds
Fluke (Summer Flounder)	7 pounds
Haddock	8 pounds
King Mackerel	6 pounds
Pollock	12 pounds
Porbeagle Shark	150 pounds
Scup	2 pounds
Shortfin Mako Shark	150 pounds
Spanish Mackerel	4 pounds
Striped Bass	35 pounds
Tautog	8 pounds
Wahoo	30 pounds
Weakfish	8 pounds
Winter Flounder	3 pounds
Yellowfin Tuna	50 pounds

DERBY RULES

The Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Derby consists of two parts: the Weigh-In Derby and the Catch and Release Derby.

Both portions of the Derby run from January 1 through November 30 annually.

All saltwater anglers are eligible except:

Captains or mates of for-hire vessels or shore guides while under charter;

Those actively engaging in commercial fishing during a trip; or

Persons convicted of violating fishery laws or regulations or who have had administrative permit sanctions for violations of fishery laws or regulations within 5 years of the Derby year.

Only fish meeting eligible weights or lengths are eligible for awards.

All entries must be submitted on an official affidavit*.

Weigh-In affidavits must be filled and submitted at an official weigh station. Catch and Release affidavits should be submitted directly by the angler.

Mailed entries must be received within 30 days of catch and be postmarked no later than December 10.

All fish must be caught on rod and reel or hand line and in a sporting manner. Powered reels may not be used.

Fish must be caught in Massachusetts waters or first landed in a Massachusetts port.

Mutilated, cut, scaled, harpooned, speared, shot, or frozen fish are not eligible.

Fish may only be weighed in at one station.

Protests of catch must be notarized and submitted in writing within two weeks of any alleged violation of Derby rules.

The Derby coordinator may request additional information at any time and for any reason.

Violations of any Derby rules may result in exclusion from the Derby.

Decisions made by the Derby coordinator are final.

All state record-qualifying entries must be photographed with a side-view of the fish on a clearly discernable measuring device.

Anglers may submit multiple entries, but may earn only one citation per species per year.

One trophy will be awarded for the largest of each species per year for both the Weigh-In and Catch and Release portions of the Derby.

In the event of a tie for any award, the earliest entry will be used as a tiebreaker.

Additional rules for Catch and Release

Fish must be released alive—the use of a gaff or harpoon is prohibited.

Fish must be boated and measured for total length (closed jaw to tip of the tail; the tail may be squeezed for measurement) except for false albacore, which is measured to the fork of the tail.

Lengths should be measured to the nearest half inch.

A photo of the fish must be submitted with the affidavit. The photo must be a side-view of the fish on a clearly discernable measuring device.

Catch and Release of any four eligible species by an angler within the Derby year will qualify for a Grand Slam Release award.

One Grand Slam Release award will be presented per Derby year for the greatest cumulative length.

***Need an affidavit? Print one out here:**
<http://www.mass.gov/dmf/derbyaffidavit>.

