

## **MS State Fishing Records: Youth Division**

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) is establishing a new state fishing record division for youths under the age of 16. The division is for all marine fishes landed in the state of Mississippi. There is a minimum weight submission for the division which will be 50% of the current state record weight. The rules and guidelines are identical to the ones set forth by MDMR for eligibility in the State Saltwater Fishing Records. Just like the all angler division there will be two categories: Conventional Tackle and Fly Tackle. Proof of age will be required; this will be any legal document (e.g. a Birth certificate, State Issued I.D., or a Passport). The application can be found on MDMR's website ([www.dmr.ms.gov](http://www.dmr.ms.gov)). When a youth division record fish is large enough to be listed on the all angler division it will be listed on both. No record will be awarded until it is adopted by the Commission on Marine Resources (CMR) at the monthly Commission meetings (third Tuesday of each month); these meetings are open to the public.

### **Internal review process and monthly deadlines for record submission:**

1. Records submitted after the agenda items are due will roll over to the following months agenda.
2. After applications are filled out completely they are then checked and validated by the weighmaster.
3. Next the forms are further reviewed and validated by the Marine Fisheries review committee.
4. State records are to be turned in when agenda items are due (the first Wednesday of each month).
5. State records are not certified until they are taken before the CMR and adopted. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month in public areas and are open to the public.

## **State Record Rules: Youth Division**

The following rules have been set forth to promote fair and ethical fishing practices to qualify for a Mississippi Saltwater Fishing Record. Failure to comply with any of these rules will result in the termination of your application and will disqualify you from further submissions.

Only anglers under the age of 16 will qualify (Proof of age may be required) for a Youth Division State Record and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at the time of the weigh in. Applications can be found on the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) web site ([www.dmr.state.ms.us](http://www.dmr.state.ms.us)) and must be filled out completely before consideration. Only fish that are 50% or greater of the current state record body weight will be accepted.

1. Fish must be within current size and bag limits.
2. Only one angler (the applicant) can catch and land the fish. Help with a gaff or landing net will be permitted.
3. Records will be kept for Conventional Tackle and Fly Fishing:

Conventional- well established and traditional fishing methods (e.g. rod and reel)

Fly Fishing- Normal Customs and generally accepted casting criteria of fly fishing is the weight of the line must carry the lure instead of the weight of the lure carrying the line (use of natural baits, treble hooks and snagging is prohibited).

4. Two color photographs must be submitted with each application:
  - a. One of the angler and fish
  - b. One showing a clear, close-up side view of the fish
5. Fish can only be weighed and positively identified by a professional fisheries biologist at MDMR.

6. Only fish landed in Mississippi will be considered.
7. The MDMR reserves the right to further check fish identification, verification of witnesses and to refuse any application that is questionable. It will be considered "Just Cause" for disqualification of a current application and any previous records established by anyone who falsifies a saltwater record application. All rules shall be strictly adhered to and the decision of the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources shall be final.

\*For a full list of Rules visit the MDMR web site at  
<http://www.dmr.state.ms.us/index.php/recreational-fishing>



**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**  
**Office of Marine Fisheries**  
**Official Youth Division State Saltwater Fish**  
**Record Application**

Type of Record (please check one):      \_\_\_ Conventional Tackle      \_\_\_ Fly Fishing

Name of Fisherman: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Common Name of Fish Caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Catch: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Day: \_\_\_\_\_

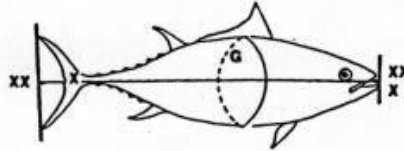
Measure as indicated below, taking total length (XX to XX), fork length (X to X), and girth (G) around the widest part of body.

Certified Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ oz.

Total Length \_\_\_\_\_ inches

Fork Length \_\_\_\_\_ inches

Girth \_\_\_\_\_ inches



Type of Tackle Used (for example, Fenwick Graphite Rod, Ambassador 5000 Reel, etc.):

Rod: \_\_\_\_\_ Reel: \_\_\_\_\_

Line Test Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. Type of Bait or Lure: \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. Depth Fished: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Catch (trolling, casting, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Catch: \_\_\_\_\_  
(island, bay, river, etc.) (nearest city or town)

Latitude and Longitude (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

**Verification of Species Identification  
By Professional Fisheries Biologist:**

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Verification of Weight  
By Weighmaster:**

Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness to the Weighing:**

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness to the Weighing:**

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

All state and federal regulations have been met.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

**Affidavit of Applicant:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, state that the fish described in this application was legally caught by me on the above-described fishing tackle and bait and in the above-described manner, and landed within the State of Mississippi.