



PLAYDAY- IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS

Whether you're young or just young at heart, the Texas International Fishing Tournament's Playday is an event you won't want to miss. Playday is scheduled to be held Thursday, July 29 with junior anglers competing in a variety of land based contests. While their parents are readying the boats for the next two days of fishing, juniors 16 years and younger will be vying for medals and prizes during festivities designed solely for their entertainment. Competition will begin at 10 a.m. at the Convention Centre and will be held in air conditioned comfort out of the sweltering summer heat.

In addition to past events such as the mullet relay and reeling in the fish, Playday Chairman Carrie Rowe says junior anglers will enjoy a variety of fun, new events. "We've added a number of new activities that are designed to show the kids a good time," Rowe says. "Some of these are four person team events while others are based on individual competition. Still others are just for fun."

Juniors will compete in six age divisions: Under 5; 5-6; 7-9, 10-12, 13-15 and 16-21 years. Under 5 anglers will start with the catfish contest that utilizes the KidFish tank. The tank will be open to all TIFT registrants throughout all social activities at the Convention Centre. Juniors under 5 will also compete in boat races and the duck pond.

More than 18 years ago, TIFT decided to reward every Playday registrant with a colored ribbon, adhering to the tournament philosophy that every child is a winner. In addition, the top three winners in each competition will receive gold, silver and bronze medals in an Olympic style ceremony that concludes Playday activities at approximately 1 p.m.

Registration for Playday activities will be conducted during late registration at the Convention Centre from 3-8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28. Late registration may also be conducted prior to the start of Playday activities, which will begin promptly at 10 a.m. on Thursday.

"Playday is constantly changing and improving to meet the growing demand. More than 300 young people participated last year and that number is increasing annually," Rowe said. "That means we also need more volunteers than ever and encourage anyone interested to help us make Playday a fun TIFT tradition."



Juniors will compete in six age divisions in a variety of events including a casting contest, team mullet relay, a catfish fishing competition in the KidFish Tank and more. Olympic style medals are awarded to the winners in each age category.

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