

Arrowhead Lake Association

Jr. Trout Rodeo Rules

Welcome to the ALA Junior Trout Rodeo!!! We are just as excited as you are and we want to make this a fabulous day for all involved! We have ALA staff and volunteers available to help you remove hooks, tie knots, net a fish, or even take your picture. The fish will be hard fighting and we have stocked some as large as 10 pounds so be ready!

Before you start angling, please read and adhere to these rules! If you have questions, contact a designated volunteer or ALA staff member.

- 1) Fishing is only permitted for those 15 years of age and younger (no fishing license required).
- 2) There is a five (5) fish limit per qualified angler (see rule #1).
- 3) Keep a minimum distance from other anglers so your line won't get tangled when you catch a fish.
- 4) Do NOT leave any fishing gear on the beach after you are done (**HOOKS**, line, sinkers, lures, etc.).
- 5) If you see any trash, please pick it up and dispose of it.
- 6) Do you plan on keeping your catch or releasing it? Please handle fish accordingly. If releasing fish, see below...
- 7) If you are going to keep your fish, please take it home, clean it and cook it up. They are delicious!
- 8) If you don't want to keep your fish and you can't release it, please call one of our volunteers and give it to them. It will go to feed the hungry.
- 9) We would love to see and use your photos for future Trout Rodeos! Please email them to funphotos@ala-ca.org.

Instructions for the Proper Release of Trout

Keep the fish in the water as much as possible.

The fish need only be out of the water for less than 5 seconds for a photo.

Keep the fish in or over water.

Trout have a protective slime. Protect that slime by keeping hands and net wet.

Use a hook removal device.

Remove hook with fish in water.

Don't play the fish to exhaustion.

Trout gills are particularly susceptible to poison, infection, and puncture. Never allow anything, especially fingers inside the gill plate.

Do not "lip" a trout as you might do with a bass.

If the hook cannot be retrieved easily, cut the line.

Trout are a lot more fragile than warm water or salt-water fish.

Large trout are less resilient than small trout, be extra careful with them.

The area between the tail fin and the body can be held firmly as it is all bone. However the area around the pectoral fins must be cradled ... not squeezed (aka, Death Grip), as it can do damage to the heart and/or liver. Do not release the fish unless it is revived!