

Arrowhead Lake Association

Jr. Trout Rodeo Rules

Welcome partners to the ALA Junior Trout Rodeo!!! We're all fixin to have a great time and hope all you wrangler anglers do too! The ALA trail hands and volunteers will help you remove hooks, tie knots, net a fish, or even snap a picture of you with your catch. The fish will be hard-fight'n and we've stocked some 10 pounders, so be ready for a **BIG** round-up!

Before you start angling, look over these rules. If you need something, give a shout out to one of the ALA folks or a volunteer. Catch'n fish is what they do best!

- 1) Fishin' is only permitted for the young'uns (15 years of age and younger - no fishin' license needed).
- 2) Only **three (3)** fish caught per little angler (*keep or release*).
- 3) Be safe and give the other anglers some space. You don't want to "lasso" their lines.
- 4) Be a good buddy and take your fishin' gear with you (**HOOKS**, lines, sinkers, lures, etc.).
- 5) If you see any trash, chuck it into the trash barrels. Let's keep the round-up area clean.
- 6) Do you plan to keep the fish you round up or set them free? Please handle the little fellas accordingly. If releasing them, see below...
- 7) If you plan to keep your catch, take it home and cook it up. It's good eat'n!
- 8) If the little partners want to catch and release, give a shout out to one of the trail hands. They'll know what to do.
- 9) We'd love to use your "Rodeo Star" photos to promote future Trout Rodeos. Please email them to funphotos@ala-ca.org

Instructions for the Proper Release of Trout

- Keep fish in the water as much as possible.
- Angler photos only take 5 seconds. Don't leave fish out of the water longer than that.
- Trout have a protective slime. Protect that slime by keeping hands and net wet.
- Use a hook removal contraption.
- Remove the hook while the fish is still in the water.
- Don't play the fish to exhaustion.
- Trout gills are particularly susceptible to poison, infection, and puncture. Don't allow anything, especially fingers, inside the gill plate.
- Do not "lip" a trout as you might do with a bass.
- If the hook can't be removed 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 because it's 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! Call a trail hand (volunteer) if you need help.