

EFL REFEREE PROGRAM

HOW TO BECOME A ELITE FISHING LEAGUE REFEREE



MAKING THE RIGHT CALL

BY PAT MALONE

As host and tournament director of the Elite Redfish Series since 2010 I have heard and sometimes tried just about every idea anyone could come up with that might possibly be, the "next big thing" in our sport.

In 2020 the next big thing actually happened when the EFL took the sport to *The Next Level*.

With a focus on conservation the EFL format allows anglers to catch, weigh and immediately release each fish caught. We think it is in the best interest of the sport to introduce this unique, exciting format to more anglers...

EMAIL: INFO@ELITEFISHINGLEAGUE.COM

Nederland, TX. – Going into the 2nd season on the Elite Fishing League and with the recent announcement that the Contender Series will be joining the EFL family it is important to retain and add to our great field of referees, which we call officials.

Modeled after the freshwater version of what we are doing on the Elite Fishing League Tour and Contender Series we have received questions about the tours and how someone could become an official.

Q: Is there a charge to ride along on a boat with a pro and officiate?

A: There is no charge to become a official, in fact the EFL covers expenses like meals, lodging, gas and uniforms. As well the EFL supplies cool sponsor gear to its officials from brands like Frogg Toggs and other brands.

Q: How many days during a week will a official have to be available.

A: On the EFL CONTENDER SERIES a maximum of 4 days will be officiated during the week of Stage 1 (spring) 3 days of officiating during the week of Stages 2-3 (spring/summer).

On the EFL TOUR TV SHOW a maximum of 3 days will be officiated during the week of Stage 1 (spring) 3 days of officiating during the week of Stage 2-3 (summer/fall).

Q: What does it take to become a EFL official.

A: A commitment to the full run of either or both the EFL TOUR and EFL CONTENDER SERIES. We insist that all EFL officials treat all anglers the same and have a basic understanding of iPads and smart phones. Officials must be in both physical and mental shape to endure the grind of EFL events. Being in front of a live camera making ‘on the spot’ calls, all the while fans all over the country are making the same calls from the comfort of the indoors.

Q: How many positions are open and when will the dates of the events be available.

A: 10 functioning officials and 2 alternates will make up the team of officials, headed by Tony Viator, the head official in 2021. The schedule for both tours will be released in October. Keep in mind our current EFL officials get precedence over new applicants which would currently leave 4 available spots for 2021. Should all 2020 officials choose to return.

If you'd like to submit your information for a official position on the EFL please email me at our email address in the footer of each page and we will forward you more information pertaining to your joining the team.

Please provide some basic information about yourself and how many events you could officiate. We will begin the interview process soon and notify each applicant, should he or she be accepted as to the dates and locations of the referee winter training sessions.



President/CEO