

## LKGA Code of Conduct

1) Do not negatively impact the fishing or the fishing experience of those already there.

- Poling scenarios: a minimum of half hour of poling or 1/2 mile (the greater of the two) between skiffs should be maintained. If deciding to fish in front of others, try for a greater distance (45 minutes at their poling pace). This distance changes with wind and visibility. Major geographic feature can demarcate fishing areas, but not minor ones.

- Stationary/staked out scenarios: the next available major geographic feature (typically a point, channel or corner). In areas without such features, at least a 1/2-mile distance between skiffs should be maintained.

-Anchoring scenario: anchor up current from those already there. Avoid side-by-side anchoring in narrow areas. If Tarpon fishing in the harbor or over offshore structure anchor side by side, sterns even. Don't anchor behind someone. If you have to, anchor 300+ yards behind them.

-Offshore scenarios: When drifting wrecks, get in line (up current/upwind), and take your turn drifting through. When anchoring on a wreck when other boats are present, contact them and ask where it's best to anchor.

2) Before beginning to fish an area, take the time to observe how the other skiffs in the area are fishing.

-When fishing and others skiffs approach, make your intentions known; indicate your direction and speed.

3) Use courtesy when using navigable channels when they are being fished.

-Use nearby un-fished channels when possible

-When water levels permit, shortcut around a fished channel

-When no other options are available, slow down to idle to pass fishing boats. Look for a "come on through" gesture

4) If in doubt, go somewhere else.

5) Just because others are doing it does not make it acceptable.

6) When a breach of conduct occurs initiate contact to discuss the incident, either immediately or after the fishing day.

7) Do not intentionally run over fish or through fishing areas.

8) When fishing a basin, it is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conduct for that particular basin. Each basin has its own individual code of conduct, with different ways to approach based on tide, wind, and time of day. Just because a certain basin is fished a certain way does not mean that others are. Do not learn how to fish a basin by upsetting others already in the area: familiarize yourself with the etiquette first before fishing there. It is the user's responsibility to know before fishing, not figure it out at the expense of those already there.