



Costa 2 Fly X-Stream Competition Format and Rules

The GoPro Mountain Games Costa 2 Fly X-Stream qualifier will start with each angler attempting casts at targets for accuracy as well as a judged distance cast. The top 20 men and the top 5 women (subject to change) will then move to the International Bridge for the semi-finals and again cast for accuracy. The top 10 men and the 4 women (subject to change) will move on to the Finals, a timed float trip on a TBD body of water with 2 competitors per boat. Anglers will only be able to use two patterns: One pattern, two different sizes? One dry pattern, one dropper pattern? Finalists make this call. Total of six flies may be used. Total points, based on fish count and size, will determine the final rank.

1. QUALIFIER (Saturday, June 10): Accuracy and Distance

- **Equipment:** Only 9-foot, 5-weight, standard production rods (no custom rods) can be used. All rods will be inspected. Reel, line, leader, and fly will be provided for you. Please remove your reel from your rod before the competition. Provided leaders will be between 5 and 9 feet long. The "fly" used will either be yarn with no hook or hook-less fly pattern of Organizer's choice and will be provided by the Organizers or an appointed judge. A lost fly can be replaced with approval from the Organizers or an appointed judge.
- **Angler Participation:** The men will be competing for a spot amongst the twenty (20) who will advance to the semi-finals. The women will be competing for a spot amongst the five (5) who will advance to the semis.
- **Selection:** Anglers will be picked at random and must adhere to the start position he/she is given. There will be no weighted placement of casters, simply random assignment. The Women Division will cast first.
- **Accuracy:** Accuracy targets will be placed at varying distances on dry land. There will be three (3) targets for accuracy. Each angler will attempt three (3) casts at each target. Each target will have only one (1) ring. When the fly lands within and/or on the edge of any ring, it is considered an achieved target. Each achieved target results in one hundred (100) points. The first place the fly hits the ground will be judged (not bounced, shifted and/or moved casts). If any cast touches land on a forward cast, known as a "tick", that attempt will result in an immediate score or forfeiture of that cast. Anglers can bail out to the back and regroup as long as time permits (see timing below). The total number of achieved targets will be multiplied by three (3). There is a possibility of two thousand seven hundred (2,700) points in the accuracy casting.
- **Distance:** The distance cast will be judged on actual distance within a casting lane. Anglers will have three (3) distance casts. If any cast touches land on a forward cast, known as a "tick", it will result in a score. A cast will be forfeited if any portion of the fly line, leader, or the fly itself lands on or outside the casting lane and/or if the fly touches land on a forward cast and is removed before accurate scoring can take place. Distance will be measured in full foot increments and rounded to the nearest (down or up) whole foot. Only casts longer than fifty (50) feet will be counted. The longest of the three recorded distance casts will be multiplied by ten (10). This number will then be added to the total from the accuracy portion.
- **Timing and Total Score:** Each angler will have one (1) minute to prepare (strip out line) once he/she has stepped into the casting box. Anglers must then place the fly back in his/her hand. Judge will clear the clock and the angler will then have two and a half (2 ½) minutes to complete the three casts at all three accuracy targets and the three casts for distance. When time expires, the caster will be considered finished with the course and the score achieved when the clock expires will be considered final. There is no "time-out" for any reason, except for outside interference as determined by the Organizers and/or appointed judge. In the event there is a tie for twentieth (20th) place for the men and fifth (5th) place for the women, the angler with the longer distance cast moves on to the semi-finals.
- **NEW FOR 2017: "Longest Huck" Competition during Costa 2 Fly X-Stream Qualifier**

- Exact details TBC, but Organizers will have a prize available from a GoPro Mountain Games fly fishing sponsor for the angler who can cast the furthest distance.

2. SEMI-FINAL (Saturday, June 10): Accuracy only

- **Equipment:** Only 9-foot, 5-weight, standard production rods (no custom rods) can be used. All rods will be inspected. Reel, line, leader, and fly will be provided for you. Please remove your reel from your rod before the competition. Provided leaders will be between 5 and 9 feet long. The "fly" used will either be yarn with no hook or hook-less fly pattern of Organizer's choice and will be provided by the Organizers or an appointed judge. A lost fly can be replaced with approval from the Organizers or an appointed judge.
- **Angler Participation:** There will be a Men's Division as well as a Women's Division. The men will be competing for a spot amongst the eight (8) who will continue to the finals. The women will be competing for a spot amongst the two (2) who will continue to the finals.
- **Selection:** Anglers advancing to the semi-final round of the casting competition will compete in reverse standing order. For example, the angler who had the lowest score, but still moved to the semi-final round, would cast first. The angler with the best score coming out of the qualifier round will cast last. In the event there is a tie within the top twenty casters, higher position will be determined by longer recorded cast in the distance portion of the qualifying round. The Women's Division will cast first off the bridge.
- **Accuracy:** Accuracy targets will be placed at varying distances both in the water and on dry land. The course may be altered depending on water conditions, but will remain set once the first caster has begun. There will be five targets for accuracy. Each angler will attempt three casts at each target. Each achieved target results in one (1) point. When the fly lands within and/or on the edge of a ring, it is considered an achieved target. The first place the fly hits the water or ground will be judged, not drifted and/or moved casts. If a cast inadvertently touches land or water on a forward cast, known as a "tick", it will result in a score or forfeiture of that cast. Anglers can bail out to the back and regroup as long as time permits (see timing below). There is a possibility of fifteen (15) points in the accuracy casting.
- **Timing and Total Score:** Each angler will have one (1) minute to prepare (strip out line) once he/she has stepped into the casting box. Anglers must then place the fly back in his/her hand. Judge will clear the clock and the angler will then have two and a half (2 ½) minutes to complete the three casts at all five accuracy targets. When time expires, the caster will be considered finished with the course and the score achieved when the clock expires will be considered final. There is no "time-out" for any reason, except for outside interference as determined by the Organizers and/or appointed judge. There is a possibility of fifteen (15) points in the semi-final round.
 - In the Men's Division, in the event there is a tie for eighth (8th) place, qualifying round scores will determine which angler moves on to the finals. In the Women's Division, in the event there is a tie for second (2nd) place, qualifying round scores will determine which angler moves on to the finals. Men's and Women's totals from the semi-finals will be evaluated based on overall score and not be gender based. In the event there is a tie for any position within the top ten (10), qualifying round scores will determine which position each angler has going into the finals.

3. FINALS (Sunday, June 11): Fishing

- **Format:**
 - The finals of the 2 Fly X-Stream will be a head-to-head, catch-and-release, float-fishing bonanza. All anglers are responsible for obtaining their own fishing licenses. The number one (1) ranked angler coming out of the semi-finals will determine in which boat and position he/she wants to start. The number two (2) ranked angler coming out of the semi-finals will determine in which of the remaining boats and positions he/she wants to start and so on. The number ten (10) ranked angler does not have a boat or position choice (but at least he/she is fishing)!
 - Anglers will be float fishing a short portion of the Eagle, Roaring Fork, or Colorado River, but will cover the same water twice. All five boats will launch in ten (10) minute intervals. Each boat will have approximately three (3) to four (4) hours on the water. The guides will be given a timer and if the two (2) hour session is completely used, anglers must store their gear and the guide must row directly to the take out. A position switch, front-to-back, within each boat will be made just prior to the boat launching for the second time. Boats will launch from the boat ramp in the exact same

order in both rounds. However, boat position on the water may change and does not have to remain in the same order. Two (2) hours maximum is all the time anglers will have to fish each session.

- All fishing is catch and release and must be done with barbless hooks. Tandem rigs are allowed if an angler is bold enough to tie on 33% of the flies he/she gets to fish for the whole day at one time. Flies with multiple hooks (stingers) are not allowed.

- **Equipment:**

- Anglers only get to use two (2) flies during the competition. These flies can be of any type and any size. Each angler is allowed to have only five (5) of the exact same pattern. At minimum, the sixth fly must be of a different color, size, etc. Each angler may have any combination of the two patterns. Organizers or an appointed judge will determine if all six (6) flies qualify as barbless before leaving the boat ramp. Judges will also determine that there are only two (2) patterns total represented in the anglers allotted six (6) flies. Judges can ask for a fly inspection at any point during the competition. An angler can continue to fish for points after losing his/her fly until the sixth (6th) one is lost. At that point any additional fish caught will not go toward the final score. If the angler in the front of the boat loses all 6 flies, he/she no longer reserves the right to direct the boatman as to which side of the river or the speed at which the boat will travel. In this instance, there shall be no position switch, but the angler in the back of the boat now directs the guide until the boat reaches the take out or the maximum time allotted is used.
- Each angler may have only one (1) rod strung for competition and one (1) rod broken down in case of breakage. Anglers may choose any rod weight and length with corresponding reels and lines, and lines may be sinking or floating. Anglers may choose length and diameter of leader and/or tippet.

- **Total Score:**

- Only trout count in the competition. Each fish brought into the boat and safely released counts as one (1) point. Fish that are hooked and lost at any point during the landing process do not count. A foul hooked fish does not count, meaning the hook is anywhere but on the inside of the mouth. All anglers must land their own fish without physical assistance from boat partner or judge. Anglers may use their own nets, although all must be determined as "fish safe" prior to the beginning of the session. Anglers may use a net provided by the judge/guide, but this must be determined before leaving the boat ramp. Anglers should plan on bringing their own nets. If an angler hooks a fish, but hasn't landed it before the end of the fishing session, the angler is allowed to continue and land the fish to score.
- The angler with the most points at the end of the float wins the competition. Total points will include one (1) point for each fish caught and points based on length for the one that was measured for score. For example, Angler Number Three catches four (4) fish total and decides to measure a twelve (12) inch fish. Angler Number Three's total points would equal sixteen (16). The second and third place finishers will also be determined in the same manner. In the event of a tie in total points, the angler with the larger recorded fish will win. In the event of a tie in total points AND measured fish, the angler with the higher seed coming out of the semi-final round will win.

4. NEW FOR 2017: 'Biggest Fish' competition open to all 2 Fly X-Stream registrants!

- Separate from the qualifier, semi-final and final rounds of the 2017 Costa 2 Fly X-Stream, all competitors will also be automatically entered into the Costa 2 Fly X-Stream "Biggest Fish" competition. This portion of the event will run from 9:00 am, Wednesday, June 7 through 10:00 am on Sunday, June 11, 2017.
- One \$500 cash prize will be awarded to the angler who catches the "Biggest Fish" and shares his or her photo following the rules below
- Rules:
 - Upon registering on-site at Main Event Registration in Golden Peak, all Costa 2 Fly X-Stream athletes will receive a branded Mountain Games identifier in addition to their competition bib.
 - Anglers should fish in and around Vail throughout the weekend and, should they wish to enter a fish into the "Biggest Fish" competition, they should do the following:
 - Take a photo with your catch, the Mountain Games identifier, and a standard inches measure

- Post the photo on Instagram, Facebook and/or Twitter using the following three (3) hashtags (and any additional hashtags you'd like to add): #costa2flyxstream, #gopromtngames, #biggestfish
- Measurement rules:
 - Length will be measured in inches and length will be broken down to the nearest half inch.
 - Full measure must be visible in your photo.
 - Length is defined from nose tip to the longest portion of the tail.

5. Additional Rules and Regulations:

- **Angler Eligibility:** The 2 Fly X-Stream is open to all interested anglers over the age of 12, regardless of state and/or country of residency. Competitors who are under the age of 18 must register with a parent or legal guardian. Competitors must be able to attend all scheduled events. Anglers will be required to provide all their own equipment including flies, and must have a valid Colorado fishing license. Further, anglers must abide by all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations during their participation in the 2 Fly X-Stream, including, but not limited to, all applicable fishing laws and regulations.
- **Participation:** 2 Fly X-Stream anglers agree to be bound by these Official Rules (including rules for Casting and Fishing), and all decisions of Organizers. Organizers reserve the right to disqualify any persons found tampering with, or otherwise abusing, any aspect of the 2 Fly X-Stream as solely determined by Organizers.
- **Construction:** The Organizers will complete all construction of both casting areas based upon town regulations, water levels, and casting conditions. Organizers reserve the right to change construction based on unforeseeable events such as run-off, safety issues, etc.
- **Dispute Resolution:** Organizers will appoint casting/scoring judges and the decision of those judges will be final. There will be no review of scoring even with the presence of TV cameras. Disputes with Organizers and/or appointed judges will result in disqualification of that angler.
- **Reservation of Rights:** The decisions of Organizers regarding the elimination of anglers, the selection of finalists and winners, and the production and administration of 2 Fly X-Stream related events, and all other aspects of the 2 Fly X-Stream, shall be final and binding in all respects. Organizers will not be responsible for typographical, printing, or other inadvertent errors in these Official Rules or in other materials relating to the 2 Fly X-Stream. Organizers reserve the right to disqualify any angler for any reason, including, without limitation, acting in an unsafe, unsportsmanlike, or disruptive manner and/or with intent to intimidate, threaten or harass, or harm another person. All decisions with respect to the disqualification of anglers shall be made by Organizers and/or appointed judges. Failure to comply with any term or condition of these Official Rules may result in an angler's disqualification and the forfeiture of his/her interest in any prize. Organizers reserve the right to amend these Official Rules at any time in its sole discretion, and anglers shall have no recourse for any such changes or for any failure (whether inadvertent or otherwise) by Organizers to follow the stated rules. In the event that the 2 Fly X-Stream is canceled prior to the completion of the final event, no prizes will be awarded, but Organizers will return entry fees to all anglers who have not been eliminated. If the Tournament is cancelled prior to qualifying round for any reason, anglers will be reimbursed only for his/her entry fee. Anglers will not be otherwise compensated for any costs or expenses associated with their participation in the competition.