



## **AGREEMENT BETWEEN MARION COUNTY AND MAJOR LEAGUE FISHING, LLC.**

This Agreement is made and entered into by and between Marion County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, ("County") and **Major League Fishing, LLC**, whose address is **1000 Chopper Circle Denver, CO 80204** for the **MLF Heavy Hitters** (the "Event/Project").

WITNESSETH:

In consideration of the mutual covenants and promises contained herein, County and Recipient hereto agree as follows:

### **Article 1 – The Contract:**

**1.1** The contract between County and Recipient of which this Agreement is a part, consists of the Contract Documents. The Contract Documents are defined as this Agreement, the Bid Fee/ Rights Fee–Funding Policy (as defined in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof), the Recipient’s submitted application, Certificate of Insurance, and any attachments or addendum thereto. The Contract Documents represent the entire and integrated contract between the parties and supersede prior negotiations, representations or agreements, either written or oral. Recipient acknowledges receipt of a copy of the Contract Documents.

### **Article 2 - Contract Sum & Payments:**

**2.1** Recipient acknowledges that it seeks funding for the Event/Project under an approved funding Program (the "Program") governed by County’s Tourist Development Council (the "TDC"). The Program permits the expenditure of certain tax revenues in order to promote tourism. Recipient acknowledges that it has reviewed the Program and the Contract Documents and understands that failure to comply with the Program and the Contract Documents shall jeopardize current and future funding. The obligation of County for payment to Recipient is limited to the availability of funds appropriated for this purpose in a current fiscal period, and continuation of this Agreement into a subsequent fiscal period is subject to appropriation of funds, unless otherwise authorized by law.

**2.2** With regard to the Event/Project, County shall make one payment in full, within 60 days of the event start date to **Major League Fishing, LLC** for the bid fee amount not to exceed **\$75,000.00 (seventy-five thousand dollars and zero cents) per event year for this one-year agreement.**

**2.3** County shall provide Recipient each of the following, to the satisfaction of Recipient:

- A. Angler Meeting and Meal: County will provide Recipient a pre-tournament meeting location available from 9am-9pm on May 15, 2026. Location to include audio/visual with dinner style seating and one meal for up to forty (40) people. Details and time to be provided by Recipient. Location and menu to be provided by County.
- B. Boat Official Training and Meal: County will provide Recipient a meeting location available from 7am-6pm on May 15, 2026. Location to include audio/visual with classroom-style seating and one meal for twenty-five

(25) people. Details and time to be provided by Recipient. Location and menu to be provided by County.

- C. Production Rooms: County to provide one production room and two boardrooms for production during Event/Project week on a 24-hour hold and access. Details to be provided by Recipient.
- D. Lakeside: County will provide the following for Tournament activities at Heagy – Burry Boat Ramp – Orange Lake whose address is 5040 NW 191st Pl, Reddick, FL 32686:
  - a. Complimentary use of boat ramp for launching twenty-five boats per day.
  - b. An Area for MLF stage trailer(s) and equipment to be used for Event/Project activities.
  - c. An area for service crews at boat ramp, beginning four (4) days prior to Event/Project start and ending the morning following the final day.
  - d. An area to be used as the boat yard, with overnight security, at a designated location approved by County, for boats and tournament equipment, beginning four (4) days prior to Event/Project and ending the morning following the final day of Event/Project.
  - e. Four (4) portable restrooms and two (2) hand washing stations to be delivered to ramp/service yard by noon four (4) days prior to Event/Project start through the morning following the final day, or restrooms open with running water, serviced daily. Location(s) to be provided by County.
  - f. 10-yard dumpster or daily trash service, beginning four (4) days prior to Event/Project.
  - g. Traffic and parking assistance at the ramp.
- E. Staff: County is responsible for all staff, personnel and representatives (“Staff”) provided by County that will be onsite during the Event/Project. County shall be solely responsible for acts and omissions of its Staff and Staff will conduct their activities at County’s risk, expense and supervision. Neither County nor its Staff shall have any authority to act for or to bind Recipient under any circumstance.
- F. Permits: County will assist Recipient with acquiring any permits necessary for holding the Event/Project.
- G. Tournament Liaison: County will serve as Recipient’s local liaison during the planning stages and Event/Project Period. County will also assist in the coordination of launch sites, media, volunteers, and other vital services on behalf of Recipient.

**2.4** Recipient acknowledges that all funds it receives are subject to audit by the Internal Auditor of the Marion County Clerk of Courts or other representatives as County may designate.

**Article 3 – Event/Project Eligibility:**

**3.1** To be eligible for Program funds, the Event/Project shall, in part, comply with the Program objective and provide certain deliverables. This Event/Project was recommended to the Board of County Commissioners by the Tourist Development Council on **February 27, 2025**, and subsequently approved by the Board of County Commissioners on **January 06, 2025**.

**3.2 Program Objective.**

The Event/Project shall meet the following Program objective, as set forth in Section 125.0104, Florida Statutes:

**TOURISM PROMOTION:** To promote and advertise tourism in the State of Florida and nationally and internationally; however, if tax revenues are expended for an activity, service, venue, or event, the activity, service, venue, or event shall have as one of its main purposes the attraction of tourists as evidenced by the promotion of the activity, service, venue, or event to tourists.

Specifically, to qualify for Program funding the Event/Project shall enhance County’s appeal to visitors and support the TDC mission to promote tourism for Marion County.

**3.3 Project Conditions:**

The Project shall adhere to all of the following conditions:

A. Marketing

- (1) Recipient shall credit the OMCVCB on all Project marketing materials online and offline, when applicable.
- (2) All Project printed and digital marketing collateral and materials, shall include the OMCVCB logo, when applicable.
- (3) Any use of OMCVCB branding or the OMCVCB name must conform to the requirements of the OMCVCB Brand Toolkit, available at <https://www.ocalamarion.com/media/brand-toolkit/>, and any other guidelines that may be issued by OMCVCB.

**3.4 Event/Project Deliverables.**

The Event/Project shall provide evidence satisfactory to County of the successful completion of all of the following deliverables:

A. Schedule

- (1) The Event/Project shall take place on **May 16-22, 2026 with alternatives dates of May 9-15, 2026 or May 2-8, 2026 at Heagy – Burry Boat Ramp – Orange Lake whose address is 5040 NW 191<sup>st</sup> Pl, Reddick, FL 32686.** This schedule cannot be modified without written prior-authorization from County. Any request by Recipient to alter the schedule must be made in writing and received by County no later than 90 days before the Event/Project is scheduled to begin.

B. Service to County

- (1) The Event/Project shall create paid lodging for County that is subject to the collection of Tourist Development Tax (TDT). Tax exempt or complimentary rooms will not be counted toward the deliverables required through the funding guidelines.
- (2) The Event/Project shall create economic activity for County.

C. Marketing

- (1) Recipient shall credit the OMCVCB on all Event/Project marketing materials online and offline, when applicable.
- (2) When applicable, all Event/Project printed and digital marketing collateral and materials, including t-shirts, not including tournament jerseys or hats, Event/Project merchandise, and give away items, shall include the OMCVCB logo or, if space does not permit, shall include the OMCVCB logo type and the following tagline, when applicable:

“This event is funded in part by the Ocala/Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau” and the OMCVCB’s URL - [www.OcalaMarion.com](http://www.OcalaMarion.com).

**Article 4 – General Responsibilities of Recipient:**

**4.1** Recipient acknowledges and agrees that the obligations, representations, certifications, and assurances of Recipient in this Agreement, including this Article 4, are material terms of this Agreement and County affirmatively relies upon same as part of the consideration in entering into this Agreement. Any breach of a term of this Agreement is a material breach by Recipient.

**4.2** Recipient certifies and assures County that Recipient is knowledgeable of and shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations in executing the Event/Project and shall include this requirement in all subcontracts pertaining to the Event/Project. Recipient has determined for itself whether it is subject to registration with the Florida Department of State. Recipient agrees to furnish all labor, materials, equipment, and services and shall obtain any and all governmental permits necessary to execute the Event/Project. If any part of the Event/Project is not properly permitted prior to execution or completed without proper permits, the Event/Project will be disqualified for funding.

- 4.3 Recipient shall be responsible for its own electricity, water, light, and heat to support the Event/Project, at no cost to County.
- 4.4 Recipient shall provide proof of insurance to County obtained with a company or companies authorized to do business in the State of Florida with an A.M. Best Company rating of at least A-. A \$1,000,000 Commercial General Liability Insurance Policy is required for the Event/Project along with "Marion County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, its officials, employees, and volunteers" being named as an Additional Insured on the policy. The term of coverage must include not only all days of the Event/Project, but set up days and take down days as well.

**Listing on Certificate of Insurance should read:**

Marion County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, its officials, employees, and volunteers  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34471

During the term of this Agreement, Recipient at its sole expense, shall provide insurance of such a type and with such terms and limits as noted above. Providing and maintaining adequate insurance coverage is a material obligation of Recipient. Recipient's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects to the County for all applicable policies. The limits of coverage under each policy maintained by Recipient shall not be interpreted as limiting Recipient's liability and obligations under this Agreement. All insurance policies shall be through insurers authorized or eligible to write policies in Florida and possess an A.M. Best rating of A-, VII or better, subject to the approval of the COUNTY Risk Management department.

The coverages, limits and/or endorsements required herein protect the primary interests of the County, and these coverages, limits and/or endorsements shall in no way be required to be relied upon when assessing the extent or determining appropriate types and limits of coverage to protect the Recipient against any loss exposures, whether as a result of this Agreement or otherwise.

Marion County Board of County Commissioners, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, its officials, employees, and volunteers are to be covered as an additional insured with a CG 20 26 04 13 Additional Insured – Designated Person or Organization Endorsement or similar endorsement providing equal or broader Additional Insured Coverage with respect to liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Recipient. The coverage shall contain no special limitation on the scope of protection afforded to the COUNTY, its officials, employees, or volunteers.

- 4.5 If the Event qualifies as an "Equine Activity" as defined in Chapter 773, Florida Statutes, the EVENT HOLDER acknowledges that the COUNTY qualifies as an "Equine activity sponsor" as defined in Chapter 773, Florida Statutes; and

- (1) The EVENT HOLDER shall include the following warning notice in all registration forms and documents requiring participants' signatures:

**WARNING**

Under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

- (2) The EVENT HOLDER shall include the above warning notice in all program guides and any other materials for spectators.

- (3) The EVENT HOLDER shall post and maintain at least one sign in a clearly visible location near each entrance to the area in which the Equine Activity will take place with the above warning notice in
- (4) black letters, with each letter to be a minimum of 1 inch in height, with sufficient color contrast to be clearly distinguishable.

4.6 Recipient shall only receive funding for eligible expenses, as otherwise provided herein. Any funding advanced and later deemed ineligible for any reason, shall be repaid by Recipient to County within ten (10) days of written request.

4.7 Recipient shall provide County each of the following, to the satisfaction of County:

- A. **Publicize the Tournament and schedule of events for each day,**
- B. **Produce six (6) 2-hour shows for the tournament which will broadcast once on the Discovery Channel\*, plus re-airs. Shows will air during the third/fourth quarter of 2026. Provide within the television broadcast content related to Ocala/Marion County, including beauty shots of Orange Lake/Heagy-Burry Boat Ramp and points of interest in Ocala/Marion County (b-roll of preferred points of interest provided by OMCVCB),**
- C. **Produce one (1) 60-second in-show feature on the destination to air in one (1) original broadcast (OMCVCB will provide suggestions for content),**
- D. **Mention Ocala/Marion County at least five (5) times during each television broadcast,**
- E. **Mention Orange Lake at least five (5) times during each television broadcast;**
- F. **Mention Orange Lake and tag @ocalamarion within social media posts, when applicable**
- G. **List Ocala/Marion County on [www.majorleaguefishing.com](http://www.majorleaguefishing.com) page dedicated to Tournament trail, including specific event web page,**
- H. **Post Tournament results on [www.majorleaguefishing.com](http://www.majorleaguefishing.com),**
- I. **Provide OMCVCB the ability to distribute collateral to anglers relating to Ocala/Marion County and local businesses,**
- J. **Broadcast live leaderboard and streaming video of tournament online,**
- K. **Create and distribute stories on the Tournament by MLF Communications,**
- L. **Provide information on Ocala/Marion County and Orange Lake to national media when applicable, to include one quote provided by Ocala/Marion County**
- M. **100,000 Banner Ad Impressions on MLF Pages of Company website (OMCVCB to provide content, creative, and links);**
- N. **Media access for Marion County staff to attend and cover the Event/Project for marketing and public relations purposes;**
- O. **OMCVCB banner(s) displayed on site during the Tournament provided by County; artwork and location to be approved by recipient**
- P. **Inclusion of OMCVCB as a host in press releases;**
- Q. **Access for OMCVCB contracted research firm to conduct focus group surveys; and,**
- R. **Opportunity for County's participation at the opening ceremony and/or presentation of awards.**

\*Network(s) in 2026 are conditioned upon Recipient successfully acquiring airtime. Comparable network audience delivery and brand exposure will be provided to County in place of stated network(s). Notification of any network changes will be provided to County by Recipient as soon as determined.

4.8 In the performance of this Agreement, Recipient shall be acting in the capacity of an "Independent Contractor" and not as an agent, employee, partner, joint venture, or associate of County, thereby making Recipient solely responsible for the means, methods, techniques, sequences, and procedures utilized by Recipient in the full performance of this Agreement.

**4.9** Recipient shall keep records of all transactions related to this Agreement and County shall have the right to review such records. The parties specifically agree that should County request to review such records, Recipient shall produce the records at County's office located at 109 W Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34475, during normal business hours.

**4.10 Audit.**

**A. Subject to Audit.**

All Contract Documents, including this Agreement, contracts between County and Recipient, and any other contracts for the expenditure of TDT revenue, are subject to programmatic and financial audit by the Marion County Clerk of the Court – Internal Auditor, the State of Florida Auditor General, other County staff or authorized personnel or any other governmental representative County may dictate.

**B. Inspection; Public Record.**

All programmatic and financial documents that are part of the Contract Documents are subject to County inspection and made public record.

**C. Additional Information.**

County through the OMCVCB reserves the right to request additional information if deemed necessary during the Term of this Agreement.

**D. Repayment.**

(1) Recipient may be required to repay all or a portion of Grant monies provided should an audit of County records determine ineligibility of any expenditure or upon the occurrence of a default of this Agreement OR if the event does not take place in Marion County for whatever reason.

(2) The Parties expressly and specifically agree that all determinations arising from an audit of County records regarding the eligibility or ineligibility of an expenditure of the Grant funding shall be final and binding.

**4.11 Public Records Compliance.**

A. Recipient acknowledges that any material, including papers, photographs, films, and audio recordings, made or received by County in connection with Recipient's request for Program funding is a public record and subject to public inspection, unless there is a legislatively created exemption that makes it confidential and not subject to disclosure. Therefore, Recipient acknowledges that it cannot dictate to County what material is open to public inspection or the circumstances under which material is deemed confidential.

B. If, under this Agreement, Recipient is providing services and is acting on behalf of County as provided under Section 119.001(2), Florida Statutes, then, Recipient shall comply with public records laws, specifically:

- (1) Keep and maintain public records required by County to perform the service;
- (2) Upon request from County's custodian of records, provide County with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, or as otherwise provided by law;
- (3) Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the Term of this Agreement and following completion of this Agreement if Recipient does not transfer the records to County; and,
- (4) Upon completion of this Agreement, transfer, at no cost, to County, all public records in possession of Recipient or keep and maintain public records required by County to perform the service. If Recipient transfers all public records to County upon completion of this Agreement, Recipient shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If Recipient keeps and maintains public records upon completion of this Agreement, Recipient shall meet all

applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to County upon request from County's custodian of public records in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of County.

- C. If Recipient fails to provide the public records to County within a reasonable time or otherwise, Recipient may be subject to penalties under Section 119.10, Florida Statutes and may be subject to unilateral cancellation of this Agreement by County.
- D. **IF RECIPIENT HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO RECIPIENT'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT:**

**Public Relations**  
**601 SE 25th Ave.**  
**Ocala, FL 34471**  
**Phone: 352-438-2300**  
**Fax: 352-438-2309**  
**Email: [PublicRelations@MarionFL.org](mailto:PublicRelations@MarionFL.org)**

#### **4.12 Default.**

Default under this Agreement is any failure to comply with a term or condition.

### **Article 5 – Indemnification and Liabilities:**

#### **5.1**

a. Recipient shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend County, its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates, and the officers, directors, employees, shareholders, workers, agents, servants and invitees thereof, from and against all losses, damages, demands, claims, suits and other losses or expenses including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees and other expenses, arising out of or relating to a claim brought by a third party: (i) alleging that County approved use of any Tournament logo, design or materials furnished to County by Recipient hereunder, infringes on the rights of any third party, or (ii) due to the negligent acts or omissions of Recipient or its agents, employees, or subcontractors in connection with the Agreement, or (iii) alleging a breach of the Agreement by Recipient.

b. To the extent permitted by law, County shall indemnify and hold harmless Recipient, its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, employees, shareholders, workers, agents, servants, participants and invitees from and against any and all losses, damages, demands, claims, suits and other losses or expenses including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees and other expenses, arising out of or relating to a claim brought by a third party alleging: (i) alleging that the use of any logo, design or materials furnished to Recipient by County hereunder, including "Provided Materials" (as defined in Exhibit B, attached hereto and made a part hereof), infringes on the rights of any third party, or (ii) due to the negligent acts or omissions of County or Staff in connection with the Agreement, or (iii) alleging breach of the Agreement by County.

**5.2** Recipient expressly understands and agrees that any insurance protection required by this Agreement or otherwise provided by Recipient shall in no way limit the responsibility to indemnify, keep and save harmless and defend County and its officers, board members, employees, agents, and instrumentalities. Nothing herein this Agreement shall not be construed in any way to alter County's waiver of sovereign immunity or the limits established in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes (2022).

- 5.3 Recipient acknowledges that County, through the TDC, is only a financial contributor to the Event/Project and not a promoter or co-sponsor and County shall not be responsible for any debt incurred or liability issues that may occur in any way related to the Event/Project.

**Article 6 – Term; Termination of this Agreement:**

**6.1 Term.**

The term of this Agreement begins on the date of the last signature below and ends on the **60<sup>th</sup> calendar day** after the final date scheduled for the Event/Project (the “Term”).

**6.2 Termination.**

County may terminate this Agreement at any time with or without cause. Recipient may terminate this Agreement at any time with cause solely with the approval of County which shall not be unreasonably conditioned, delayed or withheld. Any and all decisions made by County concerning termination of this Agreement are binding upon Recipient. Recipient acknowledges that termination of this Agreement does not relieve Recipient of any obligations it may have to the facility, vendors, etc.

**Article 7 – Photo/Likeness Release Form:**

- 7.1 Recipient acknowledges that the purpose of the Program and the award of Program funding to Recipient, are, in part, to promote County. Recipient grants to County the right to capture photographs, digital images, videotapes or recordings made at or in relation to the Event/Project, including those of Recipient’s employees, volunteers, invitees, and those that contain Recipient’s name, artwork, logo or trademark, for use by County, and the right to copyright and/or use, reuse and/or publish, republish captured images, videotapes or recordings. Recipient affirms it is the legal owner of any artwork, logo or trademark used by Recipient and acknowledges that County is relying on this representation and, to the extent there is any claim by any third party against County, Recipient will indemnify and hold the County harmless as to any such claim or damages arising from such claim. Recipient grants County permission for the photographs, digital images, videotapes, or recordings captured by County to be used in their entirety and/or edited versions as deemed necessary by County. It is understood these items will become the property of County and all rights to inspect or approve as well as any royalties or other such compensation are waived. Recipient further grants County permission for the photographs, digital images, videotapes or recordings to be used by County at any time in the future without notice being provided and that County’s use may include for trade, commercial and advertising purposes, to promote the product or service of County, and to simply report happenings in County, and may include the use of items on County websites. Recipient affirms it has made its participants aware of County’s intentions in this regard and has made the signing of a release a requirement to participate in the Event/Project.

**Article 8 - Scrutinized Companies pursuant to §287.135, F.S.:**

**8.1 Certification.**

- A. If this Agreement is for One Million Dollars or more, Recipient certifies that at the time it submitted its application or proposal for this Agreement or before entering into this Agreement or renewing same, Recipient was not then and is not now:
- (1) On the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, F.S., or
  - (2) Engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.
- B. If this Agreement is for any amount, Recipient certifies that at the time it submitted its application or proposal for this Agreement or before entering into this Agreement or renewing same, Recipient was not then and is not now:



- (1) On the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to Section 215.4725, F.S. or
- (2) Engaged in a boycott of Israel.

## **8.2 Termination, Threshold Amount.**

County may, entirely at its option, terminate this Agreement if it is for One Million Dollars and Recipient Meets any of the following criteria.

- A. Was entered into or renewed on or after July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, and Recipient is found to meet any of the following prohibitions:
  - (1) Submitted a false certification as provided under Section 287.135(5), F.S., or
  - (2) Been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, F.S.
- B. Was entered into or renewed on or after July 1, 2012, through September 30, 2016, and Recipient is found to meet any of the following prohibitions:
  - (1) Submitted a false certification as provided under Section 287.135(5), F.S.;
  - (2) Been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, F.S.; or
  - (3) Been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.
- C. Was entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2016, through June 30, 2018, and Recipient is found to meet any of the following conditions:
  - (1) Submitted a false certification as provided under Section 287.135(5), F.S.;
  - (2) Been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, F.S.;
  - (3) Been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria; or
  - (4) Been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created pursuant to Section 215.4725, F.S. or is engaged in a boycott of Israel.
- D. Was entered into or renewed on or after July 1, 2018, and Recipient is found to meet any of the following prohibitions:
  - (1) Submitted a false certification as provided under Section 287.135(5), F.S.;
  - (2) Been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Section 215.473, F.S.; or
  - (3) Been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.

## **8.3 Termination, Any Amount.**

County may, entirely at its option, terminate this Agreement if it is for any amount and meets any of the following criteria

- A. Was entered into or renewed on or after July 1, 2018, and
- B. Recipient is found to have been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, created Pursuant to Section 215.4725, F.S. or is engaged in a boycott of Israel.

## **8.4 Comply; Inoperative.**

The Parties agree to comply with Section 287.135, F.S., as it may change from time to time during the Term. The contracting prohibitions in this Article 8 become inoperative on the date that Federal law ceases to Authorize the State of Florida to adopt and enforce such contracting prohibitions.

## **Article 9 - Discriminatory Vendor List and Convicted Vendor List:**

- 9.1** Recipient certifies and assures County that Recipient has never been placed on the Discriminatory Vendor List pursuant to Section 287.134, Florida Statutes, or the Convicted Vendor List pursuant to Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, following a conviction for public entity crime. Recipient acknowledges that those that have been placed on either list may not transact business with any public entity with certain conditions for a period of 36 months

from the date of being placed on the Discriminatory Vendor List or the Convicted Vendor List.

**Article 10 – Governing Law, Venue, Waiver of Right to Jury Trial:**

**10.1** This Agreement and all the Contract Documents shall be construed according to the laws of Florida and shall not be construed more strictly against one party than against the other because it may have been drafted by one of the parties. As used herein, “shall” is always mandatory. In the event of any legal proceeding arising from or related to this Agreement; (1) venue for state or federal legal proceedings shall be in Marion County and (2) for civil proceedings, the parties consent to trial by the court and waive right to jury trial.

**Article 11 - Severability.**

**11.1** Invalidity or unenforceability of one or more provisions of this Agreement shall not affect any other provision of this Agreement.

**Article 12 - Waiver.**

**12.1** No waiver of any default by any Party shall constitute a waiver of any other default or breach, whether of the same or other covenant or condition. No waiver, benefit, privilege, or service voluntarily given or performed by a Party shall give another Party any contractual right by custom, estoppel, or otherwise.

**Article 13 - Rights of Third Parties.**

**13.1** Nothing in the Agreement, whether express or implied, is intended to confer any rights or remedies under or because of the Agreement on any persons other than the Parties hereto and their respective legal representatives, successors and permitted assigns. Nothing in the Agreement is intended to relieve or discharge the obligation or liability of any third persons to any Party to the Agreement, nor shall any provision give any third persons any right of subrogation or action over or against any Party to the Agreement.

**Article 14 – Transacting Business in Florida:**

**14.1** As of the date of entering this Agreement, Recipient represents that Recipient has been issued a certificate of authority issued by the Florida Department of State, required to transact business in Florida, pursuant to Section 607.1501, Florida Statutes, or a determination has been made by Recipient and its legal advisor that performance of this Agreement will not require any act constituting transacting business in Florida.

**14.2** In the event County, at its sole discretion, determines that Recipient is transacting business in Florida without a certificate of authority issued by the Florida Department of State, County may immediately terminate this Agreement. In the event of such termination, Recipient shall immediately repay all amounts provided to Recipient under this Agreement.

**Article 15 - Sovereign Immunity:**

**15.1** **Sovereign Immunity.** Nothing in the Agreement shall be deemed to waive the sovereign immunity protections provided County pursuant to Florida law. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Agreement, County’s obligation to indemnify Recipient, if any, for any reason or purpose, is limited and shall not exceed the limits set forth in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes (2023). Notwithstanding anything to

the contrary set forth in the Agreement, all liability of County shall be limited to the limits set forth in 768.28, Florida Statutes (2023), whether sounding in contract, tort or otherwise. This Article 15 shall survive the termination of the Agreement.

**Article 16: - Survival:**

**16.1 Survival.**

Recipient's obligations and liabilities for Reporting (Article 2); Service to County (Article 3); Record Keeping (Article 4); Audit (Article 4); Public Records (Article 4); Indemnification and Liabilities (Article 5); Photo/Likeness Release Form (Article 7); Governing Law, Venue, Waiver of Right to Jury Trial (Article 10); Severability (Article 11); Transacting Business in Florida (Article 14); and Sovereign Immunity (Article 15), shall survive the termination of this Agreement, or any duties or obligations thereunder, and shall be fully binding until any proceeding which may be brought under this Agreement is barred by the applicable statute of limitations. In addition, any other provisions, or parts thereof, of this ATC which, by their nature, should survive termination or cancellation shall survive.

**Article 17: Force Majeure**

**17:1** No Party shall be liable or responsible to the other Party, nor be deemed to have defaulted under or breached this Agreement, for any failure or delay in fulfilling or performing any term of this Agreement when and to the extent such failure or delay is caused by or results from acts beyond the impacted Party's ("Impacted Party") reasonable control, including, without limitation, the following force majeure events ("Force Majeure Event(s)") that frustrates the purpose of this Agreement: (a) acts of God; (b) flood, fire, earthquake or explosion; (c) war, invasion, hostilities (whether war is declared or not), terrorist threats or acts, riot or other civil unrest; (d) government order or law; (e) actions, embargoes or blockades in effect on or after the date of this Agreement; (f) action by any governmental authority; (g) national or regional emergency; (h) strikes, labor stoppages or slowdowns or other industrial disturbances; (i) epidemic, pandemic or similar influenza or bacterial infection (which is defined by the United States Center for Disease Control as virulent human influenza or infection that may cause global outbreak, or pandemic, or serious illness); (j) emergency state; (k) shortage of adequate medical supplies and equipment; (l) shortage of power or transportation facilities; and (m) other similar events beyond the reasonable control of the Impacted Party.

**Article 18 - Legal Counsel:**

**18.1** Each Party recognizes that this is a legally binding contract and acknowledges and agrees that they have each had the opportunity to consult with legal counsel of their choice. Recipient agrees and acknowledges that it has read and understands this Agreement, is entering into it freely and voluntarily, and has been advised to seek counsel prior to entering into this Agreement and has had ample opportunity to do so.

**THIS SPACE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Agreement by their duly authorized officers on the date of the last signature below.

ATTEST:

MARION COUNTY, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

GREGORY C. HARRELL  
CLERK OF COURT

BY: CARL ZALAK III  
CHAIRMAN

DATE:

DATE:

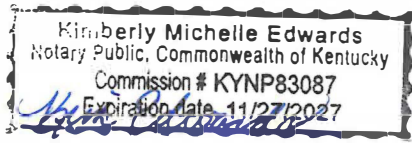
FOR USE AND RELIANCE OF MARION COUNTY ONLY, APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
BCC APPROVED:

for: Matthew Minter  
MATTHEW MINTER  
COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ACCEPTANCE DATE: 9/12/25

Major League Fishing, LLC (Recipient)

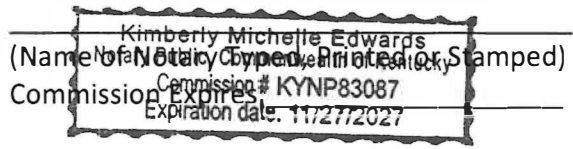
By: Kathy Fennel  
Printed Name: Kathy Fennel  
Its: Executive Vice President & General Manager  
Date: 11-11-25

STATE OF Kentucky  
COUNTY OF Marshall



The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me by means of  physical presence or  online notarization this 11 day of November, 2025 by Kathy Fennel (name of officer, manager, or agent), the Executive Vice President & General Manager (title) of Major League Fishing, LLC (name of entity acknowledging), a Kentucky (state or place of formation) entity, on behalf of whom this instrument was executed. He she is personally known to me or has produced \_\_\_\_\_ (type of identification) as identification.

Kimberly Edwards  
(Notary Signature and Notary Seal)



## EXHIBIT A

### **Event Bid Fee / Rights Fee Policy**

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines for evaluating and determining whether the Ocala/Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau (OMCVCB) will consider a bid fee or rights fee to secure an event for the destination. The goal is to ensure that such decisions are made strategically, considering the potential economic impact, alignment with destination goals, and overall benefits to the community. Applicants seeking funding under this program must have an event scheduled to take place **April through December**. Events occurring outside of this timeframe may be eligible for funding through one of the other programs offered by the OMCVCB and should apply accordingly. All previous funding, acquired through various means in Marion County or beyond, will be evaluated alongside the bid fee request. This comprehensive review **will optimize the funding method to ensure the greatest possible future impact. All overnight accommodations used in association with the funded event must be appropriately registered with the Marion County Tax Collector's Office to collect applicable Tourist Development Taxes (TDT). Room nights will not qualify toward funding if the property is not compliant with TDT registration requirements or if the accommodations are not subject to TDT collection. Please refer to the following webpage (<https://www.mariontax.com/td-home>) and Appendix A for additional information about TDT and how to ensure compliance.**

Approval Process: Requests for bid fees or rights fees must be reviewed by the OMCVCB sales team and would require recommendation by the Tourist Development Council to the Marion County Board of County Commissioners for approval in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local policies, as specified under Florida State Statute 125.0104..

Assessment Criteria: The OMCVCB will consider a bid or rights fee only if the event meets a **majority** of the following criteria:

1. **Economic Impact:** The event is expected to generate significant tourism revenue for the local economy mainly through hotel stays but also dining, shopping, entertainment, etc. Bid fees will be considered when the projected economic impact combined with the media value produce a return on investment (ROI) favorable for Marion County.
2. **Strategic/Brand Alignment:** Some events align strongly with the destination's tourism goals, whether by attracting a key demographic, building on a destination's strengths (e.g., sports, culture), or supporting a broader marketing campaign. In such cases, paying a fee can enhance the brand, reputation, and visibility of the destination to key target audiences.
3. **Seasonality:** The event helps address seasonal demand by attracting visitors during off-peak periods or fills gaps in the destination's calendar. Events scheduled during off-peak tourism seasons or need periods may qualify for bid fee support if they help fill occupancy gaps and stimulate local business during slow periods.
4. **Marketing and Media Value:** In cases where an event provides significant media exposure—such as being broadcast nationally or internationally and/or livestreamed online—the value of the marketing exposure may justify the fee, particularly if it is difficult to quantify through direct economic impact alone.
5. **Legacy Impact:** The event is likely to create long-term benefits for the community, including increased interest in repeat visitation, development of local sports or cultural programs, or infrastructure

improvements. The OMCVCB may be more inclined to pay a bid fee for events that have the potential to return on an annual basis, creating a sustainable economic benefit for multiple years.

Application Guidelines – No formal written application is required.

- A Bid Packet detailing the event must be submitted for consideration.

**OR**

- **If a Bid Packet does not exist, events interested in pursuing a Bid Fee from the OMCVCB must submit a letter of intent.**
- The Letter of Intent should:
  - Briefly describe the project/event and how it meets the criteria described above.
  - Describe your organization and the purpose for which funding is being sought.
  - Demonstrate the applicant's ability to carry out the programming/project during the funding period may include: event production experience, volunteers involved, in-kind support and sponsor/community support
  - Include the requested bid fee amount.

## EXHIBIT B

County is responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, releases or waivers for content provided by County to Recipient, including but not limited to County marks, text, graphics, images, videos, logos, trademarks, service marks, trade names, artwork, music and any other content or materials contained therein, (collectively, "Provided Materials"). County shall deliver the Provided Materials on a timely basis to Recipient. County represents and warrants that County is the owner of Provided Materials or that County has permission, including but not limited to, any licenses or releases relating to music synchronization and non-dramatic music performance rights, and individual privacy or publicity rights, from the rightful owners, to use the Provided Materials and that Recipient's use of the Provided Materials will not cause Recipient to infringe or violate the rights of any third party. County grants Recipient a non-exclusive license in the Provided Materials for Recipient to perform its obligations under this Agreement