



St. Croix Lionfish Derby

May 19th - 21st, 2023

Join the Caribbean Oceanic Restoration and Education Foundation (C.O.R.E) this spring for a two-day Lionfish derby. C.O.R.E aims to bring this event back to St. Croix to help mitigate the invasive lionfish problem surrounding the island. Lionfish (*Pterois spp.*) are a species of fish native to the Indo Pacific Ocean and are classified as an invasive species in this area. Lionfish were first observed in St. Croix waters in the year 2009. Shortly after the first sighting, C.O.R.E became involved to facilitate invasive species management through education, lionfish removal training, and community involvement.

C.O.R.E is a 501c3 non-profit organization that was founded by Joseph Gulli. It was formed to provide local community members with the necessary means for valuing and understanding the benefits that marine environments provide for us, as well as ways that we, as a community, can contribute to the overall health and success of our ecosystems.

The goals of this event tie directly into C.O.R.E's mission. The 2023 St. Croix Lionfish Derby will raise public awareness and generate a strong sense of community involvement and understanding for marine ecosystems. In addition to supporting C.O.R.E's goals, the money generated from collected sponsors will contribute to the prize money pot for the derby participants. The more sponsors we get, the more exciting the tournament becomes! There are various ways to help support C.O.R.E in this event. You can sign up to be one of our various sponsors or donate prizes for our raffle. Please see the following handout regarding the levels of sponsorship and details of each.

With your gracious donation, we will ensure that your personal/company logo or name is advertised on all derby related materials and depending on level of sponsorship, displayed on various pages of our website. For our top sponsors, rewards will come in the form of a team entry into the derby, a commemorative gift, and more. On the day of the derby your logo/name will be displayed on banners at scoring stations and your contribution will be thanked in announcements throughout the tournament. It is important to us that we properly acknowledge those that take the time and money to support our efforts!

If you want to ensure that your company name/logo is printed on derby t-shirts and signage, please confirm your sponsorship by **April 1st, 2023**, otherwise all other donations (monetary, in kind, basket, etc.) will be accepted up until the weekend of the tournament, May 19th-21st, 2023.

Sponsorship money and other monetary donations can be sent to Mike Funk, the C.O.R.E Treasurer, through Venmo or made at www.corevi.org/2023derby through paypal. Cash and checks are also accepted and can be brought to Mike Funk, the C.O.R.E Treasurer.

Mike Funk
Lionfish Derby Committee
Chair

Wess
Lionfish Derby Committee
Chair

Leslie Henderson
Lionfish Derby Committee
Chair

Marcia Taylor
Lionfish Derby Committee
Chair

Contact us: info@corevi.org