

# **TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

**ELIGIBILITY:** Participation is open to anyone. CONTESTANTS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN MUST HAVE WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN. THIS MUST BE RECEIVED WITH THE REGISTRATION.

**ENTRY FEE:** The entry fee is \$110.00 per team, and \$20.00 for big fish.

**DRAWING:** The draw for starting position will take place at the drivers meeting (6 AM sharp ). Late entrants after 6 AM will start last.

**EQUIPMENT AND FISHING METHODS:** U.S. Coast Guard approved safety equipment and kill switches are required. Life vest must be worn along with a kill switch lanyard must be attached at all times when the main engine is running. Any team not observing these regulations will be disqualified. Only artificial lures are permitted. NO LIVE BAIT. Trolling is prohibited. All boats must be equipped with an aerated live well and the fish cared for to ensure live release.

**FISHABLE WATERS/OFF LIMITS:** Fishable waters include any water reachable by boat and will be open to all contestants unless otherwise restricted by local, state, and/or federal regulations. All fishing and landing of fish must be done from the boat. Fishing within long casting distance of a contestant without permission is not permitted. Giving permission to one competitor and excluding another is prohibited. When a contestant is anchored there will be a 50 yard radius around them of non-fishable water unless otherwise permitted by said contestants.

**PENALTIES:** Official tournament time will be announced before take off. Official time will be kept by the tournament director. For each minute a contestant is late, there will be a pound deducted from that team's total weight. Any team that is more than 10 minutes late will be disqualified. All contestants must pass a livewell and safety equipment check prior to take off and be officially "checked in: at the designated place and time, for their score to count. There will be a .25 lb penalty for every dead fish brought in to weigh in. This will be deducted from that teams total weigh however, will not be penalized for the big fish contest.

**SCORING:** A 12" minimum length will be enforced, measured on a flat board, mouth closed and swing the tail. Any fish determined less than 12" will disqualify that team. Any team to bring in more than the legal limit will be disqualified. In the event of a tie in the total weigh of two or more teams, the largest bass from each team will determine the winner. All culling of fish must be done immediately upon landing the fish. Any culling at the weigh in site will not be permitted. **1 rod only will be used at a time.**

**ELIGIBLE FISH/LIMITS:** Largemouth and smallmouth bass only are permitted to be weighed in. This tournament has a 5 fish limit per team.

**PROTEST:** Protest regarding the violation of these rules must be made immediately to the tournament director, and submitted in writing within 20minutes of weigh in. All decisions concerning protest will be at the discretion of the tournament officials. All decisions made by tournament officials will be binding and final.

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** The laws of good judgment and sportsmanship as well as courtesy towards others on or off the water will be strictly adhered to at all times. The use of drugs, alcohol and obscene language or gestures is unacceptable and will result in disqualification.

**PRACTICE FISHING:** There will be no pre-fishing or underwater observation, ( diving or underwater camera ) for six (Monday through SATURDAY) days prior to the tournament.

**INSURANCE AND LIABILITY:** The boat owner must carry proof of \$100,000.00 liability insurance. All contestants must sign a waiver absolving sponsors, co-sponsors, and tournament officials from any responsibility for any damage and or personal injury sustained as result of their participation in this tournament or related activities.

**BREAKDOWN/EMERGENCIES:** Contestants are not allowed to leave their boat or touch another boat, with the exception of an emergency or major equipment failure. In case of a breakdown the fishing partner may accept assistance in the form of a tow or a return ride with another boat. In the event of this happening the contestant can no longer continue to fish.

**WINNINGS:** There are no substitutions for prizes awarded. All taxes, local state or federal along with licensing and registration are the sole responsibility of the winner.

Borderline Bassin Contenders will not be responsible for contestants not obeying federal, state and local laws.

**ALL BOATS HAVING FISH TO WEIGH IN WILL STAY IN THE WATER UNTILL THE FISH HAVE BEEN WEIGHED IN. ALL FISH MUST BE TAKEN BACK OUT TO DEEP WATER TO BE RELEASED.**