

Tournament Official Rules

These rules apply to all entrants of this tournament. Violation of any rules warrant appropriate disciplinary action by Tournament Director.

- 1. REGISTRATION, ENTRY FEE, PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY:** This is an open tournament to all anglers 18 years of age or older. Entry Fee is \$80.00 per team & Big Bass is \$10.00 (optional). Refunds are allowed with 3 days notice before the tournament. **Registration will be at Toledo Town & Tackle, Tidbits & Tackle 7am to 8pm Friday before the Tournament and at Host Marina at 4:30 am Saturday during boat inspection.** This is a team tournament, no more than two anglers per boat. **Fishing guides** who have guided for pay on tournament waters during two months (**60 days**) prior to the tournament will be not eligible to compete. Tournament Director has the right to refuse entry of a person(s). No Pro status angler's
- 2. SAFETY:** Unsafe boat operation disqualifies the angler(s). All boats must be equipped with USCG approved life jackets in which must be worn when the combustion engine is in gear. All boats must be equipped with running lights and must be in use during take off. All boats must have functional emergency kill switch and be attached to angler while combustion engine is in gear. There may be a random check on safety features. In an emergency or breakdown, an angler may take his/her catch and board another boat to return to the weigh in. No fishing from the rescue boat. All boats must idle through "No Wake" areas.
- 3. PROTEST:** Complaints or protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within 15 minutes after the scales are closed.
- 4. TACKLE:** All bass must be caught in a conventional manner using a rod and reel. Artificial lures must be used. No live or prepared bait with the exception of pork rind strips may be used. No trolling will be permitted. Only one rod may be used at a time. All boats must be equipped with an aerated live well.
- 5. PERMITTED FISHING WATERS:** Anywhere on tournament waters, except within 25 yards of another contestant's boat with mutual consent or within tournament cove. No fishing from land is allowed, must be done by previously inspected boat. No one may "hold" a fishing area for a tournament angler(s).
- 6. TOURNAMENT HOURS:** ***(There will be a Tournament clock to synchronize your watch's). "first Cast" until 3 PM. Can not be on tournament waters after 5 pm Friday before the tournament until 5am on Saturday morning of the tournament. There are no off limit days.***
- 7. WEIGH-IN & PENALTIES:** ***(Anglers not in launch bay by 3 PM will be disqualified, NO EXCUSES). Take off & Weigh-in times may change if there is a hundred boat's.*** Anglers must "cull" upon catching their sixth fish. Minimum length of bass is 14 inches as measured on a Golden Rule. Short fish will be disqualified and a one pound penalty will be deducted from the remaining weight. Any angler weighing more than five fish is disqualified. A penalty of .2 lbs. will be deducted for each dead fish. Fish may not be accepted by the weigh master at his discretion (iced, spoiled, damaged, etc.). Only largemouth or spotted (Kentucky) bass will be accepted. **If caught staking fish you will be disqualified & will not be allowed to fish this Tournament. Weigh-in bags will be supplied.**
- 8. TIES:** Largest bass weighed in shall determine winner in all ties.
- 9. SPORTSMANSHIP:** No alcoholic beverages or narcotics are allowed in boats during the tournament and may not be consumed during the tournament or prior to the take off in the landing area. Any competitor who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules, or violates any state or federal law will be disqualified.
- 10. DAMAGES:** Damages of any nature to an angler or an angler's property is the responsibility of the angler.
- 11. TRAILERING BOATS:** Boats may be trailered during tournament hours (After 5:30 am).
- 12.** A polygraph may be given to any competitor.
- 13. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION:** If the tournament is canceled on the day of tournament due to reasons of safety, etc., tournament will be rescheduled without any additional fee's for those that are registered.
- 14.** This is a Catch & Release tournament. All decisions of the tournament director shall be final.