

**DECISIONS:** The following rules for the Big Bass Blast tournament will be interpreted solely by the tournament director. The director reserves the right to reject any entry he feels is not in the best interest of the tournament. Any announcements made by the tournament director at the tournament site take precedent over written rules.

**SAFETY:** Safe boating must be observed. Life jackets and Emergency ignition shut off switch must be used any time the combustion motor is running. At the discretion of the Tournament Director, tournament days may be shortened, re-scheduled, or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. If the tournament would be cancelled, a refund will be given to each contestant. During the event hours, no alcoholic beverages or drugs (other than those purchased over the counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) are allowed in the boat. You must use running lights if you get on the water before daylight. Boat owners must carry boating liability insurance. Proof of insurance may be asked for at any time.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or adult with written parental permission.

Use of a professional guide is prohibited during the week (7days) prior to the starting time of the tournament. If you have provided guide service or instructional fishing, for pay, on the tournament lake within one year of the tournament date, you are ineligible to fish.

Each boat may have up to 3 contestants. Only paid contestants are allowed in a boat. Non contestants are not allowed in a paid contestant's boat at any time during tournament hours (unless authorized by the Tournament Director).

Any person who has been disqualified from any prior tournament may be subject to being refused entry into tournament. If a contestant is disqualified for rules violations, ALL Contestants in his/her boat will be disqualified. Contestants must have a valid ID and fishing license for the

tournament lake in their possession unless exempt. License may be asked for at the time of weigh-in.

**REGISTRATION, ENTRY FEE, & RECEIVING PRIZES:** Entry form with complete entry fee must be received before fishing. No Refunds or Substitution of entry fees will be allowed. By contestant(s) signature on entry form and /or participation in these tournaments, the contestant(s) agree to any polygraph test at any time, if required by the Tournament Director. Refusal of an angler to submit to a test or failure of a test will result in loss of winnings, immediate disqualification, plus subsequent disqualification from future tournaments. Polygraph Tests for the Overall big bass winner and Bi-Hourly winners will be chosen randomly.

Registration will close 2 hour after the start of the tournament.

Any angler receiving a check must complete and submit a W-9 form.

**PERMITTED FISHING AREAS & HOURS:** Permitted fishing areas are anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by local, state, or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a competitor's boat that was first anchored. No fishing w/in 50 yards of a marina gas pump. No contestant may leave a boat to land a fish.

**TACKLE & EQUIPMENT:** All fishing will be done with a rod and reel and artificial lures only. The use of pork rinds is acceptable. No trolling with the combustion engine. No electronic tracking device (implanted microchips) may be used to locate fish for tournament purposes. However, depth finders and graph charts are acceptable.

**WEIGH IN RULES & REGULATIONS:** You must come to the weigh-in by water. Each contestant must weigh their own fish. No contestant can have more than one (1) fish in their weigh-in bag when weighing in. Contestants cannot weigh-in more than one fish per weigh-in period. No sharing of fish is allowed. Each contestant is allow to have no more than 2 fish in their

possession at any time during the tournament. Fish weighed in the bihourly contest do not carry over from time slot to time slot. Only the largest fish per contestant is eligible to win an overall prize. A fish may only be weighed once. Once the fish has been weighed-in it becomes property of the tournament committee and will, if possible, be returned live and healthy to the lake. Only largemouth bass will be eligible to be weighed in. Tournament weigh-in bags will be provided.

**SPORTSMANSHIP & CONSERVATION:** Participants are expected to show sportsmanship, safety, courtesy, and conservation during tournament hours. Any artificially or preserved bass will be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to prosecution under federal law. All boats must be equipped with an operating live well. (An aerator in an ice chest is acceptable). No bass allowed on ice. Bass must be alive when they are brought to the weigh-in. Dead fish will not be weighed-in. No hole sitting allowed, which means you cannot have another angler/boat holding a fishing spot for you. Tournament boats may be inspected by tournament officials at any time.

**TIES:** All Bi-Hourly ties will be broken by the earliest weigh-in time for that time slot. If weigh-in times are the same a tie breaker will be determined by earliest application entry. Ties for the overall big bass will be split evenly.

**PROTESTS:** All protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament Directors within fifteen (15) minutes of the official closing of scales.

**LEGAL CONCERNS:** The tournament sponsors, officers, employees, etc. will not be responsible for boating or water accidents. Each tournament contestant will be solely responsible for his/her Safety in inclement weather or any other potentially dangerous situation which may arise. The contestant assumes the risk of all damages or injury of any nature which may result from any source during the tournament. Should any contestant be a minor, a parent/guardian shall grant such release on the part of the

minor.

By contestant(s) signature on entry form and /or participation in these tournaments, the contestant(s) agree to polygraph testing at any time, if required by the Tournament Director. Refusal of an angler to submit to a test or failure of a test will result in loss of winnings, immediate disqualification, plus subsequent disqualification from future tournaments. Tests are mandatory for the overall big bass winners. Bi-Hourly winners will be chosen randomly