

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

Fish for the Wish Big Bass Challenge

Please read all official tournament rules and regulations prior to signing entry form and/or participating in the tournament (s). The following items will be checked when contestants weigh in, during boat checks. Violation of any rules regarding the following items will be cause for immediate disqualification: Fishing License - Boat Registration - Kill Switch - Horsepower Rating - Alcoholic Beverages.

The tournament will be held regardless of weather. Should conditions threaten safety, please use caution.

DECISIONS:

1. All decisions of the Tournament Director are FINAL.
2. All protest must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing within 15 minutes of the final designated weigh in.

INFORMATION:

1. All announcements concerning emergencies and hourly results will be broadcast on tournament website (www.bigbasschallenge.net). You can view the website on your smart phone from your boat.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. All State & Federal penal code laws shall apply at all times.
2. All State, Coast Guard, Federal Parks & Wildlife regulations shall apply at all times.
3. This tournament is designed primarily for amateurs, therefore, anyone who has fished a FLW Tour event or B.A.S.S. Elite tour event as a pro(boater) within the past 6 months of this tournament or anyone who has provided guide service for pay within the past 90 days of this official tournament lake, will not be eligible to compete in this tournament.
4. Contestants must have proof of a valid fishing license for said tournament lake on their person during tournament hours unless exempt. License must be presented at time of weigh-in.
5. Each person in boat must be a paid or sponsored contestant of official tournament and abide by all tournament rules and regulations unless approved by tournament officials.
6. No one other than contestants or tournament officials are permitted in a competitor's boat during tournament hours unless approved by tournament officials.
7. Any contestant found to be in violation of any tournament rules and regulations will be subject to disqualification from this tournament and all future tournaments.
8. All bass caught by contestants fishing together will be disqualified if any of the said contestants are found to be in violation of any tournament rules and regulations.

9. Any person who has been disqualified from any prior tournament may be subject to being refused entry into tournament.
10. Tournament officials have the right to refuse ANY ENTRY.
11. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or adult with written parental permission.

REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEE:

1. Entry form with complete entry fee must be received before fishing.
2. **NO REFUND UTION OF ENTRY FEES FOR ANY REASON.**

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

No alcoholic beverages are to be consumed by tournament contestant nor are alcoholic beverages allowed in contestants' boat during official tournament hours, unless tournament contestant is finished fishing/has had their boat inspection

SAFETY (THE FOLLOWING IS MANDATORY):

1. All boats must be equipped with some type of emergency ignition cut-off device (kill switch) on any remote steered outboard while main engine is in use. Ignition cut-off device (kill switch) must be attached to boat operator at all times while main engine is in use. Kill switch must operate properly. When the kill switch is activated; the outboard main engine must stop running immediately. However, kill switches are not required with hand operated engines unless equipped with one when manufactured.
2. Boat operator must show proof of valid registration.
3. US Coast Guard approved life jackets are required for each person in boat. Life jackets must be worn and fastened while main engine is in use.

PERMITTED FISHING AREAS & HOURS:

1. All bass caught during tournament hours each tournament day (7am-2pm) may only be weighed in during official tournament weigh in hours (7am-2pm) on that day. Weigh-In hours ae as follows:

First Cast – 7am

Any fish caught and weighed in before 9am will be counted for the 9am hour.

Any fish weighed in between 9am and 10am will be counted for the 10am hour.

Any fish weighed in between 10am and 11am will be counted for the 11am hour.

Any fish weighed in between 11am and 12pm will be counted for the 12pm hour.

Any fish weighed in between 12pm and 1pm will be counted for the 1pm hour.

Any fish weighed in between 1pm and 2pm will be counted for the 2pm hour.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WEIGH IN YOUR FISH WHEN YOU CATCH IT. YOU MAY WEIGH IN FISH ANY TIME DURING OFFICIAL WEIGH IN HOURS

2. No fishing is allowed during official "Off Limits" which begins at 8pm prior to each tournament day and ends at 7am of each tournament day.
3. Contestants may leave from any legal launch site. No casting until 7am official clock.
4. No fishing within 50 yards of a marina gas pump and no fishing within 50 yards of official weigh-in site. All state and local laws apply to off limits areas.

TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:

1. All bass must be caught on artificial bait by casting. No trolling with big motor. Only one rod at any one time may be used. Other rods may be in the boat for substitute purposes.
2. **If state and local lake regulations approve**, Alabama rigs are allowed. Alabama rigs may have a **maximum of 3 hooks** with no limit on dummy baits.
3. No electronic tracking devices (implanted microchips) may be used to locate fish for tournament purposes (Depth finders and graph charts are the only exception).

WEIGH IN SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONSERVATION:

1. Sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation are expected from every participant.
2. All bass weighed in will become the property of the Tournament and will be released back into the lake or turn over to a live tank each tournament day alive if possible.
3. All contestants shall be required to bring their boat and respective partner(s) with them to the weigh-in site when weighing in bass.
4. Trailering is permissible.
5. No bass on ice. Bass must be alive to be weighed in.
6. All bass brought to weigh in station must be in weigh in bag provided at registration with water.
7. No contestant may weigh in more than one bass at a time per tournament hour. Only one bass per weigh-in bag is allowed. Bass weighed in do not carry forward from hour to hour. Your biggest bass is registered into the final overall standings.
8. Bass must be weighed in by the angler who originally caught the bass and it must be in said angler's physical possession in the weigh-in line unless otherwise approved by a tournament official.
9. Any artificially weighed or preserved bass will be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to prosecution under federal laws.
10. Minimum length of bass ("Keeper") to be weighed in is 15 inches for Smallmouth, Largemouth bass and 12" Spotted (Kentucky) bass.

11. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth and Kentucky Spotted Bass (Black Bass) will be weighed in.
12. No contestant may have more than 2 bass (per angler in boat) in possession at any time during official Tournament hours. Only one bass at a time is allowed to be weighed in during any Tournament hour. An angler may NOT bring more than one fish to weigh-in together but may return to his/her boat to retrieve another fish to weigh if desired.
13. This is a mandatory catch and release program during Official Tournament hours. When bass weight has been officially determined that bass will be returned to lake waters immediately by a tournament staff member.
14. By entering this or any tournament managed by Soldier's Wish Big Bass Challenge contestants agree to and are subject to a polygraph test. The tournament officials reserve the right to randomly administer a polygraph test to any contestant weighing a fish.
15. Tournament waters are anywhere on the lake in which tournament is being held except within 50 yards of commercial docks and within 50 yards of official weigh-in site.

BOAT INSPECTION:

1. All anglers, by entering this Tournament, hereby agree to allow their boats to be boarded and inspected by Tournament officials at any time during said Tournament, and checked for items to include, but not limited to, their boat registration, Coast Guard horsepower rating plate, and boat contents to include live well, rod boxes, closed storage compartments, tackle boxes, life jackets, PFD's and safety equipment. Refer to checklist above.

PHOTOS & VIDEO FOOTAGE:

All anglers, by entering this tournament, hereby agree that any photo or video footage taken during tournament hours is the sole property of Soldier's Wish and the Fish for the Wish Big Bass Challenge.

*** The above mentioned rules are for your own safety ***

For additional information or rule verification please contact tournament staff

Office: 918.925.0136

Cell: 214.842.1420