

# OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

**1. RULE CHANGES:** Great effort, study, and research have gone into the formulation of rules. The following rules of these tournament officials shall be final in all matters.

**2. HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS:** All outboard motors used in this tournament competition WILL NOT EXCEED the horsepower limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard. Each boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer and the horsepower of the outboard engine must not exceed the rating specified on this rating plate.

**3. SAFETY:** Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by each contestant. Each contestant is required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver anytime the combustion engine is operating. This preserver must be snapped, zipped, or strapped and maintained in this position until the engine is shut off.

**4. BOATS:** All boats must be equipped with some type of ignition kill switch. It must be attached to the driver's body any time the engine is in operation. All boats must be 14 feet or more in length and judged seaworthy by tournament officials. Each boat must have a functional bilge pump and livewell. All bladder tanks or any type of auxiliary gas tanks that are not installed by the boat manufacturer are prohibited. Barges or similar cumbersome craft may be permitted only with approval of officials. All boats must have required U.S. Coast Guard equipment.

**5. SPORTSMANSHIP:** Sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation is expected from each contestant. Any infraction of the fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. Any protest must be submitted in writing within 15 minutes of the last person to weigh in. Tournament officials will judge the protest and their decision will be final. No alcohol or drugs of any kind are allowed in the boat or tournament site.

**6. TACKLE & EQUIPMENT:** Only one rod 8 feet or less may be used at any time. Only artificial lures may be used. Trolling is not allowed.

**7. LEGAL FISH:** All bass must be caught in a sporting manner and kept in an aerated livewell. All fish brought to the weigh-in site become sole property of the **SPORTSMAN'S WAREHOUSE**

**Fisherman's Dream Tournament** to be released back into tournament waters. No more than 5 bass may be brought to the scales.

**A. COMPLYING WITH THE TENNESSEE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION,** Largemouth and Kentucky Bass must be no less than 15 inches in length. Smallmouth Bass - 1 Smallmouth per contestant, no less than 18 inches in length. No more than two legal smallmouths will be permitted per boat.

**B. SHORT FISH:** CONTESTANT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED DUE TO VIOLATION OF STATE LAW.

**C. DEAD FISH:** No more than 2 dead fish per tournament boat. If more than 2 dead fish are brought to the scales, the largest of the dead fish will be culled from the contestant's bag before it is weighed. **EXAMPLES:** If the contestant has 5 dead fish, the 2 smallest fish will be weighed; 4 Dead Fish - The smallest 2 dead fish and the only live fish will be weighed; 3 Dead Fish - The 2 smallest dead fish and the 2 live fish will be weighed; 2 Dead Fish - All fish will be weighed but receive a penalty; If the contestant has one dead fish, all fish will be weighed but receive a penalty.

**D. PENALTY FOR DEAD FISH:** .50 or 1/2 lb. per dead fish will be subtracted from the boat's total weight.

**E. CULLING FISH: THE CULLING OF DEAD FISH IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED!**

**8. ABSOLUTELY NO HOLE-SITTING ALLOWED:** Results in disqualification.

**9. CONTESTANTS MUST REMAIN IN BOAT:** A contestant may not leave his/her boat to land a fish, recover snagged lures, or to push the boat to the other fishing locations.

**10. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** There will be no fishing allowed within 50 yards of any marina gas dock or 50 yards from another contestant's anchored boat. Trolling motor must be in a secured position (trolling motor up).

**11. LATE PENALTY:** Contestants who are not back at the official check-in point at the designated time will be penalized at the rate of 1 pound per minute up to 15 minutes, at which point they are disqualified for the day. No excuses will be accepted.

**12. BREAKDOWNS:** In case of a breakdown, both contestants must stay together. You may return in another contestant's boat or any official boat. You may not change boats during tournament hours. Trailering of a boat from location to another location during the tournament is strictly forbidden — no exceptions.

**13. CHECK-OUT PROCEDURE:** All boats will be checked out at the dock. All boats will be inspected. All kill switches, livewells, and running lights will be checked. **YOU MUST LEAVE YOUR RUNNING LIGHTS IN "ON" POSITION UNTIL YOU REACH YOUR FIRST FISHING DESTINATION.**

**14. WAVE-OFF:** You will be waved off one at a time, according to the numbered position you receive at the mandatory meeting held Friday night, May 5, 2023 at the Sportsman's Warehouse.

**15. CHECK-IN PROCEDURE:** A designated person will be stationed on the dock to check your boat in before trailering of boat. Failure to check in with the FDT officials will result in a loss of your total weight for the day. There will be no early check-in. Your boat must remain in tournament waters until check-in.

**16. TIES:** In the case of a tie in the overall tournament, it will be settled by the toss of a coin or option to split cash with combined position.

**17. BIG BASS HOURLY CONTEST:** There is not a limit on the number of times you can weigh in. There is not a limit on the number of hourly contests each contestant can win. In case of a tie in the hourly contest, the fish that is weighed in first is considered the winner for that hour. Fish cannot be carried forward to another hour. The fish is good only for the hourly contest it is weighed in for. The biggest fish weighed in during hourly contests (per hour, per contestant) may be included in the final tournament stringer weigh in. If an hour is not won, that prize will carry to the next hour. Prizes will carry forward until there is a winner.

**18. POLYGRAPH TEST:** Each participant agrees to submit by his or her signature on the official entry form to a polygraph test, if asked. Test must be passed before prizes are awarded.

**19. AGE:** For participants under the age of 18, the adult partner must assume full liability in all safety matters.

**20. TOURNAMENT HOURS:** First flight starts at safe daylight with the first flight weigh in at 2:00pm, with consecutive flights at 15 minute intervals.

**21. NO TRAILERING OF BOATS DURING TOURNAMENT HOURS.**

**22. TROLLING PROHIBITED** as a method of fishing.

**MANDATORY MEETING • Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm  
at Sportsman's Warehouse**



# OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

## FISHERMAN'S DREAM TOURNAMENT—May 6, 2023

**TOURNAMENT SITE:** Chickamauga Lake, Chester Frost Park, Hixson, Tenn.

**PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Nickajack, Watts Bar, and Chickamauga lakes.

**TOURNAMENT HOURS:** Starts at safe daylight; First Flight Weigh-in at 2:00pm.

TOURNAMENT MEETING (MANDATORY): FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023 - 6:00pm at the Sportsman's Warehouse.

Rules will be discussed. One fisherman per boat must be at mandatory meeting for flight listing. No exceptions. Final registration from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. *Make checks payable to SBA.*

☐ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Own A Boat? \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Motor & Horsepower: \_\_\_\_\_

Make of boat to be used in this tournament: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate box above next to your name if you are 18 and under.

**ENTRY FEE: \$150.00 per boat** ☐ Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

**BIG FISH POT: Voluntary \$10.00 per boat** ☐ Cash ☐ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Coin toss if tie or option of splitting cash)

*Entry fees are non-refundable. No exceptions. One or two fishermen permitted per boat.. Boat numbers and flights are assigned as entries are received prior to May 5th. All remaining entries will be drawn at meeting.*

By my signature fixed below to this Entry Form, I certify that I have read, understand, and will abide by the rules of this tournament. I hereby waive and release the officials, hosts, sponsors, agents, state, city, and county governments and all other contestants from any and all claims of injury and/or material and bodily damage incurred in connection with this tournament. I hereby agree to submit to any polygraph test. I hereby grant all newspaper, audio producers, etc, to use my name, voice, photographic likeness, and I shall not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. If under the age of 18 years, parent or legal guardian signature required.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Silverdale Baptist Academy Attn: Al Rogers 7236 Bonny Oaks Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37421**

**Pay in person: Sportsman's Warehouse Fishing Department**

For more information, call Brent Brady at (423) 718-0326 or Al Rogers (423) 322-5134.