Official Entry Application 61st Annual Texas State Bass Tournament

Angler 1 Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Email:	Phone
Angler 2 Name	[] Check if "Yout
Address	
Email:	Phone
Bass Club or High School Name	
ST* Boat Captain's Name	Cell #
[] Check here if your Team is entere	d as a "Bass Club Top 6"
Enter Me/Us In the Following Division (Check One):
TEAM	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
INDIVIDUAL	\$40 (after 4/11/16 - \$50)
COUPLES	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
ADULT/BOY	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
ADULT/GIRL	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
SENIOR TEAM	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
STUDENT TEAM ST*	\$50 (after 4/11/16 - \$60)
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My signature below reflects that I have read the Participant Agreement, Release, & Risk Acknowledgement, understand it completely, understand that it affects my legal rights, and agree to be bound by its terms. References herein to "I", "my", "myself", and other first-person references shall include any child or ward for whom I sign.

Signature:	(Angler 1)
Angler 1 Parent (If Minor):	
Signature:	(Angler 2)
Angler 2 Parent (If Minor):	

Mail with check or money order to: **Texas State Bass Tournament** 1025 Estates Drive Kennedale, TX 76060

TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT

Call 903-497-6887 or email info@texasstatebass.com for more information.

www.texasstatebass.com

Participant Agreement, Release, & Risk Acknowledgement

In consideration of The Texas State Bass Tournament allowing me to participate in this tournament, I acknowledge and agree as follows:

- 1. I have read and understand the description of the Tournament and the Official Rules of this Tournament. I will obey all rules and understand that any violation may result in immediate disqualification without refund of my entry fee.
- 2. I understand and acknowledge that competitive fishing is a dangerous sport, the risks of which include, though not exclusively, drowning, collisions in the water, and injuries from hooks and other fishing paraphernalia. I voluntarily assume responsibility for these risks, identified and not identified, and all risk of injury or death or damage to myself or my property or to others, including spectators and their property, arising from my participation in the tournament.
- 3. I hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless and indemnify The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials and its partners, agents of employees, and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions or rights of action which are related to, arise out of, or are in any way connected with my participation in this tournament, including specifically but not limited to the negligent acts or omissions of The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials, and its partners, agents or employees and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, for any and all injury, death, illness or disease, and other damage or loss to property suffered by myself or others. In signing this document, I acknowledge and agree that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged while I am engaged in this event, I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents or employees, the host, sponsors, officials and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, even if they or any of them negligently caused the bodily injury or property damage.
- 4. Any suit brought by me against The Texas Sate Bass Tournament as a result of my participation in this tournament will be brought in state or county court in Dallas County, Texas, where the principal office of The Texas State Bass Tournament is located. Should it become necessary for the Texas State Bass Tournament or someone on its behalf, to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, or any portion thereof, I agree to pay the reasonable costs and attorney's fees thereby expended, or for which liability is incurred.
- 5. I have sufficient health, accident and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage incurred by myself or others as a result of my participation in this event. If I have no such insurance, I represent that I am capable of paying for any and all such expenses or liability.
- 6. I have no past or present medication or psychological condition that might affect my participation in the tournament in such a way as to cause harm to myself or others.
- 7. I give The Texas State Bass Tournament permission to use my name and photograph for promotional purposes. I agree to submit to and accept the results of the polygraph test given at this event.

Established in 1956



Known for his engaging personality, down-home writing style and self-effacing humor, Earl Golding began his career as a sportswriter at the Tribune-Herald in 1949 and started covering outdoors sports the following year.

In 1955, during an era when recreational activities in Texas were on the rise at newly created reservoirs, Golding hatched the idea of a "bass tournament" to determine the best fisherman in Texas. Held. by invitation only, at the recently impounded Lake

Whitney, it was the first competitive bass tournament in the state and the first known competitive bass tournament in the nation. A total of 75 anglers were invited and 73 showed up to fish.

Golding noted in a 1998 Interview, "When word got out about the 1955 event, we got letters from all over the state saying they wanted to be involved. So the next year, we decided to make it the (Texas) State Bass Tournament." The Tournament has continued its tradition every year since, and for his vision, Golding was inducted into both the Texas State Bass Tournament Hall of Fame and the Texas Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame in 1998.

Over the years, the State Tournament added various competitive Divisions to encourage family and youth participation. As a result, the field today includes everyone from young anglers participating in their first tournament to seasoned veterans that are among the best in the state. Bucking the trend to lure anglers with high dollar prizes, the State Tournament draws contestants year-in and year-out with only one goal in mind: to join the ranks of other legendary anglers who have claimed the title as "Texas State Bass Fishing Champion".

Sponsors







TOLEDO BEND AREA TOURISM



Toledo Bend Accommodations

Fin & Feather Resort 409-579-2056 Super 8 Motel 409-625-3747 Sabine County Chamber of Commerce 409-787-2732

"THE WORLD'S OLDEST OPEN **BASS TOURNAMENT"**

61st Annual



Toledo Bend Reservoir Fin & Feather Resort April 23 & 24, 2016

******* **2015 State Champions**

Team Division: Leonard Watson (Ft. Worth) & Ricky Watson (Ft. Worth) Individual Division: Philip Jardell (Hemphill)

Couples Division: Chris & Kristine Baggett (Dayton) * Senior Team Division: Norman Terry (Jacksonville) &

Don Jones (Sandersville, GA)

Adult/Boy Division: Kenny & Weldon Sherrell (Rhome) ᄎ Adult/Girl Division: Wendell Bond (Burleson) &

Camille Rasor (Burleson)

Student Team Division: Emily Hamilton & Lesley Sallas

(Huntington High School)

Bass Club Competition: Westside Bass Club (Ft. Worth)

2015 Big Bass

TOVERALL: 1 Wendell Bond (Burleson) - 8.38 lbs 2 Dale Rabe (Arlington) - 7.91 lbs 3 Jim Binns (Hemphill) - 7.15 lbs

Hunter Muncrief (Pineland) - 4.02 lbs Boy: Girl: Camille Rasor (Burleson) - 4.87 lbs

TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT RULES

The following Tournament rules are established in the best interest of all fishermen and sponsors. The TSBT will be governed by these rules

- 1. RULES CHANGES: The following rules will remain unchanged throughout the event. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director. In the event of a rule violation the Director may impose such sanctions as he deems appropriate including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in future Tournaments. The decision of the Tournament Director will be final in all matters. It is at the Tournament Committee's discretion to make a change where safety is a concern. All Federal, State, and local laws must be obeyed and it is the contestant's responsibility to know these laws.
- 2. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: Any Fisherman currently or formerly residing in the State of Texas is eligible to fish, unless he or she has been a paid guide on the Tournament Lake in the 12 months prior to the Tournament dates. These guides will not be permitted to fish the TSBT. A guide may not be hired for the Tournament Lake within seven days prior to the Tournament.
- **3. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND DRUGS:** At no time during Tournament hours are any alcoholic beverages or drugs other than prescription allowed in the boat or to be consumed while on the water.
- 4. DIVISIONS: Anglers may enter only one of the following seven Divisions: INDIVIDUAL (if two Individual contestants fish together, each contestant must land his own fish); TEAM (both Team members must fish together in the same boat); COUPLES (same as TEAM); SENIOR TEAM (same as TEAM but both entrants must be over 60 years of age); STUDENT TEAM (same as TEAM, but entrants must be active students in Grades 9-12); ADULT/BOY and ADULT/GIRL (Youth must be under 17 years of age. Otherwise, same rules as TEAM).
- **5. SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules or any state or local laws, or brings unfavorable publicity to the sport of bass fishing will be disqualified. "Encroachment" is considered a violation of the Sportsmanship Rule.
- **6. REGISTRATION:** All contestants, including mail-in entries, must check in at Tournament Headquarters prior to the Tournament. Check-in and Late Registration will be open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Tournament.
- 7. BOATS & MOTORS: There is no horsepower limit; however, no engine may exceed the BIA horsepower rating for the boat on which it is used. All boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard and state regulations. All motor-powered boats must have an emergency kill switch. Extra gas tanks must be secured and must meet U.S. Coast Guard specifications. Adequate live wells, either built-in or portable, are mandatory on each boat and must provide aeration to maintain fish in good condition.
- **8. SAFETY:** Boating safety must be observed at all times during competition. A U.S. Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver must be on and fastened any time the combustible engine is operative, and the kill switch must be attached to the driver. It is both partners' responsibility to ensure adherence to these rules.
- **9. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** All fish must be caught in a legal sporting manner. Intentional snagging of fish is not be allowed. No trolling is permitted with outboard engine. Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait is permitted with the exception of pork rinds. Liquid fish attractants are allowed. Only one rod may be used at a time. Other rods may be in the boat and ready for use; however, every cast and retrieve must be completed before another cast is made.

TOURNAMENT RULES (cont'd)

The official measuring board for TSBT is the FLW Measuring Board. The use of electronic fish-tracking equipment cannot be used on practiceor competition days.

- 10. FISHING HOURS: The Tournament Committee shall specify the fishing hours for each Division according to safe light conditions and local custom. The hours chosen for this Tournament are provided separately as a part of the check-in packet. The weigh-in line will open 1 hour prior to the weigh-in deadline. In all two-person Divisions, the contestants must stay together during Tournament hours.
- 11. CATCHING OF FISH: Anglers in the INDIVIDUAL Division must catch and land his/her own fish. TWO-PERSON DIVISIONS may pool their catch to obtain the prescribed Daily Limit. At no time may any team or individual have in his/her possession more than the Texas State legal limit. In the event a competitor has more than the described Daily Limit in their possession at Weigh-in, Tournament officials will cull that competitor's catch, beginning with the largest bass first, down to the prescribed Daily Limit.
- 12. LIMITS AND SCORING: The <u>Daily Limits</u> are <u>5 FISH PER DAY PER TEAM</u> for the TWO-PERSON DIVISIONS. The <u>Daily Limit</u> for the <u>INDIVIDUAL DIVISION</u> is also <u>5 FISH PER DAY</u>. Each fish must measure 14 inches or longer. Scoring will be based on the weight in pounds and one-hundredths. Largemouth Bass, Kentucky Spotted Bass, and Smallmouth Bass will be counted. Fish will be measured on a flat board with mouth closed and tail compressed. A dead fish penalty of .50 lbs. per fish will be deducted from the total weight. Tournament standings will be determined by the total weight for the competition days of the Tournament. If a bass less that 14 inches in length is presented to the weigh-in officials, that bass will not be allowed and a 1.0 lb penalty will be assessed.
- 13. LATE PENALTY: Contestants who are not in the official check-in line on or before the appointed time will be disqualified for that day. You must be in the check-in line before your weigh-in time. Determining the exact check-in times and location with Tournament Staff will be responsibility of each contestant.
- **14. POLYGRAPH:** All contestants, winners, and non-winners, are subject to a polygraph test. Failure to submit to a polygraph test will result in immediate disqualification. Any contestant who has failed a polygraph test for cheating in connection with any bass tournament will not be eligible to compete in The Texas State Bass Tournament.
- **15. PROTESTS:** All protests must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.
- **16. CONSERVATION:** This is a primary concern of The Texas State Bass Tournament. Every effort will be made to release as many live fish as possible following weigh-in. Contestants must only use official weigh-in bags provided by The Tournament. Only five (5) fish are permitted per weigh-in bag and adequate water must be maintained in each bag to completely cover the fish.

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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TEAM DIVISION OVERVIEW & SUPPLEMENTAL RULES

- The HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TEAM DIVISION was created in 2014 to promote competition among high school age anglers. In 2016, the STUDENT TEAM competition was changed to a one-day (Saturday-Only) Event. All related awards will be presented following the Saturday Afternoon weigh-in.
- The Student Team Division is a <u>Saturday-Only Competition</u>. Twoangler Teams with an Adult Boat Captain.
- Open to student anglers in grades 9-12. The anglers are not required to be a member of an organized high school fishing club.
- Student Teams are required to provide their own Boat Captain.
- Student Teams are expected to provide their own fishing equipment and tackle, but Boat Captains are allowed to loan equipment and supplement tackle if needed.
- Student Teams will fish the same Saturday flight schedule as the TEAM and INDIVIDUAL Divisions.
- FUN-N-SUN will provide a \$2000 scholarship to be shared by the winning High School Team.

Other than the Supplemental Rules provided here, Student Teams will follow the *Texas State Bass Tournament* Rules and Regulations that apply to all competitors, and to the Saturday Schedule that applies specifically to the "TEAM DIVISION".

- A "Student Team" consists of two high-school age students in Grades 9-12. Each Student Team is to be escorted by an adult "Boat Captain" who is 21 years old or older.
- Each Student Team member must provide the written consent of his or her parent or guardian at Registration.
- 3. Boats must be at least 16' long with working live wells.
- Boat Captains are the only persons authorized to operate the combustion engine during the tournament day.
- Boat Captains will ensure that life vests are available for all students aboard their boat.
- All parties on the boat are to have life jackets zipped and the Boat Captain must have kill switch attached any time the combustion engine is in operation.
- Students are to sit in fixed passenger seats while the combustion engine is in gear.
- Boat Captains are to monitor weather conditions such as high wind or approaching storms, and to avoid or remove students from potential dangerous situations.
- Boat Captains are to keep a charged cell phone in the boat for emergencies. Each Captain's Cell number must be provided to the Tournament Registrar during Registration.
- At Registration, each Boat Captain is required to show Proof of Insurance with adequate liability coverage for the driver and all passengers.

APRIL 23-24, 2016 TOLEDO BEND RESERVOIR

TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN

All anglers <u>or their delegates</u> are required to check in under the Pavilion at Fin & Feather Resort between 4:00pm and 10:00pm on Friday, April 22. CHECK-IN IS MANDATORY.

All Student Team Boat Captains are required to provide "Proof of Insurance" during the Team's check-in process.

KEY TIMES

	Saturday	Sunday
First Cast	6:30 am	6:30 am
Weigh-In 1st Flight	3:00 pm *	1:00 pm *
Weigh-In 2nd Flight	3:30 pm	1:30 pm

1st Flight = Couples, Seniors, Adult/Boy, & Adult/Girl 2nd Flight = Individual, Team, & Student Team (Sat. Only)

AWARDS SUMMARY

Team Division	1st-20th Place
Individual Division	1st-6th Place
Husband-Wife/Couples Division	1st-15th Place
Student Team Division	1st-10th Place
Fun-n-Sun Scholarship to Top HS Team	\$2000
Adult/Boy Division	1st-5th Place
Adult/Girl Division	1st-5th Place
Senior Team Division	1st-3rd Place
Big Bass (Overall)	1st-3rd Place
Big Bass (Boy)	1st Place
Big Bass (Girl)	1st Place
Big Bass (Student Team)	1st Place
Bass Club Top Six	1st Place

TOURNAMENT EXTRAS

Saturday post-Tournament meal courtesy of *The No Frills Grill & Sports Bar, Strike King* Tackle
Packs, Tournament Caps, Door Prizes, and a Cold,
Hard Cash Drawing for Early Entries!

^{*} Scales open 1 hour before 1st Flight's weigh-in.