

65th ANNUAL TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT

October 9 & 10, 2021

Toledo Bend Reservoir @ Fin & Feather Resort

Key Times and Tournament Limits

Friday, October 8th

Check-in at Fin & Feather Resort (Mandatory**) 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Saturday, October 9th

All Divisions 6:30 AM First Cast (Sunrise @ 6:45 AM)
Couples, Adult/Boy, Adult/Girl & Sr. Team 3:00 PM Weigh-In ***
Individual & Team Divisions 3:30 PM Weigh-In ***
Tournament Dinner 3:00 PM Immediately after Weigh-in ****

Sunday, October 10th

All Divisions 6:30 AM First Cast (Sunrise @ 6:44 AM)
Couples, Adult/Boy, Adult/Girl & Sr. Team 1:00 PM Weigh-In ***
Individual & Team Divisions 1:30 PM Weigh-In ***
Awards Presentation***** After Final Weigh-In

The Tournament Director is available @ tbd during Tournament Hours.

Daily Limits: All Team Divisions: Five (5) fish per Team per day, 14 inches or longer
Individual Division: Five (5) fish per angler per day, 14 inches or longer

** All Tournament participants or their delegate must check in at the Fin & Feather Resort Tournament Headquarters on Friday from 4-10 pm.

*** Weigh-in for all Divisions will be at the Fin & Feather Resort Boat Ramp. The scales will be open 1 hour prior to the above weigh-in times.

**** The traditional Saturday dinner will begin at 3:00 PM and conclude around 5:00 PM at Headquarters. Subject to availability all contestants and their guests will receive a meal at no cost. Contestants must weigh their fish prior to eating.

***** The Tournament Awards Presentation and door prize drawings will be held near the weigh-in area. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN DOOR PRIZES.

Texas State Bass Tournament Rules

The following rules of this Tournament 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 changes 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: This is an "Open Tournament": all Texas licensed or exempt anglers are eligible to fish except an angler who has received "Guide Pay" on the Tournament Lake in the 12 months prior to the Tournament. A guide may not be employed on the Tournament Lake within seven days of 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: All contestants must include at least one entrant age 18 or older. Anglers may enter only one of the following Divisions: **INDIVIDUAL** (if two Individual Division contestants fish together, each must land his/her 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 age 60 or over); **ADULT/BOY and ADULT/GIRL** (Youth must be age 16 or younger. 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. Delegation to a proxy for check-in is allowed.

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. 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 running, and the kill switch must be attached to the driver. Both partners are responsible for adherence to these rules.

9. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: All fish must be caught in a legal sporting manner. Intentional snagging of fish is not 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.

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 scales will open 1 hour prior to the first flight's scheduled Weigh-In Time. In all two-person Divisions, the contestants must stay together during Tournament hours unless approved in advance by the Tournament Director.

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 Daily Limit in their possession at Weigh-in, Tournament officials will cull the catch, beginning with the largest bass first, down to the prescribed Daily Limit.

12. LIMITS AND SCORING: The Daily Limit is 5 FISH PER DAY PER TEAM for the TWO-PERSON DIVISIONS. The Daily Limit for the INDIVIDUAL DIVISION is also 5 FISH PER DAY. 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 than 14 inches in length is presented to the weigh-in team, the 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 locations will be the responsibility of each contestant.

14. POLYGRAPH: All contestants 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 use only the 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.

17. BASS CLUB COMPETITION: To be eligible for the Bass Club Top 6 Competition (BCT6), the Club must have conducted a minimum of four (4) separate Bass Club Competitions within the prior 12 months. The Club may choose its BCT6 competing anglers by whatever means it wishes as long as they are registered Club Members.