

2005 Team Rules

1. **RULES:** The following rules for the 2005 season will be interpreted solely by the tournament director. The Director reserves the right to reject any entry if he feels that it is not in the best interest of **Your Group Name**. Entry forms must be completely filled out and signed by BOTH contestants. Any announcements made at the tournament site take precedent over written rules. In case of breakdown, or early departure from the tournament lake, the team doing so must contact the tournament director or appointed staff member. Failure to do so will result in the loss of any points earned at that tournament.
2. **ELIGIBILITY:** All individuals, 18 years of age or older with a paid entry fee and a current paid membership of **Your Group Name** is eligible to fish. A parent or legal guardian must accompany any one under 18 years of age or with written parental consent. There are open events. Team will consist of one (1) person per boat or two (2) people per boat.
3. **ENTRY FEE:** Entry fees are \$100.00, with an optional \$10.00 big bass pot to be split three (3) ways. You can reserve your boat number for any event or for the full season with a deposit of \$20.00 per event. **There will be a late fee of \$20.00 for entries received after the Tuesday prior to the event paid for. If remaining entry fee, in addition to the deposit, are not paid in full by Tuesday prior, the late fee will be imposed. No exceptions.** No refunds unless cancellation by the director. There will be a yearly membership fee of \$20.00 per person.
4. **PAYBACKS:** **Your Group Name** will pay one place for every eight (8) team entered into the tournament with a maximum of 25 cash places being paid regardless the number of teams entered.
5. **CHECK-IN and PRE-MEETING:** **ONE TEAM MEMBER MUST CHECK IN THE MORNING OF TOURNAMENT! FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.** A pre-meeting will take place on the water approximately ten (10) minutes prior to the official start.
6. **POINTS:** Each team will automatically receive 10 show up points. In addition to show up points, first place will receive 300 points, second place 299 points, and so on. Overall team points will be based on five (5) tournaments. Each team must select one division to fish. The division selections must be noted on all tournament entry forms. All points earned will be assigned to the selected division.
7. **DIVISIONAL POINTS CHAMPIONS:** The divisional points champions will be decided on all six (6) tournaments in a division. The open division will be the best six (6) tournaments. This is only for point divisional champions. The divisional points champions will receive six (6) free entries into the 2004 season.
8. **CLASSIC QUALIFICATION:** To be eligible to qualify for the classic, a team must fish at least 5 tournaments. The top 40% of the overall field of teams in each division will be eligible to qualify for the Classic, with the exception of the Open division. The overall field in each division will consist of all teams that fish one (1) or more qualifying tournaments during the year. Overall team points will be based on their best five (5) tournaments.
 - a) **OPEN DIVISION:** To be eligible to qualify for the Classic a team must fish at least five (5) tournaments. **Your Group Name** will qualify the top 40% fro the overall field of teams that fished three (3) or more qualifying tournament. Overall team points will be based on their best five (5) tournaments.
 - b) **Your Group Name** reserves the right to qualify up to five (5) teams per division as wildcards when deemed necessary.
9. **PARTICIPATION and ALTERNATES:** Alternates need not be members of **Your Group Name** until they fish their second event. A team may use two (2) alternates within the year. One team member must fish at least 5 tournaments—partner must fish at least four (4) to qualify for the classic. **ALTERNATES MAY NOT FISH IN THE CLASSIC.**
10. **DRAW BOATS:** The draw boat will be given away at the 2005 Classic. Must be present to win.

11. **SCORING:** Largemouth, small mouth, and spotted bass will be scored, five (5) fish limit, lake rules apply. Any frozen or iced fish presented for weigh in will result in immediate disqualification. Short fish will result in a one (1) pound penalty plus the loss of the fish. The use of ice in a live well as a cooling agent in hot water is permitted. The dead fish penalty will be one (1) pound penalty per fish. No more than five (5) fish are allowed in live well (in possession) at any time. Anyone bringing more than five (5) fish to the weigh-in scales will not be allowed to weigh in ANY fish. Courtesy bumping will NOT be allowed at the official weigh station. A courtesy bump board may be provided near the weigh in line. Once fish are turned over to the weigh-in officials, contestants cannot touch ANY fish again except to choose the big fish of the stringer for weighing. Lake of the Ozarks note: 12 inch Kentucky's will continue to be allowed unless changed the morning of the tournament. Make sure that it is a Kentucky if it is less than 15 inches. If it is not a Kentucky and less than 15 inches, you will receive a short fish penalty and also be subject to a fine from the State for possessing an illegal (short) fish.
12. **POLYGRAPH:** All contestants, by signing the official entry form, consent to receive a voice-stress, or polygraph test. Tests will be given at random at the tournament director's discretion. Anyone who fails the test will be immediately disqualified.
13. **SPORTSMANSHIP and SAFETY:** Safe fishing and safe boating practice are expected during tournament hours. Life jackets and the outboard kill switch must be used any time the boat's motor is running at above an idle. No alcohol or controlled substance can be used or allowed in the boat during the tournament hours. Take off may be delayed or cancelled due to unsafe conditions as determined by the tournament director.
14. **PROTEST:** All protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within fifteen (15) minutes of the weigh-in completion. The appointed Tournament Advisory Board will handle all protests.
15. **LATE PENALTY:** One pound per minute, up to ten (10) minutes, then disqualification.
16. **TIES:** All ties will be broken by 1) Big Bass, 2) Most fish weighed in, and Last 3) By earliest entry.
17. **TACKLE and EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures and pork lures are allowed. Rod and reel fishing only, one rod in use at a time. All boats must be equipped with an operable kill switch attached to the big engine. All rules (laws) for the particular body of water must be obeyed.
18. **BOATS and MOTORS:** Any boat 14 feet or longer powered by a motor 10 horsepower or more with a kill switch will be accepted. Kill switches must be in good working condition. All boats must meet B.I.A. and Coast Guard requirements. No over powered boats. Each boat must have a functional bilge pump and properly aerated live well.
19. **LOCATIONS:** Anywhere on the tournament lake, except 50 yards of another contestant's anchored boat, 50 yards from any gas pump or public dock, and any designated off limits. No trailering of the boat during tournament hours without consent of the director.
20. **INSURANCE:** Boat owners must have at least \$100,000.00 of Boating Liability Insurance. Proof of insurance may be asked for at any time and may be a question on the polygraph test.
21. **PRE-MEETING:** Ten (10) minutes prior to take off on the water. Idle by live well checks may take place at any time either on or off the water. Any extreme violations will be grounds for disqualification from this and future events.
22. **KNOWLEDGE OF THESE RULES IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH CONTESTANT.** Failure to read these rules or ignorance of them is no excuse.

NOTE: This is a SAMPLE SET OF TOURNAMENT RULES only. Final wording should be as directed by the insured's counsel, but observe the principles represented within the above.