RULES

The following rules for the tournaments will be used. These rules will be interpreted solely by the Tournament Committee and all decisions are final. All Missouri State Conservation and Water Patrol regulations do apply.

Tournament Committee: The Tournament Committee shall consist of the Tournament Director and ten (10) committeemen. The Tournament Committee will be responsible for the weighing and for resolving any disputes. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to appoint partners in specific circumstances. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reject any entry. Any unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive language could result in suspension from future tournaments.

Safety: Safe boating and fishing practices must be observed by all participants at all times. During the take-off, all contestants are REQUIRED to wear a life jacket, which must be securely fastened. All boats must have the appropriate Coast Guard safety devices.

Permitted Fishing Locations: Fishing is permitted anywhere within the Tournament Lake, except that no contestant is allowed to fish within 50 yards of another contestant if he is anchored. Tackle and Equipment: Only artificial bait or lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait may be used other than pork or pork-type bait. No trolling is permitted. Only one rod may be used at one time. All bass must be caught on rod and reel. A landing net may not be used. All fish must be caught and landed from the boat.

Scoring: Only Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass and Smallmouth Bass will be counted. Total stringer will determine place. Any bass that does not measure will cause 2 lbs. to be subtracted from the stringer weight. Bass must be 15 inches long and no more than 6 fish per boat may be weighed in. Each contestant is expected to take the utmost care of his fish so that all living bass may be returned to the lake. No frozen or mangled fish will be submitted for weigh-in. Any such fish will be deducted and turned over to the Tournament Committee for review. Any contestant doing so will be disqualified and subject to disciplinary action by the Tournament Committee. After the contestant submits his or her fish to be weighed in, the contestants will not be allowed to touch or handle the fish again. Decision on short fish will be made by the official weighmaster. A courtesy board will be available to all contestants prior to weigh-in. Measuring will be conducted by closed mouth and pinched tail. Flat measuring boards will be used as official measuring. All live tournament fish will be returned to the lake, except for 5 lb. trophy fish to be mounted by contestant. A 2 lb. penalty per dead fish will be deducted from the total stringer weight.

Check-In Late Penalty: All boats must check-in by 4:00 p.m. Late contestants will be penalized 1 pound per minute up to 10 minutes, then disqualification. Contestants must check in from the same boat they used for take off.

Eligibility: No one will be eligible to participate in the tournament who receives more than 50% of his/her gross annual income from tournament prize money, or if they receive payment for guide services.

Protests: Any contestant wishing to protest the conduct or score of a fellow contestant must do so in writing and file the same with the Tournament Committee, within 30 minutes after his flight is scheduled for weigh-in. The Tournament Committee may, on its own motion, take up and decide questions relating to any contestant's conduct and score. ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.