

**Highlands County Sheriff's Office  
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bass Tournament  
October 28, 2018**

**1. Eligibility**

This is a team tournament. Only two adult participants per boat. Up to two children under the age of 16 are permitted to accompany licensed adult fisherman. Two participants are required to be in each boat at least one of which must be a licensed adult.

**2. Entry Fee**

\$100 per team. This includes automatic entry into the Big Bass competition.

**3. Registration**

Boats will take off in the order in which completed entries are received. Participants may pay and/or register at the ramp on the morning of the event. Entries will not be considered completed until the signed entry form has been turned in and the entry fee has been paid.

Participants paying the day of the event must pay in exact cash.

**4. Tournament Hours**

Safe light to 1:00 PM. All boats must be in the basin prior to designated return time or they will be disqualified. NO Exceptions! When returning at the end of the tournament, each team is required to check in at the weigh in station whether you have fish to be weighed or not. The Tournament Director shall have the right to delay the start of the tournament. **The public is invited to the weigh-in ceremony.**

**5. Tackle/Equipment**

Except for pork rind, only artificial lures may be used. Only one rod (not to exceed 8' in length) and reel per person may be used at one time. Trolling (as a method of fishing) is prohibited (may use trolling motor). All bass must be caught in a traditional manner. Penalty for dead fish is .5 pound per fish. There is no size limit. Any team with more than three (3) fish brought to weigh in will be disqualified. No culling at the ramp. No team is to possess more than a limit of four (4) Bass at one time.

**6. Boat**

Each boat will be inspected prior to take off to ensure that it meets US Coast Guard regulations, that it has a running aerated live well, and that running lights are operational. If lights are not operational, the boat will go out last. Each person must wear a US Coast Guard approved life vest at all times the boat's combustion engine is running.

**7. Fishing Areas**

An angler may not leave his or her boat except in an emergency. All water that is accessible by boat is permitted. No fishing is permitted within 50 yards of any competitor's boat that has its anchor down and trolling motor up-use good sportsmanship! No fishing inside boat basin or check-in site. No fishing in areas designated off-limits by State or Local agencies.

**8. Catch & Release**

Every effort must be made to keep Bass alive. All Bass caught in tournament must be open water released in a minimum of 4' of water, as per State requirements. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**9. Golden Rule**

All fish measured on a golden rule with mouth closed and tail fanned. 3 fish limit, 12" minimum. At no time is anyone to have more than 4 fish in the live well. (Cull on your 4<sup>th</sup> fish)

**10. Scoring and Awards**

Winners will be determined by pounds and hundredths of an ounce.

**11. Laws**

All Federal, State, and Local laws and ordinances must be followed by all participants. Absolutely no alcohol or illegal drugs are permitted on any boat participating in the tournament. Any violations will result in immediate disqualification.

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Daytime contact phone \_\_\_\_\_ Payment is \$100 per team

Name \_\_\_\_\_ No Refunds – Rain or shine

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Circle 2 shirt sizes (Sizes are adult men's)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ S M L XL XXL XXXL

Address \_\_\_\_\_ S M L XL XXL XXXL

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The signature above release all sponsors, The Highlands County Sheriff's Office, County of Highlands, and all officials, organization and/or any other individuals regarding this event from any and all liabilities, damages, claims, or demands caused by my participation in the event. I further agree to abide by the rules of this tournament without exception.

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Official Use Only Below this line.

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Form of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned Team Number: \_\_\_\_\_