

More 2 Life Ministries Team Tournament Trail

Tournament Rules

PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: Participants should be at least 18 years of age. If a participant is under the age of 18 years, his or her partner must be of adult age and the adult partner must assume liability in all matters. All participants should familiarize themselves with FS 327.395 (Florida Boating License Requirements) prior to operating a gas-powered motor.

PRE-ENTRY: Boat numbers for launch sequence are determined as entry monies are received. Entries shall be delivered to Garrard's Tackle Shop 4375 S Hwy 441, Okeechobee, FL 34974. If full entry has not been received by tournament date, you will be expected to pay all remaining entry fees at the ramp in cash to the tournament official assigned to said task. The tournament director or assistant director has the right to reject any tournament entry.

FEES: Entry fees are \$175.00 per boat. Optional entry into Big Fish is additional \$25.00 per boat.

PAYBACK: The big fish pot will have a 100% payback. Sixty dollars from the entry fee will go to the "Classic Fund". Fifteen dollars of the entry fee will go to More 2 Life Ministries Inc. The payback to the field will be 100% of the remaining balance. One place will be paid for every seven boats entered. See Payback Schedule at the end of rules.

TEAM MEMBERS: Each boat is limited to two (2) team members; a Boater and a Partner. A boater may fish alone if he or she so desires.

QUALIFYING FISH: A limit of fish will be five (5) largemouth black bass with **14" minimum length**.

PENALTIES: Competitors who present a bass for weigh-in that is determined to be under the 14: minimum length requirement will be automatically disqualified from that day's competition. Competitors who present a bass for weigh-in that is determined to be dead shall accrue a penalty of .50 of a pound or 8 ounces from their total weight. If the dead fish is also the big fish the same penalty will be given towards the big fish pot. Any bass that appears to have been taken unlawfully, mangled, mashed, mauled, or snatch hooked will be weighed at the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director. Bass must not be placed on a stringer or on ice at any time. A dead fish may not be culled. At the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director, any dead fish may become the property of the tournament. Competitors who are not in the official check in area, which is determined by the tournament director, within the time allowed shall be penalized one pound per minute from their big fish, and aggregate total. After fifteen (15) minutes have elapsed, the daily catch will be disqualified. Any team submitting more than five (5) fish to the scale will be penalized by having the entire day's catch disqualified. All protests must be sworn to in writing and accompanied by a \$200 deposit prior to the issuance of awards at any tournament. Deposit may be refunded pending outcome of polygraph and determination of a rules violation.

LEGAL METHOD OF TAKING BASS: Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait, prepared bait, cast nets, bread, or baiting pellets will be permitted on or within tournament boats with the exception of pork

stripes, rinds, or other baits similar to such baits. Only one (1) casting, spinning, or spin casting rod and reel combination may be used at any one time. Others may be in the boat, but only one rod per team member can be in use at any one time. The rod may not exceed eight (8) feet in overall length. All bass must be caught live and in conventional sporting manner during tournament hours. Foul hooking of bass will not be permitted. Trolling is not permitted. Dip nets are permitted for their lawful intended use. Any violation of this section will result in immediate disqualification.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All persons participating within the tournament must display only the highest form of sportsmanship and fairness. Any intentional actions conducted by any party to include retaliation of any previous action may lead up to and include verbal warning, written warning, disqualification of daily catch, and possibly the revocation of future opportunities to participate in any More 2 Life Team Tournament events. All disciplinary actions taken by the director are final. All participants are subject to being asked to submit to an examination to determine the truth in any instance the director deems necessary. Refusal to or not making oneself readily available to submit to such examination will result in a disqualification. Such examination may or may not be on the date of the tournament. No protest will be received once the rewards ceremony has commenced.

BOATING SAFETY: All boats must meet all U.S. Coast Guard requirements. All boaters will abide by all Federal, State, and Local laws governing the operation of a vessel. Boats must be equipped with operable ignition kill switch. The safety kill lanyard must be affixed to the driver of the boat during those times in which the gas engine is in operation. Each competitor is required to wear an U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation device during times the gas engine is in operation. Each boat must be equipped with an operable live well capable of maintaining a limit of fish alive during tournament hours. No beverages containing alcohol will be allowed on any boat associated with the tournament during tournament hours. No person who has the appearance of being under the influence of an intoxicant will be permitted to occupy any vessel associated with the tournament. Any violation of the above safety rules will be grounds for immediate disqualification. No canoes, kayaks, air boats, or pontoon boats allowed. No fishing from an elevated platform during tournament hours.

ANGLER OF THE YEAR POINTS / SCORING: All participants are eligible to win up to 100 points per tournament. One hundred (100) points will be awarded to the winner of each tournament towards the Angler of the Year contest. Each subsequent place will receive one less point than the person finishing ahead of them. For example, first place receives 100 points, second place receives 99 points, third place receives 98 points, until all persons who have weighed in fish have received their perspective points. Any team who did not weigh fish will be awarded ten less points than the last place team having weighed fish. In the event of a tie, the teams that are tied will share the points of both their's and the next place resulting in a 0.5 of a point being rewarded.

CLASSIC / CLASSIC QUALIFICATION: Each team must participate in four (4) out of the five (5) tournaments to be considered qualified for the Classic. Teams may have one substitute partner or may opt to fish solo for the qualifying tournaments. Team cannot use a substitute partner for the classic unless that substitute has fished as part of the qualifying team in at least one prior qualifying tournament this series. If a substitute has not been used prior to the classic, they will not be allowed to participate in the classic. You may opt to fish solo in the classic.

PAYBACK SCHEDULE:

# OF BOATS	PLACES	PERCENTAGE TO PAY OUT						
1 - 7	1	100%						
14 - 20	2	60%	40%					
21 - 27	3	50%	30%	20%				
28 - 34	4	50%	27%	15%	8%			
35 - 41	5	48%	27%	12%	8%	5%		
42 - 48	6	44%	26%	11%	8%	6%	5%	
49 - 55	7	43%	25%	10%	7%	6%	5%	4%