

Big ACCE Bass Tournament

Rules

TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

The 2022 BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT IS AN ALL “OPEN” TOURNAMENT WITH NO MEMBERSHIP SPECIES ARE LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, AND SPOTTED BASS ONLY

1. Participants:

Tournaments are open to anyone over 18 years of age. Anyone less than 18 years of age you must be accompanied in the boat by someone over 18 years of age. Anglers currently fishing the Elite Series of B.A.S.S., the FLW Tour Events are not eligible to participate in The 2022 BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT, either as an angler or as a substitute. The BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT is open to all boat makes, models. The Tournament Director and other tournament officials are permitted to fish any tournament.

2. Tournament Entry Fees:

ENTRY FEE IS \$100.00 PER TEAM. Big Fish Pot Sponsored by Edward Jones Investments, Andy Owens

3. Tournament Director: The tournament director decisions are final.

4. BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT Teams:

A team consists of two anglers. You may also choose to can fish solo.

5. Substitutes:

A substitute fisherman may fish in the case of 1 absent pre-registered team angler.

6. Ties:

Ties for all place finishes will be split between tied teams.

7. No Live Bait:

Only artificial lures can be used. The use of pork trailers is permitted.

8. Trollng:

Trollng with the use of a combustible engine as a method of fishing is prohibited. A team found to be doing this would be disqualified for the tournament.

9. Boat and Motor:

Boats must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment and must have a motor within rating limits. There is a maximum horsepower limit of 250.

10. Short Fish Penalties:

All fish brought to weigh-in must be legal length as pre-determined for the tournament. Short fish will be culled from bag.

CLAYTOR LAKE TOURNAMENTS – LARGE & SPOTTED BASS MUST BE 12”; SMALLMOUTH 14”.

11. Limits:

This is a 5-fish limit (per team or when fishing alone) at each tournament. Exceptions: State laws prevail when fishing on any body of water (size and limits). Anyone bringing in more than a 5-fish will have their sack culled to the 5-fish limit starting with their big fish first. All culling must be outside the check-in area – Not on the bank.

12. Dead Fish Penalty:

For each dead fish a **1/2-pound penalty** will be deducted from your total weight. A dead fish will not be weighed-in as big fish. Tournament director will make final decision if fish is dead or not. Fish that appears altered or mangled shall be the tournament director’s decision to weigh or not to weigh the fish.

13. Late to weigh-in:

Teams that are late will not be allowed to weigh fish. Teams must be check in at the starting point at or before their designated times. Any team not present and checked by tournament ending time will not be allowed to weigh fish and disqualification will be given. Tournament Director Decisions are final.

14. Registration:

Teams may pre-register and pay online at www.nr.edu/acce/bass through October 13, 2022. On-site registration at the event will begin at 6:00 am. REGISTRATONS AT THE TOURNAMENT SITE WILL BE CASH ONLY.

PRE-REGISTERED TEAMS WILL DRAW FOR THEIR TAKE OFF POSITION based on the number of pre- registrations received. Day-of registration take off positions will be determined in the order the payment is received. All teams are required to be at the ramp 30 minutes prior to the start of the tournament.

15. Weigh-in procedures:

Each team must present his or her own catch to the weigh-in official. No other person shall then handle the fish except a weigh-in official. No person other than weigh-in officials may touch the scales; weigh-in basket or any part of the weigh-in equipment.

16. Live well Inspection:

Boats must have a live well, either built into the boat or portable. Live wells must have some type of pump or circulator to keep fish alive. Prior to boat launch Tournament Official will check all live wells.

17. Life Preserver:

During the BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT, contestants are required to wear Coast Guard approved life preserver with kill switch lanyard attached any time combustion engine is running, failure to do so will result in disqualification.

18. Sportsmanship:

All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation. Fighting, arguing, drunkenness shall be cause for immediate disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs shall be allowed in the boats during the tournament hours extending through the close of the weigh-in.

19. Off-Limits:

The tournament director will designate off-limit areas. Any team fishing in the off-limits areas will be disqualified from the tournament. Teams may not fish closer than 50 yards to another competitor who is anchored with the trolling motor up unless given permission. If permission is given to one, then all may fish same water. Having a non-contestant sit on a hole for you shall be cause for disqualification.

20. Weigh-In / Check-In:

All teams must be inside and checked in at their designated time of tournament time. Contestants not inside the check-in area by appointed time will not be allowed to weigh fish and will be disqualified. Tournament director will hold final decision on team being late.

21. Leaving Your Boat:

Competitors shall always remain with the partners in the boat during the tournament. Except in the event of sickness or brief excursions for "nature calling", a severe storm or other such hazards. If for any reason a team decides to leave the tournament waters early, competitors must try to contact the director, prior to leaving the tournament. If you have boat trouble, one member must remain with the disabled boat. The other team member may board another competitor's boat with that day's catch and bring fish to weigh-in. Please contact the tournament director prior to doing so.

22. Polygraph:

Polygraph test may be given at each event. All Polygraph results are final and failure of polygraph will result disqualification. All teams will be required to take a Polygraph test upon request of Tournament Director. Refusal to do so will result in immediate disqualification and lifetime ban from fishing any future BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENTS. Anyone caught cheating in any tournament event will be immediately barred from fishing in any BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT. We reserve the right to have a random truth verification test performed at any time. You may not use a cell phone to gain an advantage over the rest of the competitors.

23. Protest:

All protest must be submitted in writing to Tournament Director before the close of weigh-in. Verbal protest will not be accepted.

24. State Rules:

All State rules and regulations must be followed. The Tournament Director shall determine the penalty for breaking a State rule or regulations.

25. Insurance:

All participants will carry liability insurance on any boat they might use during the BIG ACCE BASS TOURNAMENT. Failure to do so or reporting of false information will result in disqualification. Participants must include the company name and the agent binding the coverage on the registration form.

26. Payout:

All monetary prize winners will be recorded and photographed after weigh-in. Checks will be written by New River Community College Educational Foundation the Monday following the tournament and may be picked up at the Dublin Campus or mailed at the winners discretion.

26. Publicity:

All participants understand and agree that they can be photographed, interviewed, recorded, quoted, or broadcast over airways or by printed material with no royalties nor compensation due them.

27. Rule Changes & Amendments

These rules can be amended or changed by the Tournament director at any time.