



7th Annual Trinity Outdoors Bass Classic Rules & Regs
Saturday May 1, 2021 @ St. James Parish Boat Club



- 1.) **Eligibility:** The tournament is open to all (**TWO PEOPLE**) to fish as a TEAM, providing the person operating the combustion engine is 18 years old or older. An adult choosing a minor as a partner will take full responsibility for that minor. All anglers required by law to possess a fishing license must hold a valid fishing license. **High School Division** must follow all Louisiana High School Division Rules.
 - Adult Team Entry \$115.00 entry includes Big Bass (100% payback 1st & 2nd)
 - High School Division \$65.00 entry includes Big Bass (100% payback 1st & 2nd)
- 2) **Applications:** Applications will be accepted through online registration, by mail, and the morning of the tournament at **St. James Parish Boat Launch**. To register online, please visit www.trinitydisabledadventures.com, click on the online events page and click the PDF option (we are in the process of providing online registration) and follow instructions to complete. Mail in entries need to be postmarked no later than **April 25, 2021**. To register the morning of the event, please see the check in table at the St. James Parish Boat Launch (\$25.00 late fee).
- 3) **Pre-Tournament Briefing:** There will be a **April 29, 2021** VIRTUAL Captain's Meeting or Pre-Tournament Briefing for this event. A link will be sent to you to join. We are encouraging at least a representative from your team to attend tournament rules briefing, off-limits areas and any other special information will be posted online as well as at the check in table the morning of the tournament.
- 4) **Check-in:** Angler Check-In will take place the morning of the tournament, **May 1, 2021** at **St. James Parish Boat Launch** in front of the boat club. A drive up system will be in tact to insure everyone is able to launch and park safely. All teams must be checked in between **4:00 am & 6:30 am**. Boats will go through inspection, life jackets must be visible, running lights in and working, and live wells will be checked. Each tournament boat will receive a **trolling motor ribbon & boat number chip (handed in at the end of tournament)** indicating they have been checked and are fishing the tournament. **ANGLERS MUST LAUNCH AT St. James Parish Boat Launch**
- 5) **Trailer:** NO TRAILERING.
- 6) **Fishing Hours:** Tournament will begin at approximately **Safe Light**. **In the event of different flights**, boat numbers will be called one at a time as boats are released from take-off. We will take off from a designated location on each side of the beginning of BLIND RIVER. This direct location will be disclosed the morning at Check-In. All fish weighed in must be caught the day of the tournament (during official hours). Weigh in will begin at **2:30 pm** at **St. James Parish Boat Launch**. Anglers must hang their Chip on the *Check-In Board* to be considered Officially Checked-In. **In the event of different flights** will be due in 15-minute intervals. 1st Flight **2:30**, 2nd Flight **2:45**, 3rd Flight **3:00**, 4th Flight **3:15**, 5th Flight **3:30** pm. (see **15 Penalties** for late penalty assessment)
- 7) **Safety:** Safe boat conduct and all safety precautions must be observed at all times. Unsafe operation of a boat could disqualify the team. All boats must be equipped with USCG approved life jackets, which must be worn secured when a combustible engine is in gear. In an emergency or when it dictates, one or both anglers may take their catch and get into another tournament boat. All boats must be equipped with approved running lights and working engine kill switch.
- 8) **Sportsmanship:** All Competitors are expected to show courtesy to other competitors and non-competitors alike. **NO ALCOHOLIC** beverages or **ILLEGAL DRUGS** will be allowed in boats during tournament hours. Drunkenness & LOUD MOUTHS will not be tolerated. ***IF Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, has been known to have been drinking on the water and violates these rules, or violates the Fish and Game laws of the State of Louisiana can be disqualified.***
- 9) **Tackle:** Only artificial lures can be used. No prepared or live bait, other than pork rind strips may be used. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional manner using a rod and reel. No trolling will be permitted at any time during tournament hours. A contestant may use only one rod at any one time. Other rods may be in the boat for substitute purposes. Maximum rod length shall be eight (8) feet.



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- 10) **Boat Equipment:** Safety equipment adequate to pass Coast Guard regulation must be in the boat at all times. All boats must be equipped with a combustible **OUTBOARD** engine (NO surface drives, jet drives, or inboard engines allowed), functional emergency kill switch, and live well. No combustible engine that exceeds the BIA horsepower rating for said boat will be allowed. Carelessness or unsafe operation of any boat and motor shall not be tolerated and is grounds for disqualification. Each boat should have a functional bilge pump and aerator. Attempts must be made to keep the fish alive.
- 11) **Pre-Tournament Practice:** There is no off-limit period before the tournament. Anglers are not permitted to catch bass anytime before the tournament and transport them to be released in another part of tournament waters, in the effort to establish a population of bass in a selected area.
- 12) **Permitted Fishing Water:** **Blind River & Connecting Waterways NOT TO GO PASS Lake Ponchatrain Causeway Bridge.** All creeks, canals, and navigable waterways are open to the **PUBLIC** shall be permitted fishing waters. Waters that are posted (off limits, no fishing, no trespassing and private property) by the State or Local authorities or any posted water where the public is not allowed is off limits to all competitors. You cannot cross any of the above listed water to gain access to open or public fishing water. **Off-limits Areas: ANYTHING EAST of the bridge is considered off limits.** NO Communication devices of any kind can be used between competitors during tournament hours to locate or acquire fish. No competitors shall have a non-competitor scout out a hole or hold a hole for him during tournament hours to obtain fish.
- 13) **Creel/Limit:** Limit of **five (5)** bass per team. Minimum length of bass is **TEN (10) inches** measured on a straight / flat board. No culling at landing, only **five (5)** bass in boat at check-in. Any team weighing in more than **five (5)** bass will be disqualified. All **State and Federal laws** will be adhered to during tournament hours.
- 14) **Ties:** Largest bass weighed shall decide a tie. Number of fish weighed shall decide ties after big fish. Total weight will decide a tie for Big Bass.
- 15) **Penalties:** Teams whose Chip is not on the *Check-In Board* at the end of their flight's check-in time will be assessed a **one (1) pound** penalty for each minute they are late up until **fifteen 15 minutes** when they will be disqualified. Minimum length of bass is **TEN (10) inches** measured on a straight / flat board. Any team weighing in fish shorter than **TEN (10) inches** in length will lose each short fish plus be penalized **one (1) pound** per short fish. There will be a **one-quarter pound (0.25 lb.)** deducted per dead fish. If dead fish is the largest, dead fish penalty will apply to that fish.
- 16) **Official Boats:** Officials will be on the waters during tournament hours and can approach or observe any contestant's boat. Each contestant is requested to cooperate with all reasonable requests.
- 17) **Damage:** Damage of any nature to a contestant's vehicle, boat, equipment or fishing tackle is the responsibility of the tournament contestant.
- 18) **Rule Changes:** Rules will remain unchanged throughout the event. Tournament Director (Jason J. Bland) may acquire assistance from Tournament Officials. Tournament Director and Officials have the right to accept or refuse any person / person's entry fee if deemed detrimental to the Tournament.
- 19) **Launch Fees:** NON at the St. James Parish Boat Club
- 20) **Protest:** Complaints or protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director within **fifteen (15) minutes** after scales are closed. Tournament Director must be informed of such action prior to or during weigh-ins.

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