

## Rules & Regulations

**1. RULES: KNOWLEDGE OF THESE RULES IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH CONTESTANT.** Failure to read these rules or ignorance of them is no excuse. The following rules for the *HSO, em outdoors gone fishing Tournament* to benefit Living Life on 2 Wheels on October 9, 2022, will be interpreted solely by the tournament director. The director reserves the right to reject any entry if he/she feels it is not in the best interest of the event. Entry form and attached waiver, release and consent must be completely filled out and signed by BOTH contestants. Any announcements made at the tournament site take precedent over written rules. In case of breakdown, or early departure from the tournament lake, the team doing so must contact the tournament director or appointed staff member. Failure to do so will result in the loss of any point earned at that tournament.

**2. ELIGIBILITY:** All individuals, 18 years of age or older with a paid entry fee and signed waiver are eligible to fish. This is an open event. Teams will consist of two (2) people per boat.

**3. ENTRY FEE:** Entry fees are \$185.00, which includes a Big Bass Pot. Registration at the ramp. No refunds. No Late Fees

**4. PAYBACKS:** The tournament will pay one place for every five (5) teams entered into the tournament based on 100 teams entered.

**5. CHECK-IN and PRE -MEETING: ONE TEAM MEMBER MUST CHECK-IN EITHER THE NIGHT BEFORE OR MORNING OF TOURNAMENT! FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.** A pre -meeting will take place on the water approximately ten (10) minutes prior to the official start on the water. Idle by live well check may take place at any time either on or off the water. Any extreme violations will be grounds for disqualification from this and future events.

**6. SCORING:** Large mouth, small mouth and spotted bass will be scored, five (5) fish limit, lake rules apply. Any frozen or iced fish presented for weigh-in will result in immediate disqualification. Short fish will result in a one (1) pound penalty plus the loss of the fish. The use of ice in a live well as a cooling agent in hot water is permitted. The dead fish penalty will be one (1) pound penalty per fish. No more than five (5) fish are allowed in live well (in possession) at any time. Anyone bringing more than five (5) fish to the weigh-in scales will not be allowed to weigh-in ANY fish. Courtesy bumping will NOT be allowed at the official weigh station. A courtesy bump board may be provided near the weigh-in line. Once fish are turned over to the weigh-in officials, contestants cannot touch ANY fish again except to choose the big fish of the stringer for weighing. Lake of the Ozarks note: 12 inch Kentucky 's will continue to be allowed unless changes are announced the morning of the tournament. Make sure that it is a Kentucky if it is less than 15 inches. If it is not a Kentucky and less than 15 inches, you will receive a short fish penalty and also be subject to a fine from the State for possessing an illegal (short) fish.

**7. POLYGRAPH:** All contestants, by signing the official entry form, consent to receive a voice-stress, or polygraph test. Tests will be given at random at the tournament director's discretion. Anyone who fails the test will be immediately disqualified.

**8. SPORTSMENSHIP and SAFETY:** Safe fishing and safe boating practices are expected during tournament hours. Life jackets and the outboard kill switch must be used any time the boat's big motor is running at above an idle. No alcohol or controlled substance can be used or allowed in the boat during the tournament hours.

**9. PROTEST:** All protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within fifteen (15) minutes of the weigh-in completion. The appointed Tournament Advisory Board will handle all protests.

**10. LATE PENTALTY:** One pound per minute, up to ten (10) minutes, then disqualification.

**11. TIES:** All ties will be broken by 1) Big Bass, 2) Most fish weighed in, and last 3) By earliest entry.

**12. TACKLE and EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures and pork lures are allowed. Rod and reel fishing only, one rod in use at a time. All boats must be equipped with an operable kill switch attached to the big engine. All rules (laws) for the particular body of water must be obeyed.

**13. BOATS and MOTORS:** Any boat 14 feet or longer powered by a motor 10 horsepower or more with a kill switch will be accepted. Kill switches must be in good working condition. All boats must meet B.I.A. and Coast Guard requirements. No over-powered boats. Each boat must have a functional bilge pump and properly aerated live well.

**14. LOCATIONS:** Anywhere on the tournament lake, except 50 yards of another contestants, anchored boat, 50 yards from any gas pump or public dock, and any designated off limit. No trailering of the boat during tournament hours without consent of the director.

**15. OFF LIMITS:** Any location announced at pre-tournament meeting and/or morning of take-off. Any location marks off limits by water patrol.

**16. INSURANCE:** Boat owners must have at least \$100,000.00 of Boating Liability Insurance. Proof of insurance may be asked for at any time and maybe a question on the polygraph test.