

2011 Tournament Rules

- 1) Sign ups for tournaments will begin at 6:00 am (one hour before scheduled take off time) and will close at 6:45 am (15 minutes before the scheduled take off time). Anyone who shows up after the designated sign in time will not be allowed to participate in that event.
- 2) **Lake Michigan is off limits** on any tournament fished where the body of water is connected to Lake Michigan. The pier heads are as far as you can go. Any violation of this rule will result in automatic disqualification for that event.
- 3) There will be a 5 fish limit of bass, largemouth and smallmouth, whether you are fishing as a team or an individual.
- 4) Teams must cull down to their limit of 5 fish before returning to the official ramp site. Each fish must measure a minimum of 14 inches, mouth closed, tail compressed. **The shortest fish in every bag will be bumped by the tournament director**, once the contestant's fish have been presented to the scales. A courtesy bump(s) are allowed before presenting your fish to be weighed. Teams presenting more than a tournament limit to the scales will be disqualified from that event. A dead fish will result in a 4-ounce deduction (.25lbs) from the team's total weight. If the team's big bass is dead the penalty will be taken from that fish. Any team that weighs in a short fish (under the 14 inch minimum, also a courtesy bump will be allowed at the scales) will be penalized the weight of the short fish **PLUS** the big fish of their bag.
- 5) There will be a 1 pound per minute late penalty for any boat coming in late to the designated weigh in site.
- 6) Total weight determines the winning team. We will use Big Bass as a **tiebreaker** for total weight, and total weight as a **tiebreaker** for Big Bass.
- 7) Big Bass: Big Bass is included in the \$50.00. (\$5.00 goes to Big Bass)
1st place Big Bass: 70% 2nd place Big Bass: 30%
- 8) Participants in Sportspersons Ministries International tournaments are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship and courtesy.
- 9) All State and local regulations must be followed.
- 10) All competitors must wear their life jackets when their combustible engine is running.
 - 1st infraction will be a warning, 2nd infraction will be disqualification for the day
 - Violation of this rule must be witnessed by the tournament director/or random boats that have been selected to be field marshals.
- 11) Alcohol or drugs will not be permitted or tolerated at our events and will result in automatic disqualification.
- 12) **No Wake = No Pass** during tournament hours unless a boat is stopped, fishing or changing course within a no wake zone.
- 13) Only one rod and reel (8ft. maximum length) may be used at a time. **Artificial lures only** (except pork strips). **No trolling.**
- 14) No fishing will be allowed within 50 yards of an anchored competitor's boat. A boat is considered anchored if it is held in a stable position by a rope attached to an anchor or by a power pole, with the trolling motor in the up position.
- 15) Subs are allowed. A sub can be used in two tournaments throughout the season. Subs have to pay the one time \$25.00 membership that includes an **SPI discount packet**. Subs are not allowed at the Classic.
- 16) Points are cumulative throughout the year. The top 12 teams after the final event will receive a Classic bid. One wild card team will be selected to fish in the classic that participated in at least 5 of 6 tournaments.
- 17) The top 3 teams at the end of the year will receive "Angler of the Year" plaques.
- 18) There will be **at least 1 OPEN TOURNAMENT** throughout the bass season. The fundraisers will be used to support Sportspersons Ministries International.
- 19) 1 or 2 anglers per boat. However, a two person team may have an additional angler if that angler is 16 years old or younger.
- 20) Livewell checks will be done before every tournament.

Any rulings will be addressed by the tournament director and a panel of anglers if necessary

For any questions please contact Jimmy VandenBerg (616)212-6060.

teamrippinlips@hotmail.com

Visit Sportspersons Ministries International on the web at

www.spi-int.org