

**54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT**  
**May 2-3, 2009**  
**Toledo Bend Reservoir @ Calfee's Campground (6300 Hwy 21 E, Hemphill)**

**Key Times and Tournament Limits**

**Friday, May 1st**

Check-in at Calfees Pavilion (Mandatory\*) 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM

**Saturday, May 2nd**

All Divisions 6:30 AM First Cast  
Couples, Adult/Boy, Adult/Girl & Sr. Team 3:30 PM Weigh-In \*\*  
Individual & Team Divisions 4:00 PM Weigh-In \*\*  
Bar-B-Que Dinner \*\*\* 4:30 PM

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

All Divisions 6:30 AM First Cast  
Couples, Adult/Boy, Adult/Girl & Sr. Team 1:00 PM Weigh-In \*\*  
Individual & Team Divisions 1:30 PM Weigh-In \*\*  
Awards Presentation\*\*\*\* After Final Weigh-In

**Daily Limits:** ***IMPORTANT!!!- Note the Team Divisions' Rule Change. This is a permanent change for this and future Tournament's.***  
Team, Couples, Adult/Youth & Sr. Team: Five (5) fish per Team per day, 14 inches or longer  
Individual: Five (5) fish per angler per day, 14 inches or longer

- \* All Tournament participants or their delegate must check in at Tournament Headquarters under the Calfees Pavilion on Friday from 4-10 pm.
- \*\* Weigh-in for all Divisions will be at Calfees Pavilion. The weigh-in line will be open 1 hour prior to the above weigh-in times.
- \*\*\* The traditional Saturday dinner will begin immediately after the Saturday weigh-in at Calfees Pavilion. All contestants will receive a meal ticket at no cost. Additional tickets for guests are available for a nominal fee.
- \*\*\*\* The Tournament Awards Presentation and door prize drawings will be held at Calfees Pavilion. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN DOOR PRIZES.**

**Texas State Bass Tournament Rules**

The following rules of this Tournament are established in the best interest of all fishermen and sponsors. The TSBT will be governed by these rules. The Tournament Committee will have the final decision on all matters.

1. **RULES CHANGES:** The following rules will remain unchanged throughout the event. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Weigh-master. In the event of a rule violation the Weigh-master may impose such sanctions as he deems appropriate including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in future Tournaments. The decision of the Tournament Weigh-master and Tournament Committee will be final in all matters. It is at the Committee's discretion to make a change where safety is a concern. All Federal State and local laws must be obeyed and it is the contestant's responsibility to know these laws.
2. **PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:** Any Fisherman currently or formerly residing in the State of Texas is eligible to fish, unless he or she has been a paid guide on the Tournament Lake in the 12 months prior to the Tournament dates. These guides will not be permitted to fish the TSBT. A guide may not be hired for the Tournament Lake within seven days prior to the Tournament.
3. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND DRUGS:** At no time during Tournament hours are any alcoholic beverages or drugs other than prescription allowed in the boat or to be consumed while on the water.
4. **DIVISIONS:** Anglers may enter only one of the following six Divisions: **INDIVIDUAL** (if two Individual contestants fish together, each contestant must land his own fish); **TEAM** (both Team members must fish together in the same boat); **COUPLES** (same as Team); **SENIOR TEAM** (same as Team but both entrants must be over 60 years of age); **ADULT/BOY and ADULT/GIRL** (Youth must be under 17 years of age as of the Tournament date. Otherwise, same rules as Team.).
5. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules or in any state or local laws, or brings unfavorable publicity to the sport of bass fishing will be disqualified. Encroachment is considered a sportsmanship rule.
6. **REGISTRATION:** All contestants, including mail-in entries, must check in at Tournament Headquarters prior to the Tournament. Check-in and Late Registration will be open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Tournament.
7. **BOATS & MOTORS:** There is no horsepower limit; however, no engine may exceed the BIA horsepower rating for the boat on which it is used. All boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard and state regulations. All motor-powered boats must have an emergency kill switch. Extra gas tanks must be secured and must meet U.S. Coast Guard specifications. Adequate live wells, either built-in or portable, are mandatory on each boat and must provide aeration to maintain fish in good condition.
8. **SAFETY:** Boating safety must be observed at all times during competition. A U.S. Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver must be on and fastened any time the combustible engine is operative, and the kill switch must be attached to the driver. It is both partners' responsibility to ensure adherence to these rules.
9. **TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** All fish must be caught in a legal sporting manner. Intentional snagging of fish will not be allowed. No trolling is permitted with outboard engine. Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait is permitted with the exception of pork rinds. Liquid fish attractants are allowed. Only one (1) rod may be used at a time. Other rods may be in the boat and ready for use; however, every cast and retrieve must be completed before another cast is made. Rods may not exceed eight feet in length. The official measuring board for TSBT is the FLW Measuring Board. The use of electronic fish-tracking equipment cannot be used on practice or competition days.
10. **FISHING HOURS:** The Tournament Committee shall specify the fishing hours for each Division according to safe light conditions and local custom. The hours chosen for this Tournament are described at the top of this form.
11. **CATCHING OF FISH:** Anglers in the **INDIVIDUAL** Division must catch and land his/her own fish. Anglers in the **TEAM, COUPLES, ADULT/BOY, ADULT/GIRL, and SENIOR TEAMS** Divisions may pool their catch to obtain the prescribed Daily Limit. In all two-person Divisions, the two contestants must stay together during Tournament hours. At no time may any team or individual have in his/her possession more than the Daily Limit. In the event a competitor has more than the described Daily Limit in their possession, Tournament officials will cull that competitor's catch, beginning with the largest bass first, down to the limit described.
12. **LIMITS AND SCORING:** The Tournament Committee will specify the Daily Limits for each Tournament. The Daily Limits for this Tournament are 5 fish per day per team or individual as defined in the preceding section. Scoring will be based on the weight in pounds and one-hundredths. Largemouth Bass, Kentucky Spotted Bass, and Smallmouth Bass will be counted. Fish will be measured on a flat board with mouth closed and tail compressed. **A dead fish penalty of .50 lbs. per fish will be deducted from the total weight.** Tournament standings will be determined by the total weight for the competition days of the Tournament. **If a bass less than 14 inches in length is presented to the weigh-in officials, that bass will not be allowed and a 1.0 lb penalty will be assessed.**
13. **LATE PENALTY:** Contestants who are not in the official check-in line on or before the appointed time will be disqualified for that day. You must be in the check-in line before your weigh-in time. Determining the exact check-in times and location with Tournament Staff will be responsibility of each contestant.
14. **POLYGRAPH:** All contestants, winners, and non-winners, are subject to a polygraph test. Failure to submit to a polygraph test will result in immediate disqualification. Any contestant who has failed a polygraph test for cheating in connection with any bass tournament will not be eligible to compete in The Texas State Bass Tournament.
15. **PROTESTS:** All protests must be submitted to the Tournament Weigh-master in writing within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.
16. **CONSERVATION:** This is a primary concern of The Texas State Bass Tournament. Every effort will be made to release as many live fish as possible following weigh-in. **Contestants must only use official weigh-in bags provided by The Tournament. Only five (5) fish are permitted per weigh-in bag** and adequate water must be maintained in each bag to completely cover the fish. Use more than one bag if necessary.