



TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT

EST. 1956

55th Annual Open State Tournament

April 10-11, 2010

Sam Rayburn Reservoir
Mill Creek Park

“Become part of the legend.”

2009 State Champions

TEAM: Mark Couch (Houston) & David McGhee (Spring)
COUPLES: Bill Wilcox (Burlson) & Barbara Potts (Ft. Worth)
INDIVIDUAL: Ricky Watson (Mansfield)
SR. TEAM: Norman Terry (Jacksonville) & Don Jones (Whitehouse)
ADULT/BOY: Josh Webb (Diboll) & Tyler Webb (Diboll)
ADULT/GIRL: Earl Zickefoose (Hardin) & Samantha Zickefoose (Hardin)
BASS CLUB TOP-6: Ft. Worth Westside Bass Club

Established in 1956

In 1955, **Earl Golding**, a young and spirited Outdoors Editor for the *Waco Tribune-Herald*, organized a bass fishing competition on Lake Whitney to help decide who deserved the bragging rights as “the best bass fisherman in Texas”. The initial contest was a great success and the **Texas State Bass Tournament** became an annual event starting in 1956. Over the years, the State Tournament added various competitive Divisions to encourage family and youth participation. As a result, the field today includes everyone from young anglers participating in their first tournament to seasoned veterans that are among the best in the state. Bucking the trend to lure anglers with high dollar prizes, the State Tournament draws contestants year-in and year-out with only one goal in mind: to join the ranks of other legendary anglers who have claimed the title as “**Texas State Bass Fishing Champion**”.

Sponsored By



The tradition continues with the **55th Annual Texas State Bass Tournament** making a return trip to **Sam Rayburn Reservoir on April 10-11, 2010**. Subject to a few restrictions (please read the Rules), the event is open to all current or past Texas residents. Once you have experienced the family-reunion atmosphere, the spirited competition, and the unrivaled sportsmanship of the State Tournament, you will want to return again and again to “**The Mother of all Open Bass Tournaments**”.

Be sure to mail your entry before the **Early Entry Deadline of March 31**. In addition to saving money on your Entry Fee, you are assured of receiving a Saturday Meal-Ticket, Tournament Hat and Fishing Towel. **There will also be a special drawing for cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 for the Early Entries.**

Sam Rayburn is recognized as one of the top bass fishing lakes in the world and presents an exciting opportunity for all who participate. Please plan to join us.

Activities

Tournament Check-in and Late Registration will take place at Mill Creek Park between 4:00 and 10:00 p.m. on Friday, April 9th. Check-in is mandatory for all contestants or their delegate.

The Tournament Weigh-ins on Saturday and Sunday will be held at the Mill Creek Park. Tournament volunteers will be present to direct contestants to the parking and weigh-in areas.

The traditional State Tournament dinner will be held at Mill Creek immediately after Saturday's weigh-in. Contestants entered by March 31 will receive their meal tickets at no cost. Non-contestant meal tickets are available for \$10.00 each and should be purchased in advance with the Entry Form. The availability of meal tickets for purchase at Late Registration may be limited.

The trophy presentations and door prize drawings will also be held at Mill Creek after Sunday's weigh-in.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN DOOR PRIZES.

Trophy Awards

Team Division	1st-20th Place
Individual Division	1st-10th Place
Husband-Wife/Couples Division	1st-15th Place
Adult/Boy Division	1st-5th Place
Adult/Girl Division	1st-5th Place
Senior Team Division	1st-3rd Place
Big Bass (Overall)	1st-3rd Place
Big Bass (Boy)	1st Place
Big Bass (Girl)	1st Place
Bass Club Top Six	1st Place

Sam Rayburn Accommodations

Mill Creek Grocery & Lodging	409-698-2650
Bass Buster Inn	409-698-3002
Jasper Chamber of Commerce	409-384-2762

Tournament Results Will Be Posted @ www.texasstatebass.com

55th ANNUAL TEXAS STATE BASS TOURNAMENT
April 10-11, 2010 @ Sam Rayburn Reservoir - Official Entry Application

Boater's Name _____ Prior # of TSBT's _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Email: _____
 Phone _____

Partner's Name _____ Prior # of TSBT's _____ [] Check here if "Youth"
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Email: _____

Bass Club Name _____ [] Check here if your Team is one of the "Top 6"

ENTER ME IN THE FOLLOWING DIVISION (Check One)

_____ TEAM	\$50	(after 3/31/10 - \$60)
_____ INDIVIDUAL	\$40	(after 3/31/10 - \$50)
_____ HUSBAND-WIFE/COUPLES	\$50	(after 3/31/10 - \$60)
_____ ADULT/BOY	\$40	(after 3/31/10 - \$50)
_____ ADULT/GIRL	\$40	(after 3/31/10 - \$50)
_____ SENIOR TEAM	\$40	(after 3/31/10 - \$50)

<p><i>Mail with check or money order to:</i></p> <p>Texas State Bass Tournament PO Box 1795 Quitman, TX 75783</p>

I need _____ extra BBQ tickets at \$10.00 each for non-contestants.

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK

In consideration of The Texas State Bass Tournament allowing me to participate in this tournament, I acknowledge and agree as follows:

1. I have read and understand the description of the tournament and the Official Rules of this tournament. I will obey all rules and understand that any violation may result in immediate disqualification without refund of my entry fee.
2. I understand and acknowledge that competitive fishing is a dangerous sport, the risks of which include, though not exclusively, drowning, collisions in the water, and injuries from hooks and other fishing paraphernalia. I voluntarily assume responsibility for these risks, identified and not identified, and all risk of injury or death or damage to myself or my property or to others, including spectators and their property, arising from my participation in the tournament.
3. I hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless and indemnify The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials and its partners, agents of employees, and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions or rights of action which are related to, arise out of, or are in any way connected with my participation in this tournament, including specifically but not limited to the negligent acts or omissions of The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials, and its partners, agents or employees and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, for any and all injury, death, illness or disease, and other damage or loss to property suffered by myself or others. In signing this document, I acknowledge and agree that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged while I am engaged in this event, I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against The Texas State Bass Tournament, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents or employees, the host, sponsors, officials and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, even if they or any of them negligently caused the bodily injury or property damage.
4. Any suit brought by me against The Texas State Bass Tournament as a result of my participation in this tournament will be brought in state or county court in Dallas County, Texas, where the principal office of The Texas State Bass Tournament is located. Should it become necessary for the Texas State Bass Tournament or someone on its behalf, to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, or any portion thereof, I agree to pay the reasonable costs and attorney's fees thereby expended, or for which liability is incurred.
5. I have sufficient health, accident and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage incurred by myself or others as a result of my participation in this event. If I have no such insurance, I represent that I am capable of paying for any and all such expenses or liability.
6. I have no past or present medication or psychological condition that might affect my participation in the tournament in such a way as to cause harm to myself or others.
7. I give The Texas State Bass Tournament permission to use my name and photograph for promotional purposes. I agree to submit to and accept the results of the polygraph test given at this event. My signature below reflects that I have read this entire document, understand it completely, understand that it affects my legal rights, and agree to be bound by its terms. References herein to "I", "my", "myself", and other first-person references shall include any child or ward for whom I sign.

SIGNATURE: _____ **(Boater)**

SIGNATURE: _____ **(Partner)**

PARTNER'S PARENT (If Minor): _____

<p>**** Tournament Hours ****</p> <p>Sat: Indiv. & Team - 6:30am - 4:00 pm Other Divisions - 6:30am - 3:30pm Sun: Indiv. & Team - 6:30am - 1:30pm Other Divisions - 6:30am - 1:00pm</p>

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 Weight-master. In the event of a rule violation the Weight-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 Weight-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 any state or local laws, or brings unfavorable publicity to the sport of bass fishing will be disqualified. Enoachment 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 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 FW 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 provided separately as a part of the check-in packet. The weigh-in line will open 1 hour prior to the weigh-in deadline.
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 Daily Limits are 5 FISH PER DAY PER TEAM for the **TEAM**, **COUPLES**, **SR. TEAM**, and **ADULT/YOUTH DIVISIONS**. The Daily Limit for the **INDIVIDUAL DIVISION** is also 5 FISH PER DAY. Each fish must measure 14 inches or longer. 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 Weight-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.**