

GENERAL RULES

1. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules, or violates any local, state or federal rules, regulations, statutes or laws is subject to immediate disqualification.
2. **ELIGIBILITY:** Any person who derives at least eighty percent (80%) of their annual income from being employed or engaged in the exploration, drilling, production and/or servicing of oil and gas wells. **Any person now retired and/or retired in the past ten (10) years who, at the time of retirement, was actively engaged or employed and derived at least eighty percent (80%) of their revenue from the exploration, drilling, production and/or servicing of oil and gas wells, is eligible to fish in this tournament.** Spouses, dependent children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews of an eligible participant may fish only with that participant. A dependent child is a child who is living at home and is in school and does not carry a full-time job. Any person who has served as a professional guide on Toledo Bend at any time during the preceding twelve (12) months is not eligible to compete in this tournament. All entries will be carefully screened to verify eligibility. It is the responsibility of each member of the team to abide by these eligibility requirements. Failure to do so will subject the team to disqualification. The Rules and Registration Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry application; the decision of the committee shall be final. Applicants may be required to furnish the committee with proof of eligibility. Submission of your application represents your expressed acceptance of the LOBI Board and its committees' authority concerning approval of applications. Any application containing false or misleading information will be immediately rejected.
3. **SAFETY:** Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times. Each competitor is required to wear a Coast Guard approved life vest when the outboard engine is operating. Drunkenness on the part of any contestant will not be tolerated. The tournament committee highly recommends the use of engine kill switch.
4. **TEAMS:** Teams will consist of two (2) eligible individuals registering as such. No participant shall be allowed to fish without a qualified partner in the boat at all times. Any contestant's action will directly reflect on his teammate. There will be no use of guides during tournament competition in any manner. Any use of guides will result in immediate disqualification.
5. **TACKLE:** Only artificial lures can be used; no prepared or live bait other than pork rind strips may be used. Only one rod and reel outfit per participant may be used at any given time. No trolling is permitted.
6. **SCORING:** Scoring will be based on the weight in pounds of bass (largemouth, Kentucky or Spotted) with a **minimum length of 14 inches measured on a flat board**. Fish presented for weighing that are less than 14 inches in length will be

disqualified prior to weighing and one pound per undersized fish will be deducted as a penalty. Only 5 fish per team, per day will be counted. **Teams are not allowed to have more than 5 fish in their permanent possession at any time, except for culling the 6th fish.** If more than 5 fish are kept in a team's possession, that team shall be disqualified for the day and shall receive no weight for the day. **It is the responsibility of the team to keep fish alive.** A determination of whether the fish are alive or dead will be made **solely by the members of the Weigh In Committee at the scales** and a **bonus of .10 pound will be awarded for each live fish weighed in.** No fish may be kept by any contestant with the exception of a trophy fish. The Golden Rule will be official measurement.

7. **FISHING HOURS:** Fishing hours will begin at 6:00 a.m. each morning. Teams numbered 1-350 must stop fishing at 2:00 p.m. on the first day and be in the weigh-in line at the Marina by 3:00 p.m. Teams numbered 351 and above must stop fishing at 3:00 p.m. on the first day and be in the weigh-in line by 4:00 p.m. Teams numbered 351 and above must stop fishing at 2:00 p.m. on the second day and be in the weigh-in line by 3:00 p.m. **It is the responsibility of each team to understand and abide by the prescribed fishing hours and weigh-in times as they will be strictly enforced and are grounds for disqualification if violated.**
8. **LAUNCH SITE:** Contestants will be allowed to trailer boats to any landing on Toledo Bend. However, fishing is allowed only during tournament hours and weigh-in time must be observed.
9. **TIES:** In the event of a tie for 1st place, the tie will be broken by a one (1) hour fish off departing from the Cypress Bend Dock at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, April 3, 2005. No fishing within 100 yards of the launch site will be permitted during this tie breaker. In the event of all other ties, monetary prizes will be added together and divided by the number of places tied. Each team shall then receive their equal share.
10. **BOATS:** Boats may be used that are 14 feet or longer. Contestants may not change boats during tournament hours. Overpowered boats not allowed.
11. **POLYGRAPH TEST:** Each contestant agrees to submit, by his signature on this application, to a polygraph test to be given at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. The administration and interpretation of the polygraph test is solely the responsibility of the tournament committee and its agents. **If either team member fails to test with satisfactory results, that team will be disqualified. (If you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, you will not be given a polygraph, and your team will be disqualified.)**
12. **COMPLAINTS:** Complaints or protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Committee within 30 minutes after weigh-in each day. All decisions rendered by the committee are final.

13. **ENCROACHMENT:** A team is not permitted to approach nearer than 50 yards to any other tournament boat which is tied or anchored with the trolling motor out of the water.
14. **ENTRY DEADLINE:** The first 700 teams will be qualified based on postmark of entry application envelope. Waiting list applicants will be qualified on the same basis. **All entries must be submitted by mail, either regular US Postal Service or special service such as Federal Express, etc. No entries will be accepted by hand delivery.**
15. **REGISTRATION:** Each team must register with the tournament committee between 12:00 noon and 9:00 p.m., Thursday, March 31, 2005 at Cypress Bend Park. They may pick up their ditty bags and shirt or jacket orders at this time. No late registrations will be allowed. Any teams failing to register by 9:00 p.m. may be subject to replacement by teams on a waiting list.