

2015 CLEVELAND COLDWATER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Entry fees and Fall Brawl participants

Entry fee is \$150.00 per boat. Entries must be in by November 7th. First 50 entries received are guaranteed a spot. Boat numbers will be assigned as entries are received. We reserve the right to deny entry at our discretion.

You do not have to be a member of the Fall Brawl to fish in the Cleveland Coldwater Classic. If you want your Big Fish to qualify for the Fall Brawl, all members on boat must be entered in the Fall Brawl.

2. Sign in and boat inspection

All teams will be required to check-in and get boat inspected by 3:00pm to receive your boat board number. After boat inspection, launch your boat and assemble in numerical order near the send-off boat. Send-off boat will be a black Starcraft 2100. Boats coming by water will have to pull up to dock to check-in, get your boat board and get boat inspected.

Note: Tournament Directors performing tournament duties will be launching at 3:15pm and returning at 10:15pm.

3. Send off, return times and procedures

Starting time will be 3:30pm. We will send you off in order by radio channel 68. After your number is called proceed past send-off boat at idle speed then follow all Ohio boating regulations. One member of your team must be in line with fish and boat board number by 10:30pm. There will be a Tournament Director checking teams in. Make sure you bring your boat board number. If teams are not in line by 10:30 pm they will be disqualified. You will need to provide your own method of transporting your 3 fish to the scales.

4. Fishing

All Ohio fishing and boating regulations must be followed. Any violation of Ohio fishing or boating regulations will be disqualified, no exceptions. Contestants are limited to one lure per rod (no 3-way rigs or umbrella rigs allowed). Any disabled boat must notify a Tournament Director by phone or radio. Participating teams may not combine fish. Competitors must not come in contact with other boats or go ashore during tournament hours. You may have as many participants as you want on a team, but each team can only run a maximum of 6 rods.

5. Safety

Safety must be observed at all times. All contestants must wear a Coast Guard approved PFD while boat is moving above trolling speed. Since half of the tournament will be at night, we encourage everyone to use caution at all times. We want everyone to have a good time and be safe. A Park Ranger will patrol the park while we are fishing.

6. Weigh-in

Each team will be responsible for bringing their 3 largest fish to the scales. You will weigh one fish for Big Fish. We will tally that weight, remove it and weigh the other two. We will then combine the two weights. This will be your total for the tournament. We will be using a certified Fall Brawl scale. If your team qualifies, your Big Fish weight will be automatically entered in Fall Brawl.

7. Ties

In the event of a tie, the tiebreaker will be each individual team's Big Fish weight. The team with the heaviest Big Fish will win the tie.

8. Polygraph

Any team that finishes "in the money" could be required to take a polygraph test. The Tournament Directors will select a minimum of one polygraph test to be administered. If selected, you will be contacted to set up a date and time.

9. Payout

Payout is based on the number of entries. A portion of the purse will be used for insurance, polygraph and ranger patrolling the park.

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10. Severe weather

In the event of severe weather, the tournament may be suspended, extended, cut short, or rescheduled. In the event of a cancellation it will be rescheduled for the 28th of November. All decisions regarding severe weather are at the discretion of the Tournament Directors. In the event of a thunderstorm, lightning, severe weather or any unsafe condition during the tournament, participants should remove themselves from the competition and seek safety or shelter until it is safe to continue fishing. Participants may not leave their boats during tournament hours except in case of an emergency.

11. Participation and eligibility

Field will be limited to first 50 boats. No limit on team members. All participants must be 18 years of age. Exceptions to this rule will be on a case by case basis. A waiver will need to be signed by parent or guardian if a younger participant is accepted.

12. Substitutes

You may use a sub, but you must let a Tournament Director know before tournament starts. We need an accurate roster and signature of sub before tournament starts. If participant is not on your roster and fishes with you, this will result in a disqualification.

13. Boats and equipment

All boat compartments and wells will be inspected before the start of the tournament. All boats must conform to Ohio and USCG standards. Your boat must have all USCG safety equipment on board. All boats must have a USCG or BMA plate attached by the boat manufacturer and the horsepower rating shall not be exceeded. All boats must have liability insurance.

14. Refunds

In the event of a tournament cancellation, any team that is unable to fish on the makeup date will be issued a refund. No refund will be given to a team that has been disqualified. All other refunds will be at the discretion of Tournament Directors.

15. Marine radio and cell phones

Channel 68 will be utilized for the duration of the tournament. This is an open tournament. No restrictions on cell phones or radio contact with other anglers.

16. Spirit of the rule

We are trying to run a fair and fun tournament. All rules have loop holes. Please contact a Tournament Director with any and all questions. Their decisions shall be considered final.

Tournament Directors:

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