

## RULES

- 1. TERMS:** You may enter alone or with a partner of your choice. No more than (2) persons will be allowed in a participating boat during tournament hours.
- 2. PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING:** One team member must be present at the pre-tournament meeting and remain until the pre-tournament meeting is dismissed unless approved by Tournament Director for emergency reasons.
- 3. WEATHER:** In the case of extreme weather/water conditions or National emergencies, SICA shall have the right to postpone or cancel any tournaments with the return of entry fees by mail.
- 4. STATE LAW:** Teams must comply with all State and boating regulations throughout the entire year, including the use of P.F.D.'s and kill switches. Fishing, boating regulations, and licenses are the responsibility of team members. State fishing laws and boating regulations supersede tournament rules. Violation of State or Lake Laws is grounds for disqualification.
- 5. BIG FISH:** Big fish entries are optional at \$20.00 per team. Only one (1) big fish entry per team. Only one (1) big fish will be weighed in. Teams will have that fish marked and designated as their big fish at weigh-in. It is the team's responsibility to know if they are signed up for Big Fish.
- 6. MEMBERSHIP:** SICA membership is required to fish all SICA events. Failure to have an active/paid membership is grounds for disqualification. SICA reserves the right to refuse and/or revoke memberships without cause, reason and/or explanation and without recourse at our own discretion. Membership does not guarantee the ability to enter a tournament. SICA may deny tournament entry to a member without cause, reason, explanation or recourse.
- 7. OFF LIMITS:** Tournament waters are off limits at 4:00 pm the day prior to the start of the competition unless otherwise stated on the Tournament Information page. Anglers must stop fishing at 4:00 pm the day prior to the start of competition, then exit the tournament waters immediately.
- 8. FISHABLE WATERS:** Fishing within 50 feet of a marina gas pump or within 50 feet of a competitor boat, which is first anchored, is prohibited (Trolling motors must be in up position and anchor rope visible to be considered anchored). A safe and courteous distance (50 feet) should be maintained when trolling motors are in use. Fishable waters are areas that tournament officials can access the fishing team via a John boat with a gasoline propelled tiller handle with lower unit. Boats may fish anywhere except areas designated as "off-limits" or "no fishing" by Local, State or Federal officials or as posted on the Tournament Information page or announced at the pre-tournament meeting. Any violation of off-limits water will result in disqualification.
- 9. COMPENSATION:** No one can be hired or compensated in any way to fish with you or mark fishing spots for you 30 days prior to any tournament.

## FISHING

- 10. BOATS:** You must fish from a boat. Rubber Rafts, Canoes and Go-Devils are not allowed. Two-person teams (one boat per team) must stay within 25 feet of each other while fishing.
- 11. POLES:** Limit of eight (8) poles per team during tournament applies except where a state limit is set at a lesser number. Teams may use rod and reel combos, hand-held pole and reel combos or hand-held poles.
- 12. BAITS:** A maximum of two baits per pole may be used during tournament hours if in accordance with Local and State laws. Live and artificial bait may be used excluding Ultimate Challenge tournaments.
- 13. MOTORS:** All tournament boats are required to have a minimum 6 HP or greater motor.
- 14. OTHER EQUIPMENT:** Binoculars and other magnifying devices are not allowed during pre-fishing or tournament at any time. Under water cameras during competition is not allowed. The use of mobile communication devices such as cellular phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CB's, etc. to communicate fishing information during tournament hours is prohibited.
- 15. SPOTTING:** During tournament hours no one may spot fish for you or mark fishing spots for you.
- 16. LANDING FISH:** Crappie must be hooked and landed with a rod or pole by team member(s). Crappie must be hooked through the lip or in the mouth. Landing nets may be used.
- 17. HOLE-SITTING:** No hole sitting by a competitor or non-competitor boat during the tournament will be allowed.
- 18. LIFE JACKETS:** Life jackets or personal floatation devices must be worn while on plane. All State and Local rules and regulations supersede tournament rules.

## WEIGH-IN

- 19. SCALES:** Scales will be set up and open by the announced time at the pre-tournament meeting.
- 20. FISH:** Teams may weigh in seven (7), live crappie on tournament day. Teams seven (7) crappie must be alive when entering the official weigh-in line. Teams presenting more than seven (7) crappie will be disqualified. Once you have entered the weigh-in line, your fish will be counted and be verified dead or alive by the tournament official. Dead fish will be removed and you may then continue to the scales for your official weigh-in. Once your fish have been verified alive, and entered on the weigh-in voucher, you will then be allowed to weigh those fish, even if one or more die before reaching the scales. The tournament official has sole responsibility for the declaration of dead or alive crappie. No mutilated fish may be weighed. Mutilation is defined as and damage that impairs the fish's fighting ability. All decisions regarding mutilation will be made by SICA tournament officials. SICA has the right to keep weighed-in fish for further evaluation at our own discretion without explanation or cause.
- 21. LENGTH:** All crappie brought to the scales for weigh-in must meet state length requirements for the State in which they are being weighed and may not have any weigh enhancements. Any team bringing in illegal crappie to the weigh-in line will be disqualified.
- 22. TIES:** In the case of a tie for first place, big fish of each team will determine the winner. Second place and down, all ties split the combined purse of that prize level.
- 23. PROTESTS:** Protest must be made in writing to the Tournament Director within 30 minutes following the end of the Official Weigh-In. Protests must cite the rule allegedly broken. Protests must be given to the Tournament director. Protest must be deemed a legitimate protest by Tournament Director. Both parties may be subjected to a polygraph. All parties involved and all grievances, protests, and complaints shall be handled in house with confidentiality. The Tournament Director's decision is final in all matters.
- 24. COMPLAINTS:** Complaints about teams outside of protest times should be made directly to SICA Board of Directors.
- 25. BOAT/LIVEWELL/STORAGE:** SICA tournament officials shall have the right to at random, board and inspect the boat of any competing members, at any time from Registration until the end of the tournament. Refusal to all inspection is grounds for disqualification.
- 26. POLYGRAPH:** By your participation in an SICA tournament, you agree to comply with the rules, and agree to submit to and pass a polygraph test or similar truth test in order to qualify for the receipt of any prize. SICA shall have the right to polygraph any competing team, at SICA's discretion. Any team having member who has failed or refused to take a polygraph test or was a team that was disqualified or denied a prize because either member of that team failed or refused to take a polygraph or who has ever been denied a prize because he or she misrepresented compliance with a tournament rule or because of unsportsmanlike conduct may be disqualified and/or have their membership revoke.
- 27.** You must fish at least 2 of our regular points Tournaments to qualify for our Classic.
- 28.** Tournament Director and Board of Directors, reserve the right to change fishing hours due to weather or daylight hours. And also can postpone or re-schedule a tournament, due to weather or river stages, etc.
- 29.** A team consists of 2 SICA members. You are allowed to have 1 alternate.