

# NAKINA'S ANNUAL LIVE RELEASE BASS DERBY

## TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 1) TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- a) The Nakina Bass Tournament is a two-person team, fishing for two days, total combined weight, live release Tournament.
- b) The Tournament Director has the right to delay or shorten the Tournament, subject to weather and/or safety considerations.
- c) All Competitors and Officials will conduct themselves in a true sportsmanlike, courteous, safe and ethical manner. As Competitors, each person represents (not only) their Team and Sponsors, but also the Nakina Bass Tournament, Officials and other Teams.
- d) Nakina Fish and Game Club, its promoters, employees, sponsors, organizers, hosts, Directors, Officers and affiliated organizations assisting in the operation of any aspect of the Tournament, their agencies and/or agents and assigns are not responsible for any death, injury, damage, liability, fire, theft or loss that may result prior to, during or after the Tournament howsoever caused. ALL COMPETITORS MUST SIGN A "WAIVER OF CLAIM, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND PHOTO RELEASE" UPON PAYMENT OF ENTRY AND ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTRATION PACKAGE.
- e) All references to money are in Canadian Dollars.

### 2) PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- a) Competitors must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age as of July 31 prior to the derby unless they have the permission of their parents or guardians. All participants will require a WAIVER OF CLAIM, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND PHOTO RELEASE signed by them or by their parents or guardians if applicable.
- b) All anglers must possess a valid Ontario Sport Fishing License except those exempt by the Fisheries Act.
- c) Nakina Fish and Game Club reserves the right to refuse entry to any Individual or Team for any reason that the Tournament Committee may deem appropriate.
- d) Teams must consist of at least one originally signed up participant.
- e) If two teams enter the tournament separately, and then later decide to merge and become one team, the newly created team will receive the HIGHER boat number (i.e. Boat 10 & Boat 15 combine, the boat number is 15).

### 3) ENTRY FEE

- a) **The entry fee for the Tournament is \$250.00 per team.**
- b) Teams must submit a completed entry form with payment in full to be issued a boat number.
- c) Entry fees will be locked into the Tournament at 6:00 p.m. 14 days prior to the start of the Tournament in order to finalize Tournament Prizes.

Cancellation thereafter will be accepted only for medical emergencies relating directly to a competitor.

- d) Teams that participated in the Derby have until Wednesday following derby @ 8:00AM to register. Registration form and payment in full must be received by the deadline. After 8:00AM registration is open to public. In order for your team to be entered into the draw for flight positioning, the deadline to submit registration and payment in full is September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00PM. Draw date/time/location TBD. Any teams wanting to register by email or submit payment by interac e-transfer the email address is – mkmichel@bell.net with the password being “derby”.

#### **4) PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE**

- a) Unlimited Pre-Tournament practice is allowed.
- b) Moving fish from one location to another during Pre-Tournament practice is prohibited, unless specifically requested by the Tournament Director for special purposes. Violations could result in tournament disqualification.
- c) All competitors must be off the tournament waters by 12:00 p.m. on Friday before the Rules and Regulations Meeting. PENALTY: a \$100 cash fine and 4 oz. (0.25lb) per minute late off day one weight payable prior to Day One boat checks and the offending team will be started as last boat in the last flight.
- d) No contestant may enter the tournament waters for the purpose of catching or locating fish or possible fishing location(s) after Friday 12:00 p.m. This may result in the disqualification and removal or team which is at the discretion of the committee.

#### **5) RULES MEETING**

- a) Teams must receive rule updates, starting position numbers and sign waiver forms before leaving the beach on Day One of the tournament. To achieve this at least one and preferably both members of the team must attend the Official Rules Meeting between 6:00 PM – 8:00PM at the big tent at the Beach on the Friday prior to the tournament. Rules and Regulations meeting is mandatory unless arrangements have been made prior to 12:00PM the day of the meeting. Failing to do so will mean teams spot is forfeited as well as registration fee if no replacement team can be found.

#### **6) LIVE RELEASE OF FISH**

- a) A person who is angling from a boat which has a livewell may now selectively live release more bass than their daily limit. Every effort must be made to keep Bass alive.
- b) While on the water, you may now hold up to 6 bass in a livewell even if the limit is 4 fish, per team member, but all bass must comply with any applicable size limits. For a livewell to be used to selectively release bass, it must be attached to the boat, hold a total volume of not less than 10 gallons of water, have the capacity for water exchange and be

mechanically aerated at all times when live fish are being held in it. A live holding box is not a livewell.

- c) Under no circumstances can a fish be purposely altered. Any fish mauled, mashed, frozen, stringered, injected with water or other fluids, containing foreign matter to add weight or showing white gills or soft flesh, will result in Disqualification of the Team.

## 7) BIGGEST FISH & HEAVIEST DAILY BAG

- a) The standing records for Heaviest Tournament Bag Weight are as follows:  
**36.84lbs Luc Diotte & Louis Marcotte in 2010**
- b) The standing records for Heaviest Daily Bag are as follows:  
**19.31lbs Larry Schallock & Andrew Young in 2012**
- c) The standing records for Biggest Fish are as follows:  
**5.05lbs Dany Michel in 2011**
- d) The biggest fish must be RELEASED ALIVE!
- e) The entry fee of \$250 includes the fee of entering Biggest Fish. This money will accumulate on a year-to-year basis until \$2,500.00 is reached or someone breaks the record and wins the pot.
- f) If two (2) teams were to break the same record on the same day, the team with the highest weight will win. If one (1) team breaks the Biggest Fish record and another team beats the biggest daily bag on the same day, the winnings will be split.

## 8) PENALTY FOR LATE CHECK-IN

- a) Contestants who are late crossing the finish line at the end of the day for whatever reason, including breakdown, will be penalized 4 oz. (0.25lb) per minute for each minute they are late to the maximum of their days weight.

## 9) PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

- a) The Tournament waters consist of Cordingley Lake only. The penalty for fishing ineligible waters will result in disqualification of the day's catch or disqualification from the tournament.
- b) The Tournament Director has the right to alter or restrict tournament waters with prompt notice to the Teams.
- c) No fishing is allowed within 300ft from beach and point (within the markers) and in Nakina Air Service bay. This is also a NO WAKE zone. Contestants who do cause wake in the no wake zone will be penalized 4 oz. (0.25lb) each day they cause wake in the no wake zone.

## 10) SCORING

- a) Only Smallmouth Bass legally caught on a tournament day by angling qualify for weigh-in. Violation of this rule is tournament disqualification.
- b) A daily limit of Five (5) Bass per Team will be weighed. While under main engine only five (5) bass may be retained in the live well(s). The penalty for failure to comply is disqualification of the day's weight.
- c) Each teams fish must be presented (shown) one at a time to the Weigh Master or his/her assistants and placed in the official bags supplied by the

tournament organizers.

- d) All weights, upon verbal acceptance by the team captain, and then publicly called by the Weigh Master, are immediately official and are not thereafter contestable.
- e) Species caught other than Bass must be returned to tournament waters with the exception of damaged fish as per provincial fishing regulations. All legal fish of any species caught and damaged must be turned over to the Tournament Committee before weigh-in, and may not be kept by competitors. No fish, other than five Bass will be kept in the boat while reporting for weigh-in.
- f) Non-releasable bass/dead fish presented for weigh-in will be weighed. 4 oz. (0.25lb) will be deducted from the total daily weight for each dead or non-releasable fish that is weighed. The dead fish will be put in a Ziploc on ice and it is the teams responsibility to pick up at the end of day. A maximum of 1 dead fish per day, after which the complete weight of fish will be deducted from daily weight.
- g) If a bass (fish in distress) cannot be revived after 2 minutes it is at the committees discretion if this would constitute a dead fish/non-releasable bass.
- h) You are able to ask for a re-weigh of your fish if you so choose. If you do decide to ask for a re-weight, you MUST take the second weight (even if it is lower).
- i) Multiple weigh ins are only encouraged under the following conditions – Big Fish Contender, Fish in Distress or live well/aerator issues.

## **11) BOATS AND MOTORS**

- a) All boats must be a minimum of fourteen (14) feet in length.
- b) No barges, houseboats, or similar cumbersome craft will be allowed.
- c) All boats, motors and their equipment must meet Canadian Coast Guard standards.
- d) The Tournament Director reserves the right to disallow the use of any boat, motor and/or equipment deemed unsafe, inappropriate or unsuitable.
- e) All boats equipped with an emergency kill switch mechanism must have the kill switch tether securely attached to the operator whenever the boat is on plane.
- f) Tournament boat number must be visible at all times.

## **12) DAILY LAUNCHING AND MORNING EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS**

- a) Boats may be launched from Cordingley Lake Beach site on Cordingley Lake. Limited parking will be provided at the Beach in designated areas for Competitor's vehicles and trailers.
- b) Teams are required to have their equipment ready and on the water thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled departure time of their flight. Late arrivals will leave at the end of the flight being called, but must return at

their original scheduled return time. Teams wanting to leave at the end of the flight may request to do so.

- c) Boat inspections will take place each morning at lakeside at the Cordingley Lake Beach commencing one hour prior to flight departure time.
- d) Boats will be inspected for, but not limited to: Boat number properly affixed; operation of live well; kill switch operation; no live, dead, frozen, or freeze-dried bait, no underwater cameras and required safety equipment.
- e) Teams must have all tackle boxes; hatches and live wells open for easy inspection prior to the arrival of the Tournament Officials.
- f) Failure to report for daily boat inspection result in disqualification of that day's catch.
- g) For morning equipment inspections boats are to be in an orderly fashion within the signs.
- h) It is the contestant's responsibility to open, close, move, handle, etc. anything that is required for inspection. Anything that is damaged is not the responsibility of the Tournament Officials.
- i) **3 Minute Draw before First Flight: In order to be entered into the draw for 3 minutes before first flight, initial payment of \$5.00 needs to be paid prior to September 12th @ 8:00PM. If you do not enter by this date, you will not be eligible to purchase additional tickets at the Rules and Regulations Meeting. Draw for flight positioning date/time/location TBD! Return time of winner would be with first flight.**

### **13) FLIGHTS AND STAGGERED STARTS**

- a) The Official Starter will release teams, by staggered flight starts, commencing at 7:00 AM.
  - Flight No. 1 will commence departing at 7:00 AM
  - Flight No. 2 will commence departing at 7:15 AM
  - Flight No. 3 will commence departing at 7:30 AM
  - Flight No. 4 will commence departing at 7:45 AM
- b) On Day One (1) Teams will be started in order of boat number except those who have been penalized. They will be called and released every few seconds using a bullhorn. Each Team must officially acknowledge being called by waving to the Official Starter. Teams will idle past the bouys/point.
- c) The Official Starter will hold any Team starting or attempting to start out of order until the balance of the flight has departed.
- e) Starting position on Day Two will be determined by the net weight ranking achieved on Day One and will also be the order for weigh in.
- f) Flight departure schedules and return times will be included in each Team's registration package and posted prominently at the weigh in site at
- g) Cordingley Lake Beach.  
Teams are required upon returning to immediately check in at the weigh in dock to ensure return times are followed as well as report fish in distress.
- h) **Flight Return Schedule for Day One**

Flight No. 1 returns no later than 3:30 PM

Flight No. 2 returns no later than 3:45 PM

Flight No. 3 returns no later than 4:00 PM

Flight No. 4 returns no later than 4:15 PM

### **Flight Return Schedule for Day Two**

Flight No. 1 returns no later than 2:30 PM

Flight No. 2 returns no later than 2:45 PM

Flight No. 3 returns no later than 3:00 PM

Flight No. 4 returns no later than 3:15 PM

## **14) SPORTSMANSIP AND COURTESY**

- a) It is strictly prohibited for any Competitor to give, offer, accept or suggest the exchange of any weighable fish to, from or with any other Competitor.
- b) Use of cellular phones and CB's are prohibited except in 15a.

## **15) SAFETY**

- a) All Competitors must practice safe boating at all times during practice and tournament fishing.
- b) We encourage every competitor to wear a fully secured Coast Guard approved life jacket or floatation device while traveling from one location to another at other than trolling or drifting speed, and where so equipped tethered kill switches must be attached to the drivers body.
- c) No alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs may be possessed or consumed by the Competitors during tournament fishing hours up to and including the weighing of the their catch.
- d) Any Team charged with an offense by any law enforcement agency in connection with this Tournament shall be disqualified.
- e) In the event of a thunderstorm, lightning, or severe weather, Teams may pull onto the nearest shoreline until it is safe to continue fishing. Competitor(s) may not leave their boats during the tournament except at the Official Weigh-In Station at the Cordingley Lake Beach or if severe weather forces them ashore.
- f) Every Team, whether weighing fish or not, must, at the end of each day, report to the Official Tournament Check-In Station.

## **16) MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN OR EMERGENCIES**

- a) In the case of an emergency or mechanical breakdown, Cellular phones, CB's, and VHF Marine radios may be used for safety reasons and in the case of breakdown. (NOTE - IN THE EVENT OF BREAKDOWN A COMPETITOR MAY ALSO USE AN ONSHORE PHONE TO REACH THE TOURNAMENT COMMAND CENTER IF OTHER COMMUNICATION METHODS ARE ABSENT OR FAIL TO WORK)
- b) Committee patrol boats are prohibited from towing any Competitor's boat during tournament fishing hours. Other competitors may tow boats in mechanical distress provided that boat is towed at a safe distance and

nothing is exchanged between boats.

- c) In the event of mechanical breakdown the fish may not be transferred to another competitor's boat.

## **17) ON THE WATER**

- a) Competitors are personally responsible for knowing all Tournament Rules and abiding by them, as well as the current Ontario Sport Fishing Regulations and Canadian Coast Guard regulations. Penalty: Teams found to have violated federal or provincial fishing and boating regulations during the tournament may be disqualified when this information is confirmed by tournament officials. This judgment could also apply to eligibility to participate in future tournaments.
- b) Competitors are not allowed to toss or pass any item(s) to another boat or to receive any item(s) from another boat. No boats may be within 25m (82ft) of another boat at any time except with mechanical breakdown/emergency.
- c) All Teams and their equipment are subject to inspection at any time during the Tournament. Committee patrol boats may come alongside, following proper identification, and if necessary, board to check for adherence to all Tournament Rules.

## **18) TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT**

- a) Competitors may use only artificial lures, manufactured baits, pork rind, and Commercially available liquid attractants. Landing nets may be used.
- b) No live bait, frozen or freeze-dried bait of any kind may be used or possessed by any Competitor at any time during the Tournament.
- c) The use, in live wells, of commercially available fish care chemicals is permitted.
- d) The use of underwater cameras is not allowed during the tournament. If such equipment is found in a competitors boat during boat checks or during tournament fishing hours the offending team will be immediately disqualified.

## **19) RULE (S) VIOLATIONS AND PROTESTS**

- a) Where an authorized Tournament Official(s), which could result in disqualification of the daily catch or tournament disqualification, charges a team with a rule infraction the team has the right to appeal the decision to the Tournament Protest and Appeals Committee. Appeals must be submitted to tournament officials at the angler services tent 15 minutes after weigh-in, on the day of notice of the rules infraction.
- b) An infraction witnessed by a competitor can be reported to the Tournament Protest and Appeal Committee at the Angler Services Tent
- c) Each Team Captain has the right to file a Protest when they have first hand knowledge that a rule or rules may have been broken or violated by another Team. A Protest must be filed within Fifteen (15) Minutes of weigh-in at the Angler Services Tent to be considered.
- d) A \$200.00 fee must accompany all protests.
- e) Witness (es) may be called to appear before the Protest Committee to provide evidence relating to the alleged rule infraction. At the discretion of

the Committee, a polygraph test may be administered to any Competitor directly or indirectly involved or affected by the protest under consideration.

- f) The Protest and Appeals Committee will interpret the rules according to their spirit and intent. The decision of the Protest Committee is final and not subject to review of any kind.
- g) If the Protest is found to be valid, the protest fee will be returned forthwith and the team protested against must pay the protest fee, plus any polygraph costs, and any penalties imposed if applicable.
- h) If the Protest is determined to be invalid, the protest fee will not be returned and the protesting Team must pay any and all investigation expenses including, if applicable, polygraph costs.
- i) General Penalties: Teams may be disqualified from the tournament for frequent or major infractions of the rules and will not receive a refund of their entry fee. Examples of major infractions include unsafe boating practices, gross angling ethics violations and violations that clearly give the competitor an unfair or illegal advantage over other competitors, such as; movement of fish, use of live bait, fishing out of bounds, caged fish, violation of provincial and federal fishing and boating regulations, exchanging fish between teams and unauthorized use of under water cameras.

## **20) TIE BREAKERS**

- a) The team with the largest single day weight will settle a First Place tie.
- b) Ties for all other positions will be settled by combining the prize money for the positions in question and dividing it equally amongst all affected Teams.

## **21) CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS**

- a) Nakina Fish and Game Club retain the right to change or amend any or all of these preceding rules at their sole discretion without prior notification or consultation with the Competitors.
- b) Final Approved Official Rules of the Annual Nakina Live Release Bass Derby on Cordingley Lake will be given to all Teams as part of their Registration Package, subject only to clarification(s) arising from the Official Rules Meeting held on the Friday of the Tournament at Cordingley Lake Beach. (See 5a)