

Morristown Marine

Team Tournament Trail

2019

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:

Open to all individuals. Those under 18 may participate with written permission of a parent or legal guardian. Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail tournaments are open to all people regardless of race, sex, religion, or national origin. Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail reserves the right to reject any application for membership and tournament entry fees that is not in the best interest of the trail. All participants are subject to an observer or media personnel for promotional purposes at any time for any reason. No Exceptions. Refusal of observer is grounds for immediate disqualification.

MEMBERSHIP FEE IS \$40.00 PER PERSON. All memberships expire December 31st annually.

****ANY CONTESTANT THAT HAS FISHED THE B.A.S.S. ELITE SERIES OR FLW TOUR AS A PRO. ** EXCLUDING CO-ANGLER** WITHIN 6 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE MORRISTOWN MARINE TEAM TRAIL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT BEING ENTERED WILL BE INELIGIBLE TO FISH THAT PARTICULAR MORRISTOWN MARINE TEAM TRAIL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT. **ONLY EXCEPTION WOULD BE THE B.A.S.S. TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP CHAMPION THAT QUALIFIES FOR THE BASSMASTER CLASSIC****

2. ENTRY FEES:

Entry fees for all tournaments shall be \$125.00 per team with an optional \$10.00 Big Fish Pot. **\$5.00 from each entry fee will go toward the Classic to increase the payout.** All entries paid by credit card require a \$4.00 service charge per tournament. **A \$25.00 service charge will be assessed for any returned checks and the team will not be allowed to fish until the check is made good.** Winners are responsible for any and all taxes on any money and prizes received.

3. PAYOUTS:

All Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail tournaments will have a payout based on (1) place for every (6) boats, 1st Place is guaranteed. Over 100% payback at the ramp for all tournaments. There will be (2) Big Fish pot payouts per tournament (1 Largemouth and 1 Smallmouth). ****Note – If no Smallmouth is weighed, (2) Largemouth Lunkers will be paid.** Prize money will be paid out immediately following the tournament providing there are no protest and/or

polygraph required. Prize money may be held up to (2) weeks to allow time for a polygraph exam at a suitable time for all parties.

The Morristown Marine Team Trail (2) day Super Classic on Cherokee Lake will have a payout based on (1) place for every (6) boats, 1st Place will be \$30,000.00 Cash. All weights will carry over from Saturday to Sunday including Big Largemouth and Big Smallmouth with payouts on Sunday. Prize money will be paid out immediately following the tournament on Sunday providing there are no protest and/or polygraph required. Prize money may be held up to (2) weeks to allow time for a polygraph exam at a suitable time for all parties.

4. HIGHEST FINISHING SKEETER / YAMAHA/GRAY INSURANCE PAYOUT:

Highest finishing Skeeter Bonus will be paid to the top (10) highest finishing Skeeter / Yamaha teams. Payouts will be as follows:

HIGHEST FINISHING SKEETER PAYOUT	
1 st	\$3,000.00
2 nd	\$1,500.00
3 rd	\$1,000.00
4 th	\$800.00
5 th	\$700.00
6 th	\$500.00
7 th	\$250.00
8 th	\$200.00
9 th	\$150.00
10 th	\$100.00

MUST BE THE REGISTERED OWNER AND THE REGISTERED OWNER MUST FISH THE TOURNAMENT FROM START TO FINISH IN THEIR SKEETER/YAMAHA BOAT TO QUALIFY.

5. TIES

All 1st Place ties will be decided by a (2) hour fish off.

6. LAUNCH SEQUENCE / OFF LIMIT PERIODS:

Starting position will be determined by draw. Entries will be accepted at **Morristown Marine** the week prior to each scheduled tournament. If you sign up for the tournament by 5:00 PM on Friday, you will receive 2 draws at no charge and you will be allowed to retain the draw of choice. Entries after 5:00 PM on Friday will receive 1 draw only. Signups will be accepted at the ramp the morning of the tournament. There is no official off limit period or practice days. All tournaments will be starting at safe light until 3:00 PM. **You must weigh your fish prior to trailering your boat for all tournaments. No Exceptions.** All participants must come by the starter boat at the official take off location with

their partner at the start of the tournament and cannot enter a boat at another location.

7. SAFETY:

Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times. Any time the outboard engine is running, each contestant is required to wear a coast guard approved life preserver and a kill switch must be attached to the driver. Motors that exceed horsepower ratings are not condoned by Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail or its sponsors. All boats must be 14' minimum in length. Each boat must have all required US Coast Guard safety equipment. Boats must have working aerated live wells to maintain a live limit catch.

8. SPORTSMANSHIP:

All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Alcohol use, drug use, or anyone convicted of a felony within the last 36 months or currently on probation; likewise anyone that has been suspended or disqualified from any other fishing or tournament organization may be called for automatic disqualification. No participant is allowed to have someone hold a spot for the use of locating or to assist in locating fish before or during any tournament. No boat may fish within 50 yards of another competitor who was first anchored. **An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight or a shallow water anchor (i.e. Power Pole or Talon) ***Power Pole and Talon must actually be anchored in the ground*** and with the trolling motor in the up position.** Fighting will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification.

9. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:

Only artificial lures with the exception of pork trailers may be used. All bass must be caught in a sporting manner, **NO SNAGGING**. Only (1) rod may be used at any time. **NO TROLLING IS ALLOWED**.

10. STROLLING OR LONG LINE TECHNIQUE:

The strolling or long line technique will **NOT** be allowed in the Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail. **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

11. STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS:

All participants must abide by all state laws and wildlife regulations.

*South Holston Lake – Participants must abide by the TN Law when using the Alabama Rig in TN or VA.

12. LATE PENALTY:

Each team must check in with the team trailer or the check-in boat on the water. Teams that have not checked in on time will be penalized (1) lb per minute late. After 15 minutes the team will be disqualified.

13. SCORING:

A tournament limit shall consist of (5) bass. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth and Kentucky bass may be weighed in. Official measuring board will be a Golden Rule. The official length will comply with State or Local regulations. Short fish penalty will result in the loss of the short fish **AND** be penalized the loss of the **LARGEST** fish. Fish that appear to be mangled, mashed, mauled, or altered will be weighed only at the discretion of the tournament officials. Fish will be measured with the mouth closed. Dead fish penalty is (4 oz. /.25) per dead fish. Limit (1) dead fish per team. All culling must be done on the lake and not in the check in or weigh in area. No more than (6) fish in the live well at any time. A courtesy board will be available for use prior to entering the weigh-in location.

14. EMERGENCIES:

Team members shall not leave the boat except in emergencies, i.e., sickness or severe weather. The tournament director of the Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail must be notified if a participant must leave the boat for any other reason during tournament hours. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

In the event of a mechanical breakdown of a boat or motor, (1) partner may ride back to the weigh-in location with another competitor to weigh that team's fish while the other partner remains with the disabled boat. Tournament director **must** be notified in this event.

15. CLASSIC ELIGIBILITY:

TO QUALIFY FOR THE 2 DAY SUPER CLASSIC ON CHEROKEE LAKE, YOU MUST FISH OR PAY FOR ALL (5) REGULAR SEASON POINTS TOURNAMENTS.

ALL TOURNAMENTS MUST BE PAID FOR PRIOR TO THE BLAST OFF FOR ANY REGULAR SEASON TOURNAMENT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE 2-DAY SUPER CLASSIC ON CHEROKEE LAKE.

NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO PAY FOR A TOURNAMENT AFTER THE BLAST OFF OF ANY REGULAR SEASON TOURNAMENT TO MEET QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE 2-DAY SUPER CLASSIC ON CHEROKEE LAKE.

TEAMS MUST BE DECLARED PRIOR TO THE 1ST TOURNAMENT. EACH TEAM WILL BE ALLOWED (1) ALTERNATE DURING THE REGULAR SEASON FOR 1 TOURNAMENT ONLY. ALL ALTERNATES MUST PAY A \$40.00 MEMBERSHIP FEE. NO ALTERNATE WILL BE ALLOWED FOR THE 2-DAY CLASSIC ON CHEROKEE LAKE.

16. PROTEST/POLYGRAPHS:

Any protest must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within (15) minutes of scale closing. The Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail committee has the right to ask any member to submit to a polygraph exam at any time. If any member refuses a polygraph exam it will result in immediate disqualification and all entry fees and prizes will be forfeited. All members agree

to abide by the results of the polygraph exam. If polygraph is given at an off-site location, the tournament director has the right to withhold all prizes pending the outcome of the polygraph exam.

17. POINT FORMAT:

Points will be kept for the (5) 1-day tournaments.

1st Place Points Champion will receive \$1500.00 and 2nd Place Points Champion will receive \$1000.00, and 3rd Place Points Champion will receive \$750.00. Points Champion payouts will be awarded at the Classic Banquet.

18. LIABILITY:

Liability insurance is required in a minimum of \$100,000.00 per accident of all contestants using their boats while fishing the Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail. By signing an official entry form, or paying an entry fee and fishing the Morristown Marine Team Trail Invitational, you agree to assume all risks associated with the tournament and release Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail, its sponsors, director, committee, and employees from any and all damages, claims and expenses relating to any injury of any person including yourself and to damages to any property which you may cause by reason of participating in a Morristown Marine Team Tournament Trail event.

19. CELL PHONES:

Cell phones, including texting, should be used in emergency situations only and not for the use of locating or assisting in the location of fish.

20. RULES INTERPRETATION:

Interpretation of these rules will be left up to the tournament director or tournament committee. Infraction of any rule may result in disqualification of catch and forfeiture of entry fee and prizes.

21. JET ENGINES OR PROP TUNNEL BOATS

Jet Engines or Prop Tunnel Boats or any Boat that is modified to resemble a jet tunnel or prop tunnel boat is **NOT** allowed in the Morristown Marine Team Trail or in any event associated with Morristown Marine. An unmodified boat is defined by having a motor bolted directly to the boat's transom OR a jack plate bolted directly to the boat's transom AND a motor bolted directly to the jack plate. Tournament Director has final decision. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

23. SIGN- UP LOCATIONS:

SIGNUPS WILL BE TAKEN AT MORRISTOWN MARINE FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS STARTING THE MONDAY PRIOR TO EACH TOURNAMENT- EITHER BY PHONE OR WALK-IN. SIGN-UPS WILL ALSO BE TAKEN AT THE RAMP ON SATURDAY MORNING PRIOR TO EACH TOURNAMENT.

****SIGNUPS WILL ALSO BE TAKEN AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS****

Norris Lake – Campbell Co – Lonas Young Park Ramp 694 West High Knob Road Lafollette, TN 37766 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday, March 29, 2019.

South Holston Lake – Observation Knob 553 Knob Park Road, Bristol, TN 37620 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday, April 19, 2019.

Watts Bar Lake – Jerry’s Bait Shop 815 South Gateway Ave, Rockwood, TN 37854 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday, May 10, 2019.

2019 SCHEDULE

All 5 qualifying tournaments are points tournaments

Date	Lake	Ramp	1st Place
February 23, 2019	Cherokee	Boat Launch Road	\$10,000.00
March 30, 2019	Norris Lake	Lonas Young Park	\$10,000.00
April 20, 2019	South Holston	Observation Knob	\$10,000.00
May 11, 2019	Watts Bar	Tom Fuller Park	\$10,000.00
October 19, 2019	Douglas	Free Launch	\$10,000.00
November 7, 2019	Field of Dreams		Dinner/Banquet
2 Day Classic November 9-10, 2019	Cherokee	Cherokee Dam Ramp	\$30,000.00

Tournament Director: Andy Cole

Day Phone – 423-587-5555

Tournament Phone – 423-534-0923 (M-F) 423-534-1993 (Tournament Day only)

****TOURNAMENT CELL PHONE WILL BE AVAILABLE 8:30-5:00 MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8:30-1:00 ON SATURDAYS AND ALL DAY ON TOURNAMENT DAY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE TOURNAMENTS PLEASE CALL THESE NUMBERS.**