

It has come to our attention that there are rumors that are being spread in an effort to discredit the Central Texas High School Tournament Trail. We want to set the facts straight

10 years ago, the Central Texas High School Tournament Trail was formed to provide student anglers in the Central Texas area the opportunity to compete in competitive bass fishing tournaments and to earn scholarship money for their continued education by promoting discipline, patience, and fair competition. We are not about winning instant cash prizes; it's about achieving goals and investing in the future of our youth and the sport of fishing.

As we prepared to start our Trail, many long hours of research and studying had went into how to form a tournament trail, we did not simply cut and paste from another trail's website and calling it our own. We created a trail.

- a) The Central Texas High School Tournament Trail is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.
- b) The entire staff of the Central Texas High School Tournament Trail is made up of volunteers. None of the volunteers or staff are paid for their time and effort and are all dedicated to the youth of Central Texas.
- c) The Central Texas High School Tournament Trail has no sponsors and all the operating expenses, prizes and scholarships awarded comes from the angler entry fees
- d) Scholarship Money: Any angler winning scholarship money while fishing our Trail and after graduating high school, and by simply providing the CTHSTT staff with their choice of school, the address and their student ID#, have been paid. No jumping through hoops. We verify their winnings, write a check and send it to the institution in their name. An angler upon graduating from high school has one year to claim their scholarship. If any angler does not choose to pursue a higher education after graduating, their winnings are returned to the CTHSTT general account and used to improve the trail by increasing scholarships, purchasing more and higher quality prizes and awarding small, medium and large school cash prizes at the end of the season to be used by the school to help their organization, to mention a few. We also had to fill the void left when the Tuffman / High School Invitational dissolved and would no longer be sponsored by the Tuffman Tournament Trail. We changed the name to the CTHSTT Winter Classic, paid the scholarship lost and have been able increase the amount of scholarships being offered at this free event for our anglers, since the 2021-2022 season.
- e) The Central Texas High School Tournament Trail has been sanctioned by The Bass Federation / Student Angler Federation since we formed our Trail 10 years ago. All anglers are required and reminded at the beginning of each season to ensure their SAF membership is up to date. Many of our anglers fish the SAF Texas State Championship, which they could not if they were not members. Also, our Trail is given 5 slots from the Student Angler Federation to be awarded to our top 5 teams of a season. This is their invitation to the TBF / SAF National / World Finals. Another item that would not be possible if we were not a sanctioned by SAF

We welcome any trail to the Central Texas area interested in promoting good sportsmanship and fair competition for the youth. But good sportsmanship and fair competition doesn't mean spreading rumors for their benefit.

If there are any questions or concerns on how our trail is operated, feel free to contact me directly.