

Official Rules

The 7th Annual Pagnozzi Charities Big Bass Tournament

Registration: \$60

2018 Tournament Schedule

Saturday, April 21st

- **5:00 a.m. Late Registration at Prairie Creek**
- **7 a.m. Fishermen, cast your lines**
- **9 a.m. First hourly weigh-in at Prairie Creek**
- **10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Hourly weigh-ins at the top of the hour at Prairie Creek**
- **3 p.m. Final Weigh-in followed by Awards Ceremony at Prairie Creek**

For Clarification, the first weigh-in will be from 7:01am-9:00am, second will be from 9:01am-10:00am, etc. So the final weigh-in is from 2:01pm-3:00pm.

Tournament Rules

This event is produced by Pagnozzi Charities. Hereinafter, for the purpose of reference, they will be referred to as “producer.”

General Rules

1. All local, state, federal, Coast Guard and Arkansas Game and Fish regulations shall apply and must be observed at all times during the tournament.

Specifically:

- (a) All boats must have running lights if you are on the water before daylight.
- (b) All contestants must wear a securely fastened Coast Guard-approved life vest when the main engine is in use.
- (c) All boats must have an operating kill switch attached to the operator while the main internal combustion engine is operating.
- (d) All boats must be equipped with an operating live well. (An aerator in an ice chest is acceptable)
- (e) Contestants must have a valid Arkansas fishing license in their possession unless exempt.
- (f) All tournament boats may be inspected by tournament officials upon request.

2. All applications for entry, determination of winners, and rights to awards and prizes are subject to the approval of tournament officials.
3. If a contestant is disqualified for rules violations, all other contestants in his boat will also be disqualified.
4. Protests must be registered in writing with the pool weighmaster within 15 minutes of the dispute. Decisions will be communicated to the parties involved by the pool weighmaster.
5. The sponsor of this event expressly reserves the right to accept or reject any entry form.

Launching and Fishing Rules

6. All contestants are responsible for paying their own Corp of Engineers Launch fees and must gain access to their fishing area on Beaver Lake by launching their boats from:
 - (a) a hard surface public ramp or marina slip on Beaver Lake.
 - (b) a designated Corps of Engineers camp ground or launching area.
 - (c) launching ramps on Beaver Lake which are maintained by state or local government agencies.
 - (d) private boat docks or hard surface ramps on Beaver Lake can be used by the property owner for launching.
7. Any backwater that can be accessed from Beaver Lake by floating your boat into the area without getting out of your boat is eligible water.
8. No casting or fishing allowed before 7 a.m. on the day of the event. Final weigh-ins will be at 3 p.m.
9. You may pull your boat out and trailer to the weigh-in site.
10. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Mean Mouth Bass and Kentucky spotted bass (black bass) will be eligible to be weighed in.
11. All fishing will be done with a rod and reel and artificial lures only. The use of pork rind is acceptable. No trolling is permitted.
12. No contestant is permitted to fish nearer than 50 yards to another contestant's boat that is anchored, unless permission is received, or 100 yards either side of weigh-in site.
13. Fish must be weighed the same day as caught. **Dead fish will not be weighed.**
14. Each contestant is allowed to have a total of two (2) fish in their possession at any given time during the tournament. Fish entered in the hourly contests do not carry over from hour to hour. Only the largest fish per contestant is eligible to win an overall prize.

15. No electronic tracking devices (implanted microchips) may be used to locate fish for tournament purposes. However, depth-finders and graph charts are acceptable.

16. No contestants can have more than one (1) fish in a weigh-in bag and cannot weigh more than one fish per tournament hour. Tournament weigh-in bags will be provided.

17. Any artificially weighted or preserved bass will be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to prosecution under federal law.

18. No fish under 15 inches in length (measured on a flat board) will be weighed in.

19. All fish weighed in each day automatically become the property of the tournament committee and will, if possible, be returned live and healthy to Beaver Lake.

Rules Governing Tournament Integrity

20. Tournament integrity will be protected by polygraph tests administered on a random basis. Contestants must pass these tests.

21. By signing the entry/waiver form and/or participation in the tournament, each contestant agrees to submit to and abide by the results of a polygraph test should he/she be accused of any rule violation or suspected of any rule violation. Polygraph test may also be given at random to any contestant without suspicion. The administration and results of the polygraph test shall be the sole responsibility of the Tournament Committee.

22. Use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. Any contestant determined by polygraph examination or by tournament officials to have consumed alcohol or illegal drugs, or to have an illegal substance in their possession or in their boat during tournament hours, is in violation of tournament rules and will be disqualified.

Legal Concerns

23. All tournament contestants, by their entry applications, shall grant permission to the tournament producers and to their agents the right to publicize and/or broadcast his/her name, character likeness or voice, and fact that he/she was a participant and/or prize winner and all other matters incidental thereto. If a participant is a minor (under age 18), a parent or legal guardian shall be required to grant such permission as part of the entry procedure for the minor.

24. The tournament producer, officers, employees, agents, etc., will not be responsible for boating or water accidents. Each tournament contestant shall be solely responsible for his/her actions with regard to inclement weather or any other potentially dangerous situation which may arise. The contestant or non-contestant expressly assumes the risk of any and all damage or injury of any nature which may result from any source whatsoever during the tournament. Should any contestant be a minor, a parent or legal guardian shall grant such release on the part of the minor.

25. All tournament contestants, by their entry applications, shall grant to the producer and its officers, employees, and agents, unconditional release of any liability of personal injury, death, damaged, lost or stolen property, or accidents.

26. Any property that is posted during normal water conditions cannot be entered during periods of high water.

27. All tournament contestants must read and sign the form entitled "Waiver and Release " that is printed on the back of the entry form. Your signature on this form will constitute a certification that the contestant has read and understood the "Waiver and Release" form. All terms of the "Waiver and Release" form are hereby incorporated by reference into these rules in the same manner as if the terms of the "Waiver and Release" form were printed verbatim in these rules.

Weigh-In Site

Prairie Creek Marina

- Weigh-Ins- Beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 2 p.m. Final weigh-in is at 3 p.m.

Other Important Information

1. To win hourly bonuses, **you must have purchased and be wearing an official 2018 tournament t-shirt and/or cap and it MUST be listed on your registration form.**
2. For those registering by mail or the Internet, your credentials and anything else you purchase will be mailed from Pagnozzi Charities.
3. If you have questions about the tournament please call 479-443-2550.

Distribution of Prize Money

- **Place money per hour — \$300 to 1st place, \$200 to 2nd place and \$100 to 3rd place winner overall GUARANTEED.**

In addition, hourly 1st place winners who **purchase and are wearing an official 2018 tournament T-shirt and/or cap and it must be listed on your registration form** will receive a \$50 bonus.

- Additional Prizes will be distributed to Overall Big Bass 1st and 2nd Place. (1st overall will receive \$5,000 and 2nd overall will receive \$1,000)