



"2017 SPRING BORDER WAR"

OPEN TOURNAMENT

CO-HOSTED BY THE

**WESTERN NEW YORK BASSMASTERS &
ST.CATHARINES BASSMASTERS**

Saturday May 6th, 2017

Safe Harbor Marina, Buffalo

7:00 Start - 3:00 pm Weigh-In

Mandatory Two-Angler / Team Event

2 Fish Limit – 20" Minimum

Live Release Tournament

\$100.00 U.S. FUNDS Entry per Team includes Big Fish Pool

90% CASH PAYBACK

0-20 TEAMS – TOP 3

PLUS 1 ADDITIONAL PAYOUT SPOT FOR EVERY 5 TEAMS

1ST AND 2ND BIG FISH PAYOUT

Cash Payments \$100 US FUNDS ONLY

Paid the morning of event. (No pre-registration)

Registration will be open at 5:30am – Cut off is 6:45am

Boater

Name: _____

Boat: _____ HP: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Non Boater

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

One cell phone required per team. Please leave cell phones on at all times. All anglers must present a valid Sports Fishing license to participate in tournament.
*By signing the above, you hereby agree to comply with and by all General Rules, Regulations & Liability; I hereby agree to hold harmless all contestants, organizers, tournament officials, parks, property owners and sponsors from bodily injury or any damages incurred in connection with these events. I am also aware that these events may be filmed for future broadcast and photographed for print distribution and other media by event organizers and/or participating partners; I hereby permit the use of said images of my person at no cost.

For more information contact:

Jason Clay (SCBM) 905-401-3609 OR Keith Pease (WNYB) 716-818-7350



BLAST OFF PROCEDURE

SINGLE FILE IN ORDER OF TEAM NUMBER - 7AM

PLEASE LINE UP INSIDE THE OUTER BREAKWALL.

FINAL DIRECTION WILL GIVEN MORNING OF EVENT

ALL WATER INSIDE THE OUTER BREAKWALL IS - **8 MILE/HR SPEED LIMIT** – NO EXCEPTIONS

CHECK IN BOAT WILL BE POSITIONED AT THE OUTER BREAKWALL GAP

WEIGH IN PROCEDURE

ALL TEAMS MUST RELEASE THEIR OWN FISH OUTSIDE OF THE INNER BREAKWALL

DOCK YOUR BOAT CLOSE TO WEIGH IN STATION

DO NOT PULL OUT YOUR BOAT IF YOU ARE WEIGHING IN FISH

USE ISSUED WEIGH IN BAGS ONLY

BRING FISH TO WEIGH IN MASTER WITH TEAM # PAINT STICK

1. FISH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO BINS
2. FISH WILL BE MEASURED AND WEIGHED
3. FISH WILL BE RETURNED TO WEIGH IN BAG
4. ANGLERS WILL TAKE FISH BACK TO THEIR BOAT FOR RELEASE IN THE OUTER HARBOR ONLY!
5. BAG MUST BE RETURNED TO WEIGH IN MASTER IMMEDIATELY

FISH CARE IS THE ANGLERS RESPONSIBILITY – PLEASE BE SURE THAT FISH ARE IN GOOD SHAPE BEFORE AND AFTER THE WEIGH IN FOR PROPER RELEASE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION ON FISH CARE PLEASE ASK!!!

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

JASON CLAY (SCBM) - 905-401-3609

ERIC HILL (SCBM) – 289-407-4384

KEITH PEASE (WNYBM) - 716-818-7350



OFFICIAL RULES

"IF" the lake is blown off May 7th as determined by the tournament director, then the event will be moved to Saturday May 14th OR cancelled outright if conditions do not allow the event to run. Safety of boaters will be priority. Tournament director's decision will be final.

1. All competitors must be registered and paid in full **prior** to the start of the event.
2. All boats must have fully functional kill switch and aerated livewell(s) (subject to inspection morning of event). All boats are subject to pre-tournament inspection. Failure to complete and pass inspection results in disqualification. Kill switch must be attached to driver while traveling with main engine.
3. Only artificial lures will be permitted; NO live bait or preserved bait excluding "pork-rind" type baits will be permitted.
4. Teams will consist of two and only two anglers per boat. Only one line per angler is permitted
5. Fishing boundaries include any Lake Erie (UPPER NIAGARA RIVER IS CLOSED) waters defined as accessible by boat without locking through. In case of emergency, where necessary –one competitor can go ashore (i.e. phone) while the other competitor must remain in boat. One competitor must stay in the boat at all times –cellular phone number(s) will be made available at check in for emergency purposes.
6. No fishing allowed within 100 feet of another boat.
7. Legal fish entries will include a maximum of 2(two) bass. Smallmouth bass ONLY will be accepted to the maximum of 2 fish. Legal length is **20 inches** measured from "Tip to Tip"(extreme tip of the nose to the extreme tip of the tail). **DO NOT BRING IN SHORT FISH!** – DEC may be present at the weigh in.
8. Culling Equipment that punctures the body or mouth of fish such as 'stringer style culling clips, balance beams, and related equipment, etc. may not be used. **Failing to comply results in disqualification.**
9. At no time shall a competitor have in his or her possession more than the legal limit, and at no time shall a competitor have more than the tournament limit in their possession **while the boat is under power of the main engine.** If a competitor determines they have over the limit they must immediately reduce his catch to the tournament limit with a **live** bass of their choice from their catch. Each returned bass will result in a 2 pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. In this case, competitors must attempt to notify tournament officials and if unsuccessful must notify officials at check in. Once a competitor checks in they must present all legal bass to tournament officials at the verification table. If competitors at the verification table have more than the tournament limit, the competitor will reduce with live bass to the tournament limit and each returned bass will result in a 2 pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. If a competitor has his fish verified, weighed and upon returning to the boat discovers additional fish over the tournament limit that were not presented to officials; he then must notify tournament officials immediately to receive a 2 lb. penalty for each bass discovered.
10. Culling of Dead fish is not permitted. Team must retain and weigh in any dead fish as part of the event limit. Culling dead fish will result in disqualification.
11. All fish weighed in will be promptly released by the anglers following the weigh-in., outside of the inner harbor wall.
12. All fish to be weighed in must be in good condition at time of weigh-in and are subject to the weighmaster's discretion. Dead fish or fish deemed "unfit" by the weigh-master will be assessed a half pound penalty to be subtracted from that team's total weight –the fish in question WILL be tallied into the total. For fish falling short of the 20 inch minimum, one pound penalty will be subtracted from that team's total weight –the fish in question WILL NOT be included into that team's total weight. Simplified: Dead fish –the fish's weight counts minus the half pound penalty. Short fish –the fish's weight doesn't count plus the one pound penalty
13. "BIG FISH" must be **alive**, if deemed dead by the tournament director it will **not** count towards "Big Fish" prizes.
14. In the event of a tie, for any position the cash prizes for that position and the next position will be added together and distributed equally amongst the tied teams.
15. Personal floatation devices must be worn by all competitors while traveling with main engine.
16. Federal and Provincial fishing and boating regulations are to be practiced at all times.
17. No refund of entry fee (tournament director's decision is final); however, last minute substitutions for one or both anglers are permitted before the beginning of the event.
18. Competitors late to the weigh-in or check-in site (details announced the morning of the event) will be penalized 1(one) pound per minute late to a maximum penalty of 10 minutes/pounds. DQ after 10 minutes.
19. All boats must check-in with the Check-In Boat. A 5 lb. Penalty will be applied against any team that does not check-in with Check-In Boat
20. Competitors may be disqualified for violations of the rules herein, the Ontario Fishing Regulations, or the law, and will not receive any prizes of any kind or refund of their entry fee.
21. For the safety of all competitors, all teams will receive a numbered identity tag at the beginning of the event that must be returned at the end of the day whether weighing in fish or not.
22. All competitors must be 19 years of age, or have parental consent to compete in this event. Competitors under the age of 16 must be accompanied by parent or parental guardian.
23. Use of alcohol or non-prescribed drugs during tournament hours is prohibited. Tournament hours are from, angler check-in until final award distribution.
24. Boaters are required to have minimum of \$1,000,000 liability insurance. Proof of insurance may be requested on tournament day.
25. If you have any questions on the rules be sure to clarify with the Organizers **prior to Blast Off.**
26. Decisions of the Tournament Officials are final.