

# RULES, REGULATIONS AND CONTRACT

This tournament trail is open to all persons, both male and female, to participate as a team and are subject to these rules and regulations. Each person operating the combustion engine must be 18 years of age or older. **Any adult choosing a minor as a partner assumes full responsibility for the minor, and the Tournament Entry Form must be signed by the minor child and their parent or legal guardian.** All state and local laws will apply.

**1—POLYGRAPH FEE:** Everyone 18 years of age or older must pay an annual \$10.00 Polygraph Fee.

**2—RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS:** In consideration of acceptance of entry into a Berry's Tournament Trail Tournament, all participants – and parents or guardians of any minor child participant – by signing an Entry Form, waive any and all claims for themselves and their heirs against officials, sponsors, employees, owners, and host of Berry's Tournament Trial for injury or illness which may directly or indirectly result from participating in the tournament. By signing the Tournament Entry form, all participants acknowledge that (1) they are in proper physical condition to participate in the tournament; (2) that they know the dangers of participating in bass tournaments; (3) that they understand and appreciate the risks associated with participating in the tournament; (4) that they knowingly and voluntarily expose themselves to such a risk; (5) that any injury sustained by participant amounts to participant's failure to exercise ordinary care for participants own safety (6) that participant holds harmless officials, sponsors, employees, owners, and hosts of Berry's Tournament Trail in the event that participants or any other person is injured or sustains property damage as a result of participant's action or failure to act.

**3—SAFETY AND BOAT EQUIPMENT:** Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times. Carelessness or unsafe operation of any boat will be grounds for disqualification. Each competitor is required to wear a Coast Guard approved life vest securely fastened when the combustion engine is running. Safety equipment adequate to pass Coast Guard regulations must be in the boat at all times. All boats are required to have FUNCTIONAL emergency cut-off devices (kill switches). All kill switches must be attached to the driver at all times when the combustion engine is running. Failure to abide by this rule will cause the team to be disqualified. Both the driver and the passenger who participate in boats equipped with engines exceeding the BIA horsepower rating will accept full responsibility for any and all personal injury or property damage (both personal and private) which may occur. Each boat must be equipped with an aerated live well with space adequate to maintain a tournament limit of fish. For your own protection, participants should have liability insurance coverage on their boat.

**4—REGISTRATION:** Competitors may register by phone, fax, mail or in person at the tournament site. Registration forms must be filled out completely and signed by both team members. Each competitor must check in at the tournament site at least one hour prior to "ooze off" time and have a boat check and rules briefing. Failure to check in may result in disqualification. Tournament fees are payable by cash or check and must be paid at the time of registration. NO REFUNDS will be given after registration and fee are received. Returned checks will constitute grounds for disqualification from future events and a \$30 fee will be assessed for every returned check. Registration at the ramp will be Cash Only.

**5—SPORTSMANSHIP:** All competitors must show courtesy and good sportsmanship to other competitors and non-competitors alike. This includes crowding another competitor. Failure to do so will result in disqualification. Anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol during the tournament hours will be disqualified. No fire arms are permitted.

**6—OFF LIMITS:** There are no off limits periods for these tournaments.

**7—TACKLE & FISHING METHODS:** Only artificial lures may be used. Pork type lures and add-ons may also be used. All bass must be caught in a legal, live, conventional manner using a rod and reel. Each competitor may have only one rod in use at a time. TROLLING IS NOT ALLOWED.

**8—TOURNAMENT HOURS:** The hours of competition will be safe light as determined by the Tournament Director, until 3:00 p.m. Any variation of tournament hours will be announced prior to "ooze off."

**9—"OOZE OFF" SEQUENCE:** Boats will be started off using the "ooze off" method. This will be determined by when the entry and registration are received. **All participants proceed at their own risk.**

**10—PERMITTED FISHING:** Fishing is permitted any where on tournament waters, except within 50 yards of any marina (any business that sells gasoline), spillway locks. No fishing is allowed within 25 yards of a non-anchored tournament boat without that boats permission. No fishing is allowed within 50 yards of another anchored or tied tournament boat with trolling motor out of the water, without the anchored boats permission.

Other no-fishing areas will be announced at the morning rules briefing. Markers or any obstruction cannot be placed so as to block entry to any creek or canal. No competitors will have anyone "hole sit" or protect any fishing area.

**No communication devices can be used to locate fish during tournament hours.**

**11—EMERGENCIES:** Competitors shall remain with their partner and in their boats at all times during the tournament hours, except in the event of sickness, call of nature, severe weather or other such hazards. **One team member may momentarily exit the boat to refuel, retrieve lure, etc., repair boat; but not to land a fish or make the boat more accessible to fishing waters.** If, for any reason, a team or team member leaves the tournament waters early, that team member or members bears the full responsibility for notify a tournament official. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.