## 2024 BATTLE OF THE BIGBEE Official Rules:

## IT'S EVERY ANGLERS RESPONSIBILITY TO READ AND FOLLOW THE RULES!!

"THE ONLY" means to access fishable waters is by using the big motor or trolling motor installed on your boat. Any other means (example push pole) is prohibited. Your person must stay inside the gunnel of the boat at all times. This will be on the polygraph.

## You must read and follow these rules you will be asked on a polygraph if you read these rules!!!

- 1. Tournament director has the final say and can deny any team from entering the tournament no exceptions. The Tournament Director will be allowed to participate in the tournaments.
- 2. Sportsmanship Rule: Any unsportsmanlike behavior during tournament hours will be grounds for disqualification from the tournament. This includes but not limited to behaviors like, someone holesitting for you, reckless boat operation, intentionally snagging fish, etc....
- 3. Communication rule- During tournament hours the use of any communication device to seek guidance or fishing information is not allowed.
- 4. All fish are to be caught during the hours of the tournament where you blasted off without leaving the boat or receiving fish from another team
- 5. All State, Corp of engineers, local and Pride of the South rules/laws will be obeyed. If your team is issued a ticket during any Pride of The South tournaments, you must notify the tournament director prior to weighing any fish. It's the tournament director's discretion to determine the penalty up to disqualification.
- 6. 2 people maximum per boat.
- 7. ON TIME CHECK IN- Each team is given two Key Fobs when you register in the morning. You are responsible to hang 1 Key Fob back on the board per the clock's time installed on the board before you due in time (Example 3:30 weigh in time (3:29:59-on time) (3:30:00 Late disgualified). The 2<sup>nd</sup> Key fob bring with your fish to weigh in. If you choose to leave early or not weigh, please hang both back on the board so we know you are off the water.
- \*\*If you have an emergency or mechanical breakdown, you must contact the tournament director @ 228-327-5941 send a text if no answer. If you are broke down trying to get back for weigh in, you are allowed to ride with another team as long as one team member stays with the fish. Running out of gas is not a mechanical breakdown\*\*
- 8. Five fish 12 in or Lake Rule limit per boat. Fish measured with a Radicull Beamer Board.
- 9. 1/4lb (4oz) per 1 dead fish. 1/2lb per 2 or more dead fish (Example: 1 dead fish .25 deduction 2 dead fish .75 deduction 3 dead fish 1.25lb deduction.) Lunker winning fish must be weighed alive.. Short fish will be released immediately. Ties will be determined by the Lunker between the two teams. It is the team's responsibility to notify the weigh master that you want your Lunker weighed. Any suspicious dead fish can be denied being weighed in per tournament director's discretion. 10. All fished weighed in will be released back. It's the tournament director's discretion to allow
- teams to trailer prior to weighing in.
- 11. Artificial bait only. No trolling or live bait fishing. Only 1 rod allowed at a time. (A-RIGS are legal). You must completely retrieve your line inside the boat prior to picking up another rod. Jigger poles are not allowed. No fishing while big motor is running.
- 12. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs allowed during tournament. If you're subject to taking a polygraph no drinking after you weigh your fish until all places and prizes have been decided.
- 13. No culling at the dock. Only 5 fish allowed in live well at any time.

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- 14. Cutting down of green trees including having someone not entered to fish with the intent to fish during the tournament will result in being banned from fishing the trail. No intentional putting out green limbs or baiting fish prior to any event is allowed.
- 15. Cannot relocate fish prior to an event. Meaning catching them somewhere else and releasing them in a different area with the intent to catch during any event.
- 16. Must follow all water safety rules. Life jackets and kill switches during blast off and while boat is on plane.
- 17. Must abide by all "NO WAKE ZONES".
- 18. Can leave the boat in an emergency only. No fishing allowed while not inside of the boat during an emergency.
- 19. Off limits are determined by state laws. No fishing in ponds or private waters during high water levels. No casting into a private or off limit water even if your boat is not sitting in the off-limits waters. Cannot leave the boat to gain access to fishable waters.
- 20. You are allowed to lock through Dams.
- 21. Must obey all posted signs this includes dams. (Section 220-6-19 it shall be unlawful to fail to comply with any restrictive sign, buoy, or marker as approved by the Director of the Alabama Marine Police Division). Treat the sign like a wall do not cross nor cast past the posted sign or the area the sign is referencing this includes private ponds or off-limit areas.
- 22. Any Boat is allowed to carry gas with you in an approved coast guard tank with quick disconnects. Handheld tanks are not allowed cannot leave boat to get gas on land. No one is allowed to bring you gas during the tournament. Plan accordingly if you run out of gas you must make it back on time in your boat. If you ride back your catch will be disqualified.
- 23. Live well check will be conducted during registration.
- 24. An approved boat must be equipped with an Outboard Water-Cooled motor only. No jet foot motors, or go-devil style motors will be allowed to enter the tournament. Also <u>working</u> live well, navigation and running lights. Ice Chest cannot be used as a live well.
- 25. If a team has their trolling motor down <u>FISHING</u>, you must give that team a 50 YD courtesy distance on that bank that is being fished unless both teams agree differently. If the area being fished is wide enough, were you can't cast to both banks you can fish the opposite bank. If a team has their anchor out <u>FISHING</u>, you must give that team a 100 YD courtesy distance unless both teams agree.
- 26. Anyone that fishes any of the pride of the south tournaments are fishing at their own risk and cannot hold anyone that is involved in the tournament responsible.
- 27. Each event will have a mandatory polygraph test performed per the Tournament director's decision. A formal protest must be filed by the closing of the scales in person. Any obscene or vulgar gestures said at the event because of the protest will result in banning of the trail. This type of conduct will not be tolerated. Any prior polygraph failures will result in ineligibility to compete.

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