

HEAVY HITTERS APRIL 24th 2027 Official Rules:

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

Every Anglers Responsibilities

In the state of Alabama, anyone born after April 28th 1954 is required to obtain an operator's license. Effective October 1, 2024: Nonresidents may operate a vessel upon the waters of this state only after obtaining a valid boater safety certification or vessel operator's certification issued in his or her home state or country, or after obtaining a Nonresident Alabama Boater Safety Certification upon examination and certification under the same terms and conditions as Alabama residents.

During the hours of the tournament all Anglers are expected to treat safety with the highest priority. Make sure to always wear life jackets, kill switches, and keep running lights on when required. Stay focused while driving your boat watching out for any dangers in the water or other vessels. Obey all posted no wakes zones.

Working Navigation Lights-Navigation lights help you and other boaters determine which is the give-way vessel when encountering each other at night. These lights must be displayed from sunset to sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility, such as fog.

1. Tournament director has the final say and can deny any angler from entering the tournament no exceptions. The Tournament Director will be allowed to participate.
 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 hole-sitting 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 per these rules during the hours of the tournament where you blasted off without leaving the boat or receiving fish from another angler.
 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. 1 person per boat. 4 boats per adult team.
 7. No leaving the boat to push into any place. If you become stuck, you can push out but not allowed to continue to push forward to gain access. Only trolling motor or big motor is allowed to gain access to permitted fishing waters.
 8. The influencing or requesting any operation of a spillway outside it normal schedule operating times will be disqualified. (Example Olin basin)
 9. ON TIME CHECK IN- Each team member is given a Key Fobs when you register in the morning. You are responsible to hang 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 disqualified).
- **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 angler fish must be kept separate and tagged. Running out of gas is not a mechanical breakdown****

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10. All site fish must be caught inside the mouth. No snagging
11. Five fish 12 in or Lake Rule limit per boat. Fish measured with a Radicull Beamer Board. Each team member is allowed to weigh in 5 fish. Each angler has to catch his own limit and cannot share fish with other team members.
12. 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. A tie between any teams combined weight will be decided by the biggest fish weighed by the team. Any suspicious dead fish can be denied being weighed in per tournament director's discretion. A tie for overall weight leader will be decided by the big fish between the two anglers. It's your responsibility to make sure your big fish is weighed.
13. All fished weighed in will be released back trailering is allowed prior to weighing.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. No culling at the dock. Only 5 fish allowed in live well at any time. Bringing 6 fish to the scales results in automatic disqualification. You can cull a dead fish.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. Must follow all water safety rules. Life jackets and kill switches during blast off and while boat is on plane.
20. Must abide by all "NO WAKE ZONES". This includes blast off at live oak. Upper and Lower Bryant's on Tensaw must obey buoys. Even if the buoys are missing due to high water.
21. Can leave the boat in an emergency only. No fishing allowed while not inside of the boat during an emergency.
22. 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. You are allowed to lock through Dams. The following are MOBILE DELTA OFF-LIMITS DOCTOR LAKE, HELLCAT LAKE, BOYKIN LAKE, FLAG LAKE, GREEN LAKE, BEAR LAKE, CHOCTAW LAKE, OLIN BASIN, BIG CHIPPEWA LAKE, AND LITTLE CHIPPEWA LAKE.
23. 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. THE DISTANCE YOU MUST MAINTAIN FROM THE DAMS IS 800FT. YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO FISH OR HAVE YOUR BOAT IN THIS AREA. IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW WHERE THE 800FT MARK IS.
24. Any team fishing in 3-mile creek on mobile river, you must obey the "idle only" designated areas.
25. 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

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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.

26. Live well check can be conducted during registration.

27. 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 working live well, navigation and running lights. (Any questions call Tournament Director 228-327-5941)

28. No angler can block access to fishable waters. If an angler has their trolling motor down FISHING, you must give that angler a 50 YD courtesy distance on that bank (opposite bank does not apply) that is being fished unless both anglers agree differently. Any angler fishing smaller creeks or tighter areas has to choose which bank if there first to allow another angler to fish opposite unless it's impossible for two boats to fish at the same time. If an angler has their anchor out FISHING, you must give that team a 100 YD courtesy distance unless both teams agree.

29. 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.

30. A mandatory polygraph test performed per the Tournament director's decision. The polygraph must be passed to be paid. 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.

31. Lunker ties will result in a 50/50 payout split.

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