

Smith Center (Alabama River) rules

Wind Creek 2019 - 2020

PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: Participants should be at least 18 years of age. If a participant is under the age of 18 years, his or her partner must be of adult age and the adult partner must assume liability in all matters. All participants should familiarize themselves with Alabama Boating License Requirements prior to operating a gas-powered motor.

PRE-ENTRY: Boat numbers for launch sequence are determined as entry monies are received. Entries shall be mailed to OGS Promotions 3011 Stillwood Way, Opelika AL 36804. The tournament director or assistant director has the right to reject any tournament entry. You may pre-register online, via mail, or at the ramp the morning of the event.

FEES: Entry fees are \$120.00 per boat.

PAYBACK: Ten dollars of each entry will go to a big fish pot for the tournament date. The payback to the field will be \$2000.00 first place, \$750 to second, and \$500 to third guaranteed regardless of the number of boats. Two additional places will be paid once the field exceeds 50 in number of boats.

TEAM MEMBERS: Each boat is limited to two (2) team members; a Boater and a Partner. A boater may fish alone if he or she so desires.

QUALIFYING FISH: A limit of fish will be five (5) black bass with no minimum length (spots included). All fish must be caught within tournament hours. No fish shall be taken from waters other than those waters obtainable by boat from the launch point of the tournament. No fishing may occur prior to official launch. Fishing period for this tournament will be from **safe light to 3pm central for the first flight**. Flights will be 10 minutes of additional time added for every twenty-five boats entered.

PENALTIES: Competitors who present a bass for weigh-in that is determined to be dead shall accrue a penalty of .250 of a pound or 4 ounces from their total weight. If the dead fish is also the big fish the same penalty will be given towards the big fish pot. Any bass that appears to have been taken unlawfully, mangled, mashed, mauled or snatch hooked will be weighed at the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director. **A dead fish may not be culled.** At the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director, any fish may become the property of the tournament. Competitors who are not in the official check in area, as determined by the tournament director or official assigned to said task, within the time allowed shall be penalized one pound per minute from their big fish, and aggregate total. After ten (10) minutes have elapsed after the assigned check in time, the daily catch will be disqualified. It is the responsibility of the team members to notify the tournament official assigned to the task of check in of their being present in one of two ways. First, by having the daily issued vinyl decal with boat number prominently displayed on the starboard side motor in clear view of the official. Second, by making face to face contact with the official and verifying boat number by giving both name and boat number verbally. Failing to or refusing to check in will result in disqualification. Scales will be closed when all persons in line have been weighed or (15) fifteen minutes after the last eligible flight is to be checked in. Any team submitting more than five (5) fish to the scale will be penalized by having the entire day's catch disqualified. All protests must be sworn to in writing and accompanied by a \$200 deposit prior to the issuance of awards at any tournament. Deposit maybe refunded pending outcome of polygraph and determination of a rule violation.

LEGAL METHOD OF TAKING BASS: Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait, prepared bait, electronic powered baits, cast nets, bread, or baiting pellets, will be permitted on or within tournament boats with the exception of pork stripes, rinds or other baits similar to such baits. Only one (1) casting, spinning, or spin casting rod and reel combination may be used at any one time, others may be in boat, but only one rod per team member can be in use at any one time. The rod may not exceed ten (10) feet in overall length. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner during tournament hours. Foul hooking of bass will not be permitted and shall not be included in the daily catch. Trolling is not permitted. Dip nets are permitted for their lawful intended use. Any violation of this section will result in immediate disqualification.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All persons participating within the tournament must display only the highest form of sportsmanship and fairness. Any intentional actions conducted by any party to include retaliation of any previous action may lead up to and include verbal

warning, written warning, disqualification of daily creel, and possibly the revocation of future opportunities to participate in any OGS Tournaments LLC events. All disciplinary actions taken by the director are final. All participants are subject to being asked to submit to an examination to determine the truth in any instance the director deems necessary. Refusal to or not making oneself readily available to submit to such examination will result in a disqualification. Such examination may or may not be on the date of the tournament. No protest will be received once the rewards ceremony has commenced.

BOATING SAFETY: All boats must meet all U.S. Coast Guard requirements. All boaters will abide by all Federal, State, and Local laws governing the operation of a vessel. Boats must be equipped with operable ignition kill switch. The safety kill lanyard must be affixed to the driver of the boat during those times in which the gas engine is in operation. Each competitor is required to wear an U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation device during times the gas engine is in operation. Each boat must be equipped with an operable live well capable of maintaining a limit of fish alive during tournament hours. No beverages containing alcohol will be allowed on any boat associated with the tournament during tournament hours. No person who has the appearance of being under the influence of an intoxicant will be permitted to occupy any vessel associated with the tournament. Any violation of the above safety rules will be grounds for immediate disqualification. No canoes, kayaks, air boats, or pontoon boats allowed. No fishing from an elevated platform during tournament hours.

RELEASE: In consideration of being permitted to participate in the above tournament, participants (Releasers), for themselves, their personal representatives, executors, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns, hereby release and forever discharge OGS Tournaments LLC, and The Autauga/Western Elmore ARC, and all of their officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, and all contributors, participants, volunteers, producers, and the their agents representatives, successors, and assigns, from all liabilities, claims, actions, suits, demands, costs and expenses, for bodily injury, death, and property damage which Releasers may have against them arising out of or in any way connected to with our participation in the tournament, including but without limit to all risks, known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, without regard to whether they are inherent in participating in a fishing tournament. Releasers understand that the Release is unconditional, full, and general, and that it includes all claims, whether caused by the gross or simple negligence, action, or inaction of any of the released parties. Releasers hereby further release the released parties from all claims whatsoever on account of first aid, treatment or services rendered to them in connection with participants in the tournament. This release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Alabama, and if any portion of this Release is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full force and effect. Releasers understand and agree that fishing and boating are potentially hazardous activities that could result in injury to person or property or death. Releasers have carefully read this release and fully understand the contents of it. Releasers hereby authorize the use of the name and/or likeness as well as that of their boat, free from further consideration, for promotion and advertising purposes in any media form and reproduction, including but not limited to, radio, television, internet, newspaper, brochure, and video.

These rules may or may not be all inclusive of all rules enforceable by this tournament series. As different situations may arise, judgement and common sense will be applied to reach a solution to the issues being raised at the time. These rules will act as guidelines for those decisions when they can be applied. All decisions made by the director or assistant director are final. The rules are subject to change without written notice to its members and should be periodically reviewed by all members.