

SOUTHERN SOLO SERIES & TEAM SERIES

COMPLETE OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS

ALL STATE AND LOCAL LAWS MUST BE FOLLOWED AT ALL TIMES

- 1. No Forward-Facing Sonar (FFS):** The use of Forward-Facing Sonar (FFS) or LiveScope technology is strictly prohibited during official practice days and live tournament competition days.
- 2. Eligibility & Bans:** Tournament entry is strictly denied to any individual who has previously failed a polygraph examination, refused to take a requested polygraph examination, or has been formally banned from another competitive angling organization.
- 3. Communications Restriction:** Cellular phones and communication devices may not be used during tournament hours for the purpose of locating or catching fish. Absolutely no communication or information sharing between competing anglers is permitted during live tournament hours.
- 4. Polygraph Examinations:** Official polygraph examinations will be administered at every single tournament event. Winners and randomly selected field participants must submit to testing immediately following weigh-in.
- 5. Practice Schedule Window:** Official on-water practice is strictly limited to exactly two (2) days prior to the tournament date. To ensure fairness, no practice is permitted during the three (3) days leading directly up to those official practice days.
- 6. Safety Gear Mandate:** Approved personal flotation devices (Life Jackets) must be worn and securely fastened anytime the combustion engine is running. Outboard kill switches must be securely attached to the driver while the boat is cranked or in motion.
- 7. Rigging Restrictions:** The use of multi-bait umbrellas or Alabama Rigs is strictly prohibited in all series events.
- 8. Sonar Hardware Verification:** All Forward-Facing Sonar (FFS) transducers and units must be completely disconnected from the boat power source or unit bracket. Disconnection must be physically verified and stamped by tournament staff prior to launch.
- 9. Substance Prohibition:** Alcohol and illegal drugs are completely prohibited during live tournament hours, on competing boats, and within the official weigh-in site boundaries.
- 10. Weigh-In Tobacco Ban:** The use of tobacco products of any kind is strictly prohibited by competitors at the official weigh-in site.
- 11. Weigh-In Alcohol Restriction:** No alcohol consumption or container possession is permitted at the weigh-in site during official scoring.

- 12. Trolling & Bait Restrictions:** Trolling with the combustion engine or using live/natural bait is strictly prohibited. All fish must be caught using artificial lures only.
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- 13. Catch Limit & Culling Rules:** A strict five (5) fish legal limit is enforced. Once a sixth (6th) fish is placed in the boat's livewell, the angler must immediately cull down to five (5) fish before resuming any fishing activity.
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- 14. No Culling Dead Fish:** Culling or replacing a fish that has died while in the angler's possession is strictly prohibited. All dead fish must remain part of the final daily catch limit.
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- 15. Dead Fish Penalty:** A penalty of 0.25 pounds will be automatically deducted from the angler's total weight for each dead fish presented at the weigh-in scales.
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- 16. Late Return Penalty:** Anglers returning late to check-in will be penalized at a rate of 1.00 pound per minute delayed. Any angler late by more than 15 minutes will have their entire day's catch disqualified.
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- 17. Towed-In Regulation:** In the event of mechanical breakdown, an angler may be towed in to weigh-in by another vessel, but their fish must be kept in a completely separate livewell and clearly marked to avoid mixing.
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- 18. Breakdown Protocol:** In case of vessel breakdown or structural emergency on the water, the angler must immediately call the Tournament Director for specific logistical directions.
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- 19. Angler Proximity Limits:** No fishing is permitted within 50 yards of another anchored or competing angler's vessel.
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- 20. Commercial Structure Off-Limits:** No fishing is permitted within 50 yards of any active gas dock or commercial marina fueling structure.
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- 21. Sportsmanship Mandate:** All competitors must demonstrate the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and respect toward other anglers and tournament staff at all times.
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- 22. Registration & Attendance Penalty:** Anglers may register two weeks prior to the event by calling **(706) 818-4727** to obtain an official boat launch number. If an angler receives a boat number and fails to show up for the tournament without prior notice, they will be penalized double the entry fee before being allowed to fish any future tournament track.
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- 23. Practice Passenger Restrictions:** On-water practice during the official practice window is strictly limited to participating tournament anglers only. Non-competitors are not allowed in the vessel.
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- 24. Alabama Lakes Compliance:** For all events hosted on Alabama lakes, anglers must possess all proper state certificates and adhere fully to local Alabama Lake Rules and wildlife regulations.
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25. Alabama Dock Distance Rules: On specified Alabama lakes, a minimum running distance near certain docks may be dictated by law; anglers are strictly required to follow these local running and zoning ordinances.

26. Citations & Violations: If an angler receives any state or local law enforcement citation during tournament hours, they must report it immediately to the Tournament Director. A citation and catch release violation will result in an automatic disqualification for that tournament day.

27. Tournament Operating Hours: Official tournament launch and check-in hours are determined by the tournament staff. Any day-of scheduling variations will be formally announced at safe-light take-off.

28. Vessel Safety & Livewell Inspection: Boats must present case-by-case at the dock to be thoroughly checked for functioning livewells, working navigation lights, and complete safety features before take-off. At that time, the boat will come by the dock and leave in order of launch, and anglers will be issued a tracking float which must be returned directly to staff at afternoon check-in.

29. Championship Qualification: An angler must participate and fish in at least four (4) regular-season tournament events to qualify for the final Series Championship.

30. Mesh Bag Weigh-In System: Anglers are strictly required to use official Southern Solo Series mesh bags to transport fish. The mesh bag must be placed inside your standard weight bag to transport fish safely from the boat to the scales. Bring the mesh bag up to the weigh master for scoring.

31. Short Fish Penalty: Any fish brought to the scale that fails to meet the legal minimum length requirement will be completely deleted from the catch, and an additional 1.00-pound penalty will be deducted from the total daily weight.

32. Zero-Tolerance Drama Rule: We maintain a strict, drama-free tournament trail environment. Toxic behavior, harassment, or disruption will not be tolerated within our organization and will result in immediate field termination.

33. Tie-Breaker Discretion: All tournament scoring tie-breakers will be explicitly evaluated and decided by the official tournament staff.

34. Pre-Launch Meeting: The mandatory pre-tournament safety meeting will take place exactly 30 minutes before take-off at safe light.

35. Day-Of Payments: All on-site registration payments made on the day of the tournament must be cash-only.

36. Paperwork Compliance: All official registrations, liability waivers, and membership paperwork must be fully completed before an angler is permitted to launch or fish in SSS/STS tournaments.

- 37. Official On-Board Observers:** At any time, the Southern Solo Series reserves the right to place an official tournament observer inside any competitor's boat for verification.
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- 38. Puncture-Free Cull Tags:** To protect the fishery, all competitors must utilize puncture-free style cull tags on all retained fish.
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- 39. Engine Horsepower Rating:** Outboard engine modifications or replacements must not exceed the maximum certified hull horsepower rating for that specific boat.
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- 40. Valid Fishing License:** All competing anglers must possess a valid, current fishing license covering the specific waters being fished.
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- 41. Liability Insurance Threshold:** Every competing angler must carry active watercraft liability insurance in their own name with a minimum coverage limit of \$300,000.00 to participate.
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- 42. Insurance Audits:** Verification of active insurance policies can be performed at any arbitrary time by tournament staff check-ups.
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- 43. Bed Fishing Regulation:** When bed fishing, any fish hooked anywhere outside the mouth (snagged) must be immediately released back to the water and cannot be entered into the livewell.
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- 44. Professional Tour & Financial Restriction:** Any angler whose entry fees exceeded \$2,500.00 per event total across major tours in the previous 12 months, or any anglers who fish any B.A.S.S. Elites, Tackle Warehouse, or Bass Pro Tour (BPT) events, are strictly not eligible to compete under SSS/STS rules.
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- 45. Trailer Weigh-Ins:** Trailer-style weigh-in configurations will be explicitly determined and announced by staff before safe light take-off sequences.
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- 46. Violation Reporting:** If any competitor witnesses another angler explicitly using a cell phone or violating electronic rules during tournament hours, they must report it directly to the Tournament Director.
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- 47. Safety & Common Sense:** Anglers must exercise absolute safety, defensive driving, and professional common sense when operating a vessel during our tournaments.
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- 48. Cheating Prosecution & Exposure:** If an angler is caught cheating or violating integrity rules, the organization will report the individual directly to law enforcement authorities and expose the action across public social media platforms.
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- 49. Angler Distance from Anchor:** An angler may not get within 50 yards of another angler who is anchored down.
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- 50. Wake Zones Compliance:** All idle speed and no-wake zones must be strictly observed and followed at all times.
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- 51. Landing Nets:** Landing nets are fully allowed and permitted to be used when landing a fish.
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52. Day 2 Take-Off Sequence: The take-off order will be completely reversed on Day 2 of any scheduled two-day tournament event.

BOATER & NON-BOATER RULE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

BOATER SIGNATURE

PHONE NUMBER

NON-BOATER SIGNATURE

PHONE NUMBER