

N FUTURE ANGLERS OF NORTH FLORIDA CATFISHING TOURNAMENT

Official Rules and Regulations

All Times Are CST

- **This is a team event.** Teams are defined by the individual boat and it's anglers. **No limit to anglers as long as manufacture coast guard capacities are applied.** Team Captains must be at least 18 years of age. **As always Safety First**
- All team participants are doing so at their own risk by signing up at registration
- **Team entry fees are for One of the Two Categories: Blue Catfish, or Flathead, of which (1) must be chosen at registration, Teams do have the option to enter (Both) Categories Below as stated**
- **\$125** for teams With Youth (1) Category too be decided at registration
\$150- for teams Without Youth (1) Category too be decided at registration
To Enter Both Blue Catfish and Flathead Catfish Categories, it has to be entered no later than at time of original registration, with an additional \$25 fee
- **TEAM FISH LIMITS FOR EACH CATEGORY AS FOLLOWS:** (2) same species fish for the category of which the team chose. **One of the two** has to be a **target** weight fish. (Target Weights will be decided at Directors Meeting) Target Weight Fish Must Weigh in at Target or Smaller. Example: Agreed target weight by director, 14lbs, you bring in a 14.5lbs fish its overweight and will not be counted for your total weighed bag.. So it is better to settle for a 10lbs fish. **This concept makes it interesting for anglers to do some teamwork decision making....**
- ALIVE & IN GOOD CONDITION FISH will be weighed in
IF no team members are 17 years of age or younger the \$25 extra fee will apply. This allows teams to fish without a youth on boat, however the extra fee must be paid. **Extra Fee will not be included in the payout totals. This fee will go directly to buy youth lifetime fishing license.**
- Youth license will be won by drawings. The license will be purchased according to the parents and directors' agreement before the end of tournament.
- Teams must comply with state fishing and boating regulations, including the use of PFDs and kill switches. **Fishing and Boating licenses are the responsibility of team members.**
- **Any violation of any State Laws will be grounds for disqualification.**
- Registration fees will be paid in cash and prizes will be paid back in cash.

- Following registration, no refunds will be given to contestants if a team should choose to withdraw.
- **Registration will start at 2:00 PM April 22** on a first come, first served basis between 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Sneads Park Pavilion
- Boats are subject to livewell checks prior to the start of the tournament.
- All teams are required to be present at the mandatory team meeting at **4:00 PM**. Once the director has read the rules and all questions answered, Team's may leave and go launch at a public ramp to their perspective fishing areas (**No Lines in the water until 5:30 pm CST**)
- Teams will be allowed to launch from any **public boat ramp** on Lake Seminole and it's tributaries and any public boat ramp on the Apalachicola River South of Jim Woodruff Dam
- **Teams competing from a boat must remain in the boat during the fishing competition.** Fishing within 100 yards of a competitor's boat, which was first anchored, is prohibited
- **Tournament fishing hours will BEGIN at 5:30 PM (lines in the water) on Saturday April 22, 2023 and END at 8:00AM (lines out of the water) on Sunday April 23, 2023 CST**
- All participants must be in the weigh-in line at the Sneads Park by 9:30 AM on Sunday April 23, 2023 in a orderly manner
- **Only Blue, and Flathead Catfish will be weighed in for Boat Teams**
- Any legal commercial or natural bait will be allowed. No fishing known chum holes.
- Culling must be done prior to adding fish to weigh in container. Once fish are placed in container they cannot be replaced with another fish.
- In case of a tie in either categories the director and anglers will decide between split monies or draw from ticket numbers for the winner.
- Any protest must be made, in writing with a \$50 non-refundable deposit, to the tournament director within 30 minutes after weigh-in and must state rule or rules that were broken. (Pictures can be requested for proof of violation)
- Any team having a member who fails or refuses to take a polygraph test or whose condition does not permit administration of a test because of contestant's use of alcohol or drugs will be disqualified. **All adult team members are subject to a polygraph test.** Unsportsmanlike conduct may be grounds for disqualification if circumstances require

Big Cat Youth

- Individual Youth can enter the Big Cat Contest, which is simply the largest fish caught by any tournament contestant 17 years of age or younger. This is entered as an individual and the fish presented for weight must have been caught by the individual who entered the Big Cat category. Youth will not be subject to polygraph test, however adults on the youth participants team will be, at the desegregation of the tournament director. **This can be a 3rd fish from either category being weighed in**

Payouts will be as follows: Number of places paid will depend on # entries

- (2) places Total Bag limit for each separate (2) fish Category this includes target fish
- (1) place Big Fish Overall, which comes from the (2) bag limit of either Category

- C. (2) places Target Fish, each Category
- D. (3) Youth division places will be paid with lifetime fishing license
- E. The tournament will hold a Free Early on shore bank tournament for smaller Kid's and prizes will be given out accordingly
- Decisions of Tournament Director(s) will be final.
- **Future Anglers of North Florida Tournament is 100 percent payback to the anglers through the partnership of investing in our youth and the wonderful North Florida Outdoors**

Contact Allen Shepard 850-933-5230 or Brandon Sasser 850-658-2000 for more information. This event is a collaboration with UF/IFAS Extension, Kalyn Waters, Holmes County Director as a part of the Conservation for Generations program. For information about this program call 850-547-1108.

