



## Iowa Games Big Fish Classic

- Check in begins at 5:30 am Honey Creek State Park Ramp on Lake Rathbun
- 7:00 am fishermen begin fishing
- Hourly weigh-in available at Honey Creek Ramp (7:01-8:00am, 8:01-9:00, 9:01-10:00, etc with last weigh-in at 3pm)
- Top three payouts per hour plus over all big fish award for each division

### **General Rules**

1. All state fish and boating regulations shall apply and must be observed at all times during the tournament.

Specifically:

- (a) All boats must have operating running lights if you are on the water before daylight.
- (b) All contestants must wear a securely fastened Coast Guard-approved life vest when the main engine is in use.
- (c) All boats must have an operating kill switch attached to the operator while the main internal combustion engine is operating.
- (d) All boats must be equipped with an operating live well. (An aerator in an ice chest is acceptable)
- (e) Contestants must have a valid Iowa fishing license in their possession unless exempt.
- (f) All tournament boats will be inspected by tournament officials upon request.

2. All applications for entry, determination of winners, and rights to awards and prizes are subject to the approval of tournament officials.

3. If a contestant is disqualified for rules violations, all other contestants in his boat will also be disqualified.

4. Protests must be registered in writing with tournament officials within 15 minutes of the dispute. Decisions will be communicated to the parties involved by the tournament officials.

5. The sponsor of this event expressly reserves the right to accept or reject any entry form.

### **Launching and Fishing Rules**

6. All contestants will launch from the Honey Creek Ramp only after checking in and having live wells checked.

- Once boats are checked and in the water, anglers can leave the ramp but may not begin fishing until 7:00 am

7. Any water that can be accessed from Rathbun Lake by floating your boat into the area without getting out of your boat is eligible water.

8. No casting or fishing allowed before 7 a.m. on the day of the event. Final weigh-ins will be at 3 p.m.

9. Bass and Catfish caught during the event will be eligible to be weighed in.

10. All fishing will be done with a rod and reel.

11. No contestant is permitted to fish nearer than 50 yards to another contestant's boat that is anchored, unless permission is received, or in area marked off near boat ramp at weigh-in site.

12. Fish must be alive to be weighed.

13. Each contestant is allowed to have a total of two (2) fish in their possession at any given time during the tournament. Fish entered in the hourly contests do not carry over from hour to hour. Only the largest fish per contestant per hour is eligible to win an overall prize.

14. No electronic tracking devices (implanted microchips) may be used to locate fish for tournament purposes. However, depth-finders and graph charts are acceptable.

15. No contestants can have more than one (1) fish in a weigh-in bag and cannot weigh more than one fish per tournament hour. Tournament weigh-in bags will be provided.

16. Any artificially weighted or preserved bass will be disqualified and that contestant will be subject to prosecution.

17. No fish under 15 inches in length in either bass or catfish divisions (measured on a flat board) will be weighed in.

18. All fish weighed in each day automatically become the property of the tournament officials who will immediately release back in lake.

19. Use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. Any contestant determined by tournament officials to have consumed alcohol or illegal drugs, or to have an illegal substance in their possession or in their boat during tournament hours, is in violation of tournament rules and will be disqualified.

20. All tournament contestants, by their entry applications, shall grant permission to the tournament producers and to their agents the right to publicize and/or broadcast his/her name, character likeness or voice, and fact that he/she was a participant and/or prize winner and all other matters incidental thereto. If a participant is a minor (under age 18), a parent or legal guardian shall be required to grant such permission as part of the entry procedure for the minor.

23. The tournament producer, officers, employees, agents, etc., will not be responsible for boating or water accidents. Each tournament contestant shall be solely responsible for his/her actions with regard to inclement weather or any other potentially dangerous situation which may arise. The contestant or non-contestant expressly assumes the risk of any and all damage or injury of any nature which may result from any source whatsoever during the tournament. Should any contestant be a minor, a parent or legal guardian shall grant such release on the part of the minor.

24. All tournament contestants, by their entry applications, shall grant to the producer and its officers, employees, and agents, unconditional release of any liability of personal injury, death, damaged, lost or stolen property, or accidents.

25. All tournament contestants must read and sign the form entitled "Waiver and Release" that is printed on the back of the entry form. Your signature on this form will constitute a certification that the contestant has read and understood the "Waiver and Release" form. All terms of the "Waiver and Release" form are hereby incorporated by reference into these rules in the same manner as if the terms of the "Waiver and Release" form were printed verbatim in these rules.

***Sample Payout based on 100 person entry in a division:***

1st \$393.75 each hour, per division

2nd \$112.50 each hour, per division

3rd \$56.25 each hour, per division

Overall Big Fish Additional \$800.00