

2021/2022

TUFF-MAN PARTICIPATION RULES



TUFF-MAN SERIES

FALL & WINTER BASS TOURNAMENT SERIES

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*Please read the rules carefully as there are **major** changes for the Tuff-man series.*

Interpretation of these rules shall be left exclusively to the tournament director. Failure to comply may result in DISQUALIFICATION. The decision of the tournament director shall be final in all matters. ***If you wish to file a challenge/protest it must be done within 15 minutes of the closing of the scales.***

PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY: Participation is open to anyone 18 years old and older. Applicants under the age of 18 may fish, but only with a signed permission slip from their parent or legal guardian, unless they are fishing with their parent or legal guardian. Anyone under the age of 18 must have someone 18 or older in the boat with them. Proof of age must be supplied to the tournament director before participation in the event, if requested. A properly completed and signed official entry form and entry fee must be completed and turned in prior to the tournament. The tournament director reserves the right to refund/refuse any entry fee.

REGISTRATION & CHECKPOINT: Each team must register at the designated site or have the designated proxy before the start of the tournament. Start time will be “Safe Daylight “as determined by the weigh master. Teams may put in as early as 5:00 am on the day of the tournament. No more than two fishermen may be in a boat and they both must be paid contestants. **Pre-registration entry fee is \$200.00 per team and it must be received BY 6:00 pm on the Thursday preceding the tournament – NO EXCEPTIONS!** Late registration is \$250.00 and may be paid at the ramp. Tuff-Man Series will not be responsible for postal or electronic errors. There will be a one-time annual membership fee of \$25.00 per contestant, which must be paid at the time of registration for the first event fished. Teams registered by deadline will get a computer-generated Boat Number. Boat Numbers will be posted on website the Saturday prior to event.

TOURNAMENT QUALIFICATIONS: Those who have fished four out of five scheduled tournaments will be eligible to fish the Championship. **Entry fee of \$200.00 for two-day Championship.** The team with the highest combined points totaled after the championship tournament will become Anglers of the Year. If a fisherman changes partners during one of the qualifying events, then that teams’ points start over. Each Team will be allowed one substitute per season. Teams must fish the championship with the same fisherman they qualified with. If one of the team members is unable to fish the championship, then the remaining fisherman may fish solo. Day One all teams that qualify will fish Day One, ½ of qualifiers from Day One will move on to Day Two as long as they have a scoreable fish weighed in. Zero and you are out of Day Two. ***(Meaning if 80 qualify for Day One, 40 will move on to Day Two as long as they have a scoreable fish weighed in. If less than 40 weigh in a scoreable fish only those that weighed in will move on, if more than 40 weigh in a scoreable fish the top 40 will move on to Day Two)***

CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS: Registration for the championship will be Friday evening, January 21, 2022, at the Bell County Expo, starting at 5:30 PM and will close at 6:45 PM. Starting place numbers will be based on point standings after five events. A captain’s safety meeting will follow.

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION: Tournament lakes are off limits at midnight one week before the qualifying tournament unless the Monday preceding the tournament is a Federal holiday, then the lake will go off limits at midnight Monday night. ***No Angler shall be able to hire any guide service on the body of water of event within 30 days of event, All guides will also be prohibited from guiding on the event body of water within 30 days of the event.*** No trailering will be allowed to the qualifying weigh-ins, unless deemed necessary for safety reasons by the tournament director. The tournament site boat ramp to the tournament headquarters is not considered trailering. There will be only one official point for check-in and weigh-in. Flights will be in

groups of 25 boats for the qualifying tournaments. The first flight weigh-in will be at 3:00 PM and each succeeding flight will be allowed an additional 15 minutes to bring their fish to the scales. In other words, boats 26-50 will need to report in by 3:15 PM and so forth. There will be only two flights for the championship. Competitors not at the weigh-in site at their designated time will be penalized at the rate of 2 ounces per minute which will be deducted from their total weight for the day. Any team more than 15 minutes late will be disqualified without recourse. The scales will close 15 minutes after the final flight. ***Failure to check in even if you don't have fish to weigh in you will lose your 50 points for participation as a penalty each event that this occurs.*** Cell phones should be used for emergencies only. Final check in is for safety purposes and to make sure we leave no one stranded.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. All contestants MUST have a valid Texas fishing license in their possession. Violation of this rule will be the reason for immediate disqualification without recourse.

DISQUALIFICATION: No alcoholic beverages or illegal non-prescribed drugs are allowed in the boat at any time. Each contestant must keep the waters clean and dispose of all trash in the appropriate containers. Any violation of state, local or Federal law shall be construed as a reason for disqualification without recourse.

POLYGRAPH: Each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph examination and to abide by its conclusion. Failure to pass the examination will result in disqualification. Interpretation is the sole responsibility of the examiner.

SAFETY: Safe boating practices will be observed at all times. Each competitor must wear a serviceable U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation. State law and tournament rules require the boat operator to have a safety-stop switch with a lanyard attached to their person. USCG approved wireless switches will be allowed. Boats must not have engines larger than the boat's horsepower rating.

SCORING TIES: The weights of each team's catch will determine their tournament standings. Only large mouths, small mouths, and spotted bass will be weighed. The limit per boat shall be five (5) fish. Culling must be done as soon as the sixth fish is caught. The minimum length limit will be as mandated by Texas Law for the lake fished, but under no circumstances less than 14 inches. A penalty of ¼ pound will be deducted from the total weight for each dead fish. A team that presents more than five bass at weigh-in will be disqualified. In case of a tie, awards will be combined and divided equally among the tied teams.

BOAT, MOTOR, TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Only artificial lures, except for pork rinds, may be used. Only one rod and reel combination may be used at one time. Trolling, as a method of fishing, is prohibited. All fish must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner. All boats must have an adequate live well to maintain a limit of five fish.

PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Teams may fish anywhere accessible by boat except areas designated as off-limits or within 50 feet of another team's boat. A team that allows any other team to fish within the 50 feet rule has suspended the rule and has opened the waters to all competitors.

SCALE CLOSING: Scales will be closed 15 minutes after the last flight is due in, but due to certain weigh-in locations, this time may be adjusted at the tournament director's sole discretion. Any changes will be announced during registration. It is the angler's responsibility to verify official scale closing time and to be in the weigh-in line by such time.

MEDIA/CAMERA: *By registering for this event, you understand and agree, that at any given time or event TUFF-MAN Series may put a Camera Person in your Boat during the Event for an undetermined amount of time for Media Purposes.*

COMPLIANCE WITH RULES: By registering for this event, I (also referred to as “Angler”) hereby agree to be bound by and comply with all Tournament Rules, the Code of Conduct, payment schedules and all other guidelines and regulations presented or otherwise communicated to me in writing by TUFF-MAN SERIES. I am physically fit and that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in the tournament series.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY; INDEMNIFICATION: I expressly assume all risks associated with my participation in the tournament series and for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns, I hereby waive, release and discharge CENTEX FISHING LLC “TUFF-MAN SERIES” its affiliates and subsidiaries, the hosts, sponsors and tournament series officials (“Released Parties”) from any and all losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses (including without limitation, attorneys fees and related costs), of any kind (hereinafter “Claims”) arising out of or in connection with my participation in the tournament series, including but not limited to Claims involving, death, disability, personal injury and/or property damage. I hereby INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the Released Parties for any and all Claims arising as a result of my participation in this Tournament. I acknowledge that this Tournament may carry with it the potential for death, serious injury, and personal loss. The risks may include, but are not limited to, those caused by water conditions, temperature, weather, equipment, actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, and spectators. This release of liability shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

GRANT OF RIGHTS: I hereby irrevocably grant permission to CENTEX FISHING LLC “TUFF-MAN SERIES” and its affiliates and subsidiaries, the successors of each of the foregoing, and each of their respective agents, licensees, and assigns and those acting under their permission or upon their authority (collectively, the “Licensees”), in perpetuity, a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free, fully paid up license to reproduce, display, exhibit, publish, broadcast, distribute, and otherwise use, and permit others to use, my name, image, nickname, initials, symbols, likeness, signature, photograph, voice, statements, biographical material, and any and all attributes of my personality and appearance (collectively, my “Identity”) in materials created in connection with my participation in the TUFF-MAN SERIES (collectively, the “Materials”), alone or with other materials, in connection with the promotion of CENTEX FISHING LLC “TUFF-MAN SERIES” and any tournaments or other events staged by CENTEX FISHING LLC “TUFF-MAN SERIES”, in any and all manner and media now known or hereafter devised, including without limitation, in print, on television programs, websites owned by or affiliated with the Licensees, on third-party websites, in social media channels, in public relations materials and for any lawful purpose in its sole discretion. During tournaments I agree to comply with all filming promptly and fully, camera location and other rules, guidelines and instructions of CENTEX FISHING LLC “TUFF-MAN SERIES”

IT IS THE ANGLER’S RESPONSIBILITY TO BE FAMILIAR WITH THESE RULES, PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES AND ABIDE BY THEM.

For additional information: Call Dean Thompson at 254-290-1937 ,Jackie Cooper at 254-913-4916. You can also call Tightlines Premium Fishing Tackle at 254-690-3474 ask for Dean or Marine Outlet at 254-773-9931 ask for Jackie . You can email: tuffmanseries@gmail.com or jackie@marineoutlet.com. Please mail this application with your check to Tuff-Man Series, 5902 E. Veterans Memorial Blvd, Killeen, Texas 76543. Tuff-Man Series and its associates will not be responsible for injuries or accidents that may be caused by a person or by an unfortunate act of God.