

## ***2 Chicks In A Boat Team Tournament Trail Rules and Regulations 2024***

### **I. Participants and Eligibility**

- A. Any female with a minimum age of 18 with current membership is eligible to participate in the 2 Chicks in a Boat Team Tournament Trail.
- B. Any female angler under 18 years of age is eligible to participate if they are partnered with their mother, grandmother, or aunt.
- C. If two female anglers, under the age of 18 want to participate as a team they may provided they have a pre-approved male or female boat captain. The boat captain cannot “coach”, net fish (unless it is a toothy fish - muskie, walleye, saugeye, etc.), or suggest areas to fish. The boat captain can only drive the boat, and operate the trolling motor.

### **II. Membership Requirements, Registration and Entry Fees**

- A. To be eligible to participate in any 2 Chicks in a Boat event, each participant must fully and legibly complete a 2 Chicks In A Boat Team Tournament Trail Membership Form and pay the mandatory yearly membership fee.
- B. Membership fees = \$40.00 per person (\$20 for team alternates) for adults / \$20.00 per person under the age of 18**
- C. Registration will open on January 1, 2024.
- D. EACH PARTICIPANT IS REQUIRED TO READ AND SIGN THE 2 CHICKS IN A BOAT TEAM TOURNAMENT TRAIL WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK FORM. A copy of these forms can be obtained by visiting the 2 Chicks In A Boat website at [www.2chicksinaboat.com](http://www.2chicksinaboat.com). 2 Chicks in a Boat TTT must have an original signed copy of this form before any participant is eligible to participate in any event. Forms will be available at all events.
- E. Tournament Entry Fees: **Entry fees are \$200 for a one-day tournament and \$300 for a two-day tournament.** Optional Big Bass pot is \$10.00 per tournament day (\$10 for one-day, \$20 for two-day), payable in cash only at the pre-tournament meeting.
- F. Teams and Alternates/Substitutes: Each team event will consist of a **one** or a **two-person** team. **If you need a teammate for any of our tournaments, we will try our best to connect you with someone looking for a partner/teammate.**
  - 1. Each team is allowed to use one additional person as an alternate/substitute to take the place of a team member during the tournament season.
  - 2. Teams may only use an alternate/substitute for up to two (2) tournaments during the season.
  - 3. If the alternate/substitute is named prior to the start of the tournament season then points acquired with that alternate/substitute will count with that “teams” total.
  - 4. If a team needs to use an alternate/substitute after the start of the tournament season they must be acknowledged to the director prior to the pre-tournament meeting.
  - 5. Teams naming and using an alternate/substitute after the start of the season will not be able to add points to an existing team total.
  - 6. If a team member cannot make a tournament, their teammate can compete in the tournament individually in order to earn points for their team.
  - 7. Alternates/Substitutes must read and sign the 2 Chicks in a Boat Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk Form and pay a \$20 membership fee for adults and \$10 for youth.
  - 8. Alternates/Substitutes are not eligible to participate in events alone.
  - 9. If your team qualifies to fish the LBAA Classic Championship, the team members that fished the first team tournament are the two qualified for the Classic Championship. Substitutes/Alternates are not eligible to compete in the LBAA Classic Championship.

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10. If you are a non-boater and paired with a boater, gratuity is highly suggested to help defray the cost of gas for your boater.

11. Non-boaters competing in multiple tournaments may qualify to participate as a co-angler for the LBAA Classic Championship should the LBAA need additional co-anglers for their event. If the LBAA needs and approves for a non-boater to compete, the non-boater is required to pay the entry fee, determined by the LBAA, for the Classic Championship.

- G. Teams/Anglers can register for a single tournament or all four tournaments.
- H. All participants that pay for the entire season before the first event will receive "Double Draw status" and the better of the two numbers drawn will be their starting position. Drawing for boat positions will be held during the pre-tournament meeting.
- I. Registration for any single event must be received two weeks before the event. Teams registering after the two-week cut-off period but prior to tournament day will have an additional \$25 late registration fee.  
**Registration on the day of the tournament will result in a \$35 late fee.** All late fees will be added to the Big Bass pot for the tournament. Late registrations will be assigned a boat position number by the tournament director.
- J. Payments may be made in one of the following manners:
  - 1. Cashier's Check, Money Order, or Personal Check written out and mailed to  
**2 Chicks In A Boat, LLC.**  
**ATTN. Lori or Beth**  
269 Belle Haven Pkwy. Westerville, Ohio 43082
  - 2. Credit Card/Debit Card Payment on 2 Chicks in a Boat Website. Online registration fees apply.
- K. The top finishing team for the year will be qualified to fish in the Lady Bass Anglers Classic Championship, sponsored by the Lady Bass Anglers Association. A registration fee of \$600 is required to enter the Classic and is the responsibility of the qualifying team. The Classic is run in a boater/co-angler format; therefore, you will not be fishing as a team. Should the top team of our events forgo competing in the Classic, the 2nd place finishing team will be given the chance to compete in the LBAA Classic Championship.

### III. Insurance

- A. During official practice and competition days, no competitor may operate a boat unless that contestant has documented proof of a minimum of \$300,000 per occurrence boating liability covering the boat being used in the tournament.
- B. Proof of insurance must be with the boat being used and must cover the competitors using that boat. *(Specifically, the Declaration Page)*
- C. Tournament officials will conduct random insurance checks with the boat numbers identified at the tournament briefing.
- D. Failure to provide the appropriate insurance documentation prior to take-off will result in the angler being detained until appropriate insurance documentation is provided.

### IV. Tournament Rules

Interpretation of the following 2 Chicks in a Boat Team Tournament rules will be left exclusively to the tournament officials. The decision of the tournament officials will be final in all that matters, with infractions on any rule that can potentially result in disqualification.

#### A. PRACTICE/PRE-FISHING:

- 1. Competitors can practice/pre-fish on tournament waters anytime prior to the tournament meeting, which will be held at 5:30 p.m. the evening before the tournament.

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The only exception after that time will be to test an engine due to repairs which the tournament director must approve in advance.

2. You may practice or pre-fish with any individual who is not a guide on the lake where the tournament is being held until official practice begins.
  3. Official practice starts two days before each event at which time you may only fish with someone that is participating in our 2 Chicks in a Boat Women's Team Tournament Trail.
  4. Practicing with anyone other than an official competitor within the official practice time must be pre-approved by the tournament director.
  5. No licensed or paid guides may be used within 20 days before the start of the tournament.
  6. Anglers may not obtain information related to locating or catching fish from anyone other than fellow competitors during the official practice period and extends through the conclusion of the tournament. This includes but is not limited to information that spouses, parents/guardians and approved practice partners may garner during the same time frame. Only information from public sources may be obtained.
  7. Competitors may share information with one another based upon their own findings.
  8. Once the tournament begins, and until the close of the scales on the final day, competitors may not obtain or share information related to locating or catching fish with anyone other than fellow competitors.
- B. STATE GAME REGULATIONS - All competitors must abide by all state game regulations and be in possession of a valid fishing license during practice and through the day of the tournament.
- C. SAFETY - Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times while engaged in 2 Chicks in a Boat sanctioned events and all boats must have a full complement of safety gear as required by USCG regulation.
1. Any time the internal combustion motor is on, both participants must have a USCG-approved PFD on and securely fastened; the only exception is when idling.
  2. Operators must have the kill switch armed with a lanyard firmly secured to the operator.
  3. Tournament officials reserve the right to make any necessary adjustments to the rules due to safety considerations such as dangerous weather/water conditions. This adjustment includes the decision to shorten, postpone or cancel a tournament.
- D. BOATS AND MOTORS:
1. All boats must be propeller-driven, at least 16 feet in length, and equipped with an aerated livewell or aerated container. No cumbersome craft allowed.
  2. Motor size must not to exceed 250 HP and must match the US Coast Guard maximum horsepower rating.
  3. Boats must be equipped with some operable ignition cut-off/kill switch and lanyard, which must be attached to the driver any time the combustion engine is running; the only exception is when idling.
  4. Running lights must be operational and on at launch and be used during all times that visibility is reduced; official practice and competition included.
- E. TOURNAMENT HOURS:
1. Tournament hours are safe light until 3 pm or otherwise determined by the tournament director.

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2. All events will be a minimum of 8 hours. The only exception is if the tournament director changes tournament hours if dangerous weather or other circumstances do not allow for a safe launch or being too hot in the summer, jeopardizing angler safety or fish conservation.
  3. The tournament director will make all decisions regarding start and end times due to weather conditions.
- F. MORNING OF THE TOURNAMENT - A registration area will be set up at the tournament site starting approximately one hour before the tournament's scheduled launch time. **There is a \$35 late fee for registering on the day of the tournament.**
1. All participating teams must check in at the registration table before each event. Registration will close fifteen minutes before each event's scheduled start time.
  2. All livewells will be checked by the tournament committee before the start of each tournament at the boat ramp or on the water by idling past the dock with livewells empty and lids open.
  3. It is the responsibility of each participant to read and understand all Rules and Regulations governing the 2 Chicks In A Boat tournaments, and to understand all tournament briefing information before the start of each tournament.
- G. OFF LIMITS AND ANGLING ETHICS:
1. All tournament waters are off limits after 5:30pm the day before the event.
  2. Anglers are not to enter areas posted off-limits by the state or local agencies.
  3. The weigh-in area and any area designated "no fishing" by the governing body of the lake or river or the Tournament Director is considered off-limits.
  4. No fishing within 50 feet of a marine gas pump.
  5. No fishing within 50-yards of another competitor's boat REGARDLESS if it is anchored or tied, with its trolling motor stowed out of the water, without the other boat's permission. An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight or by a "Power-Pole" or similar device, with the trolling motor in the up or down position.
  6. Anchored boats cannot block access to entering any area (creek, cove, etc.) and must allow access to the area for all competitors.
  7. Participants may only leave their boats for brief restroom breaks or dangerous weather.
  8. **The tournament director will also announce all other off-limit areas before the blast-off at the event.**
- H. TAKE-OFF:
1. Take-off position will be assigned by draw during the pre-tournament meeting.
  2. Teams registering the day of the tournament will be assigned take-off positions by the tournament director.
  3. There will be no shotgun starts.
  4. Participants must be in line and prepared to take off when their number is called or the next starting position will be called.
- I. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:
1. All fish must be caught alive and in a conventional sporting manner using one rod, which may not exceed eight (8) feet in length (measured butt to tip).
  2. Intentionally snagging fish is not permitted.
  3. Only artificial lures may be used, live and/or prepared bait is not allowed, the only exception being "pork rinds" or its equivalent.

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4. THE USE OF THE "ALABAMA RIG" OR SIMILAR DEVICE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED IN ALL OF OUR EVENTS.

5. Trolling with the aid of the internal combustion or electric trolling motor is not permitted.

6. Communication devices such as cell phones, marine radios or CB's may only be used for emergency purposes or contacting the Directors for rule clarification.

### J. FISH LIMIT:

1. There is a five (5) fish limit per team. (Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted Bass)

2. In order to maintain fish conservation, a three (3) fish limit per team may be imposed by the tournament director.

3. All bass must be of legal size.

4. Any participants bringing in more than five (5) fish to the scales will be disqualified.

5. All culling must be done as soon as the sixth fish has been caught.

6. You cannot cull a dead fish. Culling a dead fish will result in an automatic disqualification.

**7. Participants may only possess five (5) fish in their live well at any time.**

8. Only non-penetrating cull tags are to be used.

9. Once on the trailer, all bass that are in the boat must be brought to the scales.

10. A courtesy board will be available at the weigh-in for anglers to check the length of their fish.

11. Fish that appear to be altered or mangled will only be weighed at the tournament director's discretion.

12. 2 Chicks In A Boat strives to be a 100% catch and release circuit. All fish caught and weighed in must be released at the official weigh-in location. Failing to release your fish at the official release location will result in an automatic disqualification.

### K. SHORT FISH PENALTIES:

1. All fish must be of legal size for the body of water; local/state limit applies.

2. All participants are responsible for checking the length of their fish: mouth closed, tail fanned, or compressed before bringing them to the scales.

3. A courtesy board will be available at the weigh-in. Teams may check only two fish on their own at the courtesy board to keep the weigh-in process manageable

4. Once you give your fish to the tournament official at the weigh-in sink, it is up to their discretion to ensure that they measure to the correct size limit and make a decision.

5. Short fish will be culled from the participant's sack. A one-pound (16oz.) penalty will be assessed for the first short fish. Disqualification will result in 2 or more short fish.

### L. DEAD FISH PENALTIES:

1. Any bass brought to the scales in which the gills are not working correctly on their own will be considered a dead fish. The directors will make this decision, and it will not be up for discussion.

2. An 8oz. penalty will be assessed to a team's total weight for each dead fish brought to the scales by the violating team.

3. A dead fish cannot be considered for the Big Bass Award.

### M. LATE CHECK-INS:

1. A one-pound (16oz) per minute penalty will be assessed to any team that is late to check-in at the end of a tournament.

2. Teams arriving more than five (5) minutes past the check-in time will automatically be disqualified.

3. Check-in time will be announced prior to the launch of each tournament.

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### **O. CHEATING:**

1. Any participant caught cheating in any tournament event will be immediately barred from all future 2 Chicks in a Boat events.
2. 2 Chicks in a Boat Tournament Director reserves the right to have a random truth verification test (lie detector test) performed at any time.
3. Refusal to take the truth verification test or the failure of such examination is grounds for immediate disqualification.

### **P. UNFAVORABLE CONDUCT AND DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE:**

1. Any act of any participant which reflects unfavorably upon 2 Chicks in a Boat effort to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters, and general courtesy to other competing anglers shall be a reason for disqualification.
2. Participants will refrain from the use of alcohol and or drugs during the tournament event.
3. Participants discovered to be using or under the influence of alcohol and/or recreational drugs during an event shall be immediately disqualified, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED.

### **Q. PROTESTS/DISQUALIFICATION:**

1. Directors must be notified, in writing, of all protests before the close of scales.
2. A "protest committee" consisting of three (3) fellow anglers, randomly drawn by the tournament director, will address all protests.
3. Any angler who witnesses a rule violation must try to capture a video to help support their case.
4. We ask that anglers try to resolve personal on-the-water conflicts pertaining to being cut off etc., on their own but understand that things cannot always be worked out. If they cannot be worked out, file a protest.
5. Teams disqualified from individual events will still receive show-up points UNLESS A CRIMINAL ACT HAS BEEN CITED.

## **V. SCORING**

### **A. SCORING FOR ONE-DAY TOURNAMENTS:**

1. A one-day tournament will be scored starting with 150 points.
2. The first-place team will be awarded 150 points.
3. The second-place team will be awarded 149 points and so-forth down the line.
4. Those teams not weighing in a fish will score 20 points less than the last-place team.
5. If there is a total weight tie, the tie will be broken by the following:
  - A. First, by number of fish caught.
  - B. Second, by the weight of the team's biggest bass.
  - C. In cases of a big bass tie, the money will be split.
  - D. If big bass and total weight are the same for two or more teams, then both (all) tied teams shall split the money.

### **B. SCORING FOR TWO-DAY TOURNAMENTS:**

1. A two-day tournament will be scored as two one-day tournaments; Both days starting with 150 points.
2. The team finishing in first place for each day will be awarded 150 points.
3. The team finishing in second place for each day will be awarded 149 points and so-forth down the line.

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4. Those teams not weighing in a fish on either day will score 20 points less than the last-place team.
5. The winning team for a TWO-DAY Tournament will be determined by the **total fish weight for both days combined**.
6. If there is a total weight tie, the tie will be broken by the following:
  - A. First, by number of fish caught on both days.
  - B. Second, by the weight of the team's biggest bass weighed in on either day of the tournament.
  - C. In cases of a big bass tie, the money will be split.
  - D. If big bass and total weight are the same for two or more teams, then both (all) tied teams shall split the money.

### **VI. 2 Chicks In A Boat Women's Team Championship**

- A. Teams participating in three or more regular season tournaments will automatically qualify for the 2 *Chicks In A Boat Women's Team Championship* to be held on Alum Creek Lake, OH on April 26 - 27, 2025.
- B. Teams earning over
  1. Registration fees for the two-day championship will be \$300.00 with a 100% pay-back.
  2. Championship registration fees due March 25, 2025.
  2. Optional Big Bass pot is \$20.00 payable in cash only at the pre-tournament meeting.

### **VI. RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

1. **Participants should be familiar with these Rules and Regulations and all local and state laws before entering any 2 Chicks in a Boat event. These Rules and Regulations are subject to change (with proper notice to participants) at the tournament director's discretion. Any decision made by the tournament director will be final in all matters.**