



Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 334, Wantis, TX 75497 Phone No: 800-846-1859



Dear Fishing Team,

High school fishing is officially now the fastest growing sport in high school history. It is a sport that any kid can do and is not gender-specific. They don't need superior grade points or special physical skills. All they need is a love and respect for nature and the desire to excel.

Living and working on world renowned Lake Fork in Texas (*33 of the 50 largest bass recorded in Texas were caught on this lake*), the Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce has put together a unique fishing tournament. It is an open format so that any child can fish even if they do not belong to an organized fishing club. They can even be home schooled.

What is the most important asset that we have for the future? *Our children*. They are the future and anything that we can do to help should be a priority. With today's economy, parents try to save enough to pay for their continued education. With this tournament, we improve the chances of that continued education.

The tournament continues to grow. In 2014, our inaugural year, 71 teams of three members (two anglers and a captain) participated from three states, attendance was about 1,000. There were only two schools in the area that had fishing teams. In 2017, 135 teams participated and seven states were represented. Over 2,000 people attended the 2017 tournament.

We awarded \$15,000 in scholarships during the first two years; in 2016 and 2017, we awarded \$20,000 in scholarships and prizes. The Lake Fork High School Open Tournament will be held July 20-22, 2018. Tournament headquarters will be at Oak Ridge Marina.

Our expectations for the 2018 tournament are the sky's the limit. We look for this to grow and become a premier event that will attract kids from all over the nation. We've had a great start and with your help and support, we can make it even better.

Thank you for your participation,

Micheal Rogge
Tournament Director, National Lake Fork High School Scholarship Tournament
President, Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce

The Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to improving the quality of life and economy of the Lake Fork Area through community involvement.

Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 334, Yantis, TX 75497

Phone No: 800-846-1859

Mission

The primary mission of the "Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament" is to provide college scholarship funds to high school students while teaching sportsmanship and responsibility in a fun and friendly environment.

High School Fishing

Fishing programs are one of the fastest growing activities in U.S. high schools today. Forty-eight states hold a formal high school fishing "Championship" annually. Fishing is an activity that students of almost all physical levels can compete in. Formal student angler programs require the same grade requirements as any other extra-curricular activity, while providing education in conservation, safety training, and volunteerism.

Eligibility

The Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament is open to all U.S. high school students entering 9th grade in 2018 to those 2018 graduates who have NOT started college classes as of the date of the tournament. Students must be a member of BASS High School Nation, Student Angler Federation or show proof of membership in their high school fishing program. ***If a student does not have a fishing program at their high school, they will need to show proof of being a student in good standing with the most current report card or letter from school officials.***

2018 Event Overview

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Friday - July 20 | - Registration with Meet & Greet |
| | - Social Night: Block Party with sponsor booths & evening entertainment. |
| Saturday - July 21 | - Fishing in the morning |
| Sunday - July 22 | - Fishing in the morning |
| | - Awards & presentations in the afternoon |

Fishing Times

This is a trailering event

Fishing times will be: Start (*may be on the water at 5:00 am but*) first cast will be 6:00 am

Last cast will depend on flight times but will start at 12:00 pm

Tournament Payouts

All winning payouts will be placed in a college savings account for higher education payments through The Dallas Foundation (a nonprofit 501(c)3, no cash payments will be made to student anglers. Product prizes and gift certificate prizes will be distributed directly to student anglers during the event. Although there will be a small amount of administrative costs, we payout 100% of the funds received directly to the winners in the tournament.

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July 20-22, 2018



2018 Registration Packet

Instructions:

Following are the forms required for participation in the 2018 National Lake Fork Open.

There are 2 pages for EACH team member AND 1 Page for the Boat Captain. If at all possible, please complete the forms and mail them TOGETHER with payment to:

Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce
LFO Registration
PO Box 213
Alba, TX 75410

Payments can also be made online at www.lakeforkopen.org/tournamentinfo ~ the payment button is on the bottom right, enter both team member names and select "Pay Now".

If you choose not to pay online, you are welcome to mail or send completed registration forms to:

Email: info@lakeforkchamber.org
Fax: (903) 878-2513

Submit your completed registration and payment by July 1, 2018 and receive free Tournament Shirts for both team members AND your boat captain AND be entered into the early registration raffle drawing for prizes totaling over \$2,000!

If you have any questions call the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce at 800-846-1859 X 802



July 20-22, 2018



Team Member 1

(First name) (Last name)

(Address, P.O., street, Apt)

(City, State, Zip) (Representing High School, City, State)

(DOB) (Home or cell phone) (Parent or guardian name)

T-Shirt Size SM M LG XL 2XL 3XL
(Free t-shirts are provided for early registration (by 7/1/2018) or \$10 each (Social Security # Required for Scholarship \$)

(Best email for contact) (BASS ID#, SAF ID#) or (HS Program Name)

If your school does not have an organized fishing program, please attach your most current report card or a letter from your school stating you are a student in good standing.

Team Member 2 Name _____

*****ENTRY FEE: \$50.00 PER TEAM - Note: BOTH TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE PASSING ALL HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES TO PARTICIPATE*****

I have read and understand the rules and expressly assume all risks associated with this tournament and hereby release the host and all sponsors and all tournament officials from all claims, damages, injury, arising out of or connected to this event. As a parent I am giving permission for my student to compete in this event. I have read the rules and waiver (which also needs to be signed). I give "the tournament" and affiliated sponsors permission to use their name and pictures for promotional purposes. Our signatures reflect that we have read these documents, understand it completely and agree to be bound by those terms for this event. These students and their boat captain agree to submit to and accept the results of a polygraph given as this event.

(Boat Captain Name) (Cell number) (Make of Boat) (Motor & HP)

(Address)

(City,State Zip) (Email)

Make checks payable to Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce. Send Entry Form, Liability Release, and payment to LFCC / Lake Fork Open, P.O. Box 213 Alba, Texas, 75410.

For additional information, please contact our Tournament Director, Michael Rogge, at 800-846-1859 X802

The Lake Fork Open High School Scholarship Tournament is operated by The Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce a 501(c)6 Non-Profit Organization Federal ID 75-2748147. Scholarship donations are made payable to The Dallas Foundation, a 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Organization Federal ID 75-2890371 - 3963 Maple Avenue, #390, Dallas, TX 75219.



July 20-22, 2018



2018 National Lake Fork Open Student Angler Release - Team Member 1

PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY - READ BEFORE SIGNING

In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, I acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1. The risk of injury, disability, death, loss or damage to my person or property from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I have been advised by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, and have had the opportunity to seek legal counsel with respect to the legal effect of this document; and,
3. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL RISKS REFERRED TO ABOVE, BOTH KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, THEIR OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, DIRECTORS, BOAT CAPTAINS, SHAREHOLDERS, AGENTS, AND/OR EMPLOYEES, OTHER PARTICIPANTS, AND SPONSORING AGENCIES, SPONSORS, ADVERTISERS, AND, IF APPLICABLE, OWNERS AND LESSORS OF PREMISES AND PROPERTY USED TO CONDUCT THE EVENT ("RELEASEES") OR OTHERS, AND ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR RISKS ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION; AND,
4. I willingly agree to comply with the terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the immediate attention of the nearest official; and,
5. I, FOR MYSELF AND ON BEHALF OF MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND NEXT OF KIN, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS RELEASEES, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PERSON OR PROPERTY, WHICH I SUFFER OR WHICH I AM FOUND TO HAVE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY MY NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, OR OTHERWISE, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.
6. I agree to submit to a truth verification test administered by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce and understand that failure to pass the examination as determined by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce will result in disqualification.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT AND THE ATTACHED RULES. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS AND UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY.

PUBLICITY: In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in the tournaments, events, programs, and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, I ("Participant") hereby grant to the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, their assignees and/or licensees (collectively "Sponsors" including television production companies contracted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, the unconditional right to use my name, voice, photographic likeness, biographical information, fishing tips and/or instructions in any medium whatsoever, including but not limited to video/audio productions, merchandising, promotions, articles, and/or press releases, in connection with the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time. I understand that I will not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. If Participant wins any event, the Participant's name, likeness and biographical information may be used in connection with advertising and promotion. The Participant specifically consents and agrees to such use without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time, and further understands and agrees that any use will be without payment of any royalties or any additional compensation to Participant. The Participant signifies by his/her signature below that he or she has read and understands the foregoing provisions.

PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE

AGE

DATE

PRINT PARTICIPANT'S NAME HERE

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION, I, AS PARENT/GUARDIAN DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PARTICIPANT AND I AGREE AND CONSENT TO HIS/HER RELEASE AS PROVIDED ABOVE OF ALL THE RELEASEES, AND, FOR MYSELF, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND NEXT OF KIN, I RELEASE AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE RELEASEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITIES INCIDENT TO MY MINOR CHILD'S OR WARD'S INVOLVEMENT OR PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROGRAMS AS PROVIDED ABOVE, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINT PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME HERE

EMERGENCY PHONE # (S)



July 20-22, 2018



Team Member 2

(First name) (Last name)

(Address, P.O., street, Apt)

(City, State, Zip) (Representing High School, City, State)

(DOB) (Home or cell phone) (Parent or guardian name)

T-Shirt Size SM M LG XL 2XL 3XL
(Free t-shirts are provided for early registration (by 7/1/2018) or \$10 each (Social Security # Required for Scholarship \$)

(Best email for contact) (BASS ID#, SAF ID#) or (HS Program Name)

If your school does not have an organized fishing program, please attach your most current report card or a letter from your school stating you are a student in good standing.

Team Member 1 Name _____

*****ENTRY FEE: \$50.00 PER TEAM - Note: BOTH TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE PASSING ALL HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES TO PARTICIPATE*****

I have read and understand the rules and expressly assume all risks associated with this tournament and hereby release the host and all sponsors and all tournament officials from all claims, damages, injury, arising out of or connected to this event. As a parent I am giving permission for my student to compete in this event. I have read the rules and waiver (which also needs to be signed). I give "the tournament" and affiliated sponsors permission to use their name and pictures for promotional purposes. Our signatures reflect that we have read these documents, understand it completely and agree to be bound by those terms for this event. These students and their boat captain agree to submit to and accept the results of a polygraph given as this event.

(Boat Captain Name) (Cell number) (Make of Boat) (Motor & HP)

(Address)

(City,State Zip) (Email)

Make checks payable to Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce. Send Entry Form, Liability Release, and payment to LFCC / Lake Fork Open, P.O. Box 213 Alba, Texas, 75410.

For additional information, please contact our Tournament Director, Michael Rogge, at 800-846-1859 X802

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July 20-22, 2018



2018 National Lake Fork Open Student Angler Release - Team Member 2

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In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, I acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1. The risk of injury, disability, death, loss or damage to my person or property from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I have been advised by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, and have had the opportunity to seek legal counsel with respect to the legal effect of this document; and,
3. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL RISKS REFERRED TO ABOVE, BOTH KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, THEIR OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, DIRECTORS, BOAT CAPTAINS, SHAREHOLDERS, AGENTS, AND/OR EMPLOYEES, OTHER PARTICIPANTS, AND SPONSORING AGENCIES, SPONSORS, ADVERTISERS, AND, IF APPLICABLE, OWNERS AND LESSORS OF PREMISES AND PROPERTY USED TO CONDUCT THE EVENT ("RELEASEES") OR OTHERS, AND ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR RISKS ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION; AND,
4. I willingly agree to comply with the terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the immediate attention of the nearest official; and,
5. I, FOR MYSELF AND ON BEHALF OF MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND NEXT OF KIN, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS RELEASEES, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PERSON OR PROPERTY, WHICH I SUFFER OR WHICH I AM FOUND TO HAVE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY MY NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, OR OTHERWISE, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.
6. I agree to submit to a truth verification test administered by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce and understand that failure to pass the examination as determined by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce will result in disqualification.

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PUBLICITY: In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in the tournaments, events, programs, and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, I ("Participant") hereby grant to the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, their assignees and/or licensees (collectively "Sponsors" including television production companies contracted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce, the unconditional right to use my name, voice, photographic likeness, biographical information, fishing tips and/or instructions in any medium whatsoever, including but not limited to video/audio productions, merchandising, promotions, articles, and/or press releases, in connection with the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by the Lake Fork Chamber of Commerce without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time. I understand that I will not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. If Participant wins any event, the Participant's name, likeness and biographical information may be used in connection with advertising and promotion. The Participant specifically consents and agrees to such use without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time, and further understands and agrees that any use will be without payment of any royalties or any additional compensation to Participant. The Participant signifies by his/her signature below that he or she has read and understands the foregoing provisions.

PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE

AGE

DATE

PRINT PARTICIPANT'S NAME HERE

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION, I, AS PARENT/GUARDIAN DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PARTICIPANT AND I AGREE AND CONSENT TO HIS/HER RELEASE AS PROVIDED ABOVE OF ALL THE RELEASEES, AND, FOR MYSELF, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND NEXT OF KIN, I RELEASE AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE RELEASEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITIES INCIDENT TO MY MINOR CHILD'S OR WARD'S INVOLVEMENT OR PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROGRAMS AS PROVIDED ABOVE, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINT PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME HERE

EMERGENCY PHONE # (S)



July 20-22, 2018



2018 Boat Captain Rules and Boat Regulations

- 1) You are the **only person** who will operate the big engine during the tournament day. Students may assist with launching and loading only.
- 2) All parties of the boat are to have **life jackets zipped** and boat captain have **kill switch attached** anytime the motor is running.
- 3) **Captains will provide life vests** for all students aboard their boat.
- 4) Student may elect to wear jacket all day
- 5) You may operate the trolling motor if students are not skilled.
- 6) **Boat captains cannot fish** but can help in netting fish and maintaining live-well.
- 7) Even though students are to have own tackle, captains may loan equipment if needed.
- 8) **Boat captains are to take the SAFEST route** to any location allowing for wind, stumps and obstructions. Captains are to **monitor weather conditions** such as high wind or lightning in approaching storms and **remove students from potential dangerous situations**. You may put boat on trailer until conditions improve, continue fishing once storm has cleared.
- 9) Captains are to keep a charged cell phone in the boat for safety concerns.
- 10) Boats need to have:
 - a. Throw cushion
 - b. Whistle or signaling device
 - c. Current Boat registration
 - d. Fire extinguisher
 - e. Kill switch
 - f. Must have working navigational lights
 - g. Have adequate storage for tackle, rods, and drinks
 - h. HP cannot exceed capacity plate on board
- 11) Mandatory Pre-Tournament Meeting Friday, July 20, 2018, 6:30 pm at Oak Ridge Marina -Tournaments Headquarter.**
- 12) Launch Sites; The Lake Fork Open tournament allows "trailer"ing". Please allow for transit to arrive on time for weigh in. No boat can launch before 5:00 a.m. **First cast is at 6:00 am. All Fishing MUST STOP at your assigned flight time.**
- 13) Weigh in will be at Oak Ridge Marina. **All Anglers must be checked in and in line by assigned flight time. There will be a lakeside check-in boat and a street side check-in tent to ensure anglers are counted as arrived "on-time" in the event of long weigh-in lines.** Weigh-in bags will be provided at registration. Weigh-in will be at the Legend boat stage near the pavilion on the lake.
- 14) **All boats MUST check in regardless of any fish caught.** This is to ensure all boats arrived in safely.
- 15) Contestants must provide the weigh master with assigned Boat Number provided at registration.
- 16) Five (5) fish bag, all fish must be under 16" or over 24" to comply with the Texas Parks & Wildlife slot limit for all largemouth Bass caught on Lake Fork. Each Angler is allowed only 1 Bass larger than 24" per day. A one (1) pound penalty for any dead fish weighed in will be applied.

Captains, these anglers are the future of our sport, be patient and "Teach them Well!"
BOAT CAPTAIN RELEASE FORM

The Boat Captain "Participant" signifies by his/her signature that the participant has read and understands the provisions above.

Boat Captain Signature _____

AGE _____ DOB _____

T-Shirt Size SM M LG XL 2XL 3XL 4XL (Free t-shirts are provided for early registration (by 7/1/2018) or \$10 each

Printed Name _____

Date Signed _____

Address _____

Email _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Cell _____

National Lake Fork Scholarship Tournament Rules

The Lake Fork Area Chamber of Commerce, appointed Tournament Director, and the Lake Fork Open Committee advisors expect strict adherence to the following rules by all contestants. In the event of an emergency, please call 911 first and then notify the tournament director Micheal Rogge at 903-440-0525.

- 1. INTERPRETATION & ENFORCEMENT** - These rules will remain unchanged for the 2018 year event. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament director. Decisions of the tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal. Each contestant and coach agrees to report any rule violation to the tournament director immediately upon discovery of the violation. Failure to report violations may be cause for disqualification. The violation of a tournament rule may result in weight loss (late penalty, dead-fish penalty and short-fish penalty), the loss of weight up to a particular time in the tournament day, the loss of weight for the entire day, disqualification from the entire tournament or, in an extreme circumstance, ineligibility to participate in future Lake Fork Open High School Fishing tournaments. Protests are to be made in writing within 15 minutes of the check-in time of the final flight of each tournament day.
- 2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY** - Participation is open to U.S. High School students including all incoming 9th graders, 10th, 11th, 12th graders, and graduating seniors providing that the graduating seniors have not begun taking college courses since graduating at the time of the tournament dates. The entry fee for this tournament is \$50 per team. No more than two team members and an approved boat captain are allowed in a boat. Participation is open to all B.A.S.S. High School Nation, TBF Student Angler Federation, and any other non-affiliated high school fishing program. **If a student does not have a fishing program at their high school, they will need to show proof of being a student in good standing with the most current report card or letter from school officials.** Contestants must also have the signature of a parent or legal guardian in the provided space on the liability release form which will accompany the entry form. Contestants must have in their possession a current student identification card from the school they are representing (or proof of grade level for those home schooled) and a valid fishing license for the waters they fish (for ages 17+ in the state of Texas). In order to be eligible to compete in the Lake Fork Open, contestants must have passing grades in all subjects enrolled. Contestants are required to follow all applicable federal, state and local regulations and laws. Any violation of such regulations and laws may result in disqualification from the tournament. Each team will consist of one or two eligible contestants and one boat captain. Tournament officials reserve the right to reject any application to fish for any reason whatsoever.
- 3. PURCHASING OF INFORMATION** - The purchasing of, or bartering for, information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters, including but not limited to GPS waypoints (other than through commercially available sources) and the hiring of a fishing guide **(that operates on tournament waters) by contestants or coaches within 15 days of the tournament dates is not permitted.** Violation of this rule may result in disqualification.
- 4. OFF-LIMITS, PRACTICE AND COMPETITION** – Contestants may launch their boats and be on the water at 5:00 am the mornings of the tournament. Fishing will begin at 6:00 am. Fishing for the first flight each day will cease at 12:00 pm each day. Flight numbers will be assigned at Registration. Flight return times will be reversed on the second day. There is no practice period or off-limits period. You may be on tournament waters anytime until the start of the pre-tournament meeting. Contestants and coaches may not enter tournament waters to locate bass, potential fishing waters or sightsee after the start of the pre-tournament meeting. Testing equipment on tournament waters after the start of the pre-tournament meeting is permitted only with prior approval from the tournament director. Once competition is under way, contestants and coaches may not solicit and/or receive information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters from anyone except contestants and coaches confirmed in the tournament and through publicly available sources (quasi-public websites set up for the specific purpose of sharing information with individuals or a small group of individuals are not publicly available sources). On competition day, teams may not follow a non-contestant's boat or participate in the placing of markers by non-contestants or the practice of "hole sitting" by anyone. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification.
- 5. REGISTRATION AND PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING** – **The pre-tournament meeting will start at 6:30 pm Friday 7/20/2018.** Registration deadline will be the Friday, July 20th prior to the tournament; the entry fee will be \$50 per team. Pre-registered teams by July 1, 2018 will be eligible for free tournament T-shirt, additional gift bag items and early registration prize drawings. Contestants may late register on Saturday July 21st before 7:00 am, however there is no guarantee there will be gift bags still available for the late registration anglers.
- 6. TOURNAMENT AWARDS** - The number of places awarded prizes based on their finish in the tournament will be as follows. First place through fifth place will be awarded college scholarships. Big Bass Award **(largest single Bass over 24" of the**

National Lake Fork Scholarship Tournament Rules

tournament) will be awarded a college scholarship. Additional scholarships may be awarded based upon increased Sponsor participation and/or Sponsor designated criteria.

7. **SAFETY** - Safe boating must be observed at all times. Each contestant and coach is required to wear a fastened U.S. Coast Guard-approved and state approved personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation from launch until weigh-in each day of the tournament. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition-shutoff device that must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is in operation. All persons in a tournament boat shall remain seated in a manufacturer recommended on-plane seating location when the combustion engine is in operation. Sitting on pedestal seats while the combustion engine is in operation is not permitted. With the exception of loading and unloading the boat at the launch ramp, coaches are the only individuals authorized to operate the combustion engine during the competition day. Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by contestants and coaches. At the discretion of the tournament director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification.
8. **SPORTSMANSHIP** - All contestants and coaches are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship. Each should demonstrate courtesy, conservation, and conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, to the LAKE FORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, our sponsors, the school the team is representing, the sport of fishing and the efforts to promote the sport. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the rules.
 - b. Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any kind of mind-altering substance during registration, the pre-tournament meeting or during tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure.
 - c. Abuse of, or addiction to, mind-altering substances.
 - d. Conviction of a felony within the past 36 months.
 - e. Suspension/disqualification, probation or ban from any tournament or fishing organization.
 - f. Any words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules, or which fail to comply with the standards set forth in the first sentence of paragraph 8. In case of any conduct not complying with the standards outlined above, tournament officials have the right to refuse an application to compete, to deny a confirmed application to compete, or to disqualify a contestant.
9. **BOAT OPERATION** - Coaches must supply and drive boats for their teams. **Contestants may operate the boat to assist in launching and retrieving at the boat ramp.** To qualify as a boat captain, the person accompanying a team must be at least 19 years old and have not guided on the tournament waters in the **past 15** days. At no time shall a boat captain be "Hired for Pay" to allow contestants to fish. Any boat captain deemed to give his contestants an unfair advantage by participation, may be refused or disqualified at the sole discretion of the tournament director. The Contestants may operate the trolling motor. Coaches may provide assistance, including information about locating and catching fish. **At no time are boat captains permitted to fish. The use of mobile communication devices are permitted only in the event of an on the water emergency or the taking of pictures. Use for any other reason during tournament hours will result in disqualification.**
10. **BOAT AND HORSEPOWER REGULATION** - All boats must be propeller-driven and a minimum of 16 feet in length. Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. Boats must contain a properly aerated live well space to maintain alive a limit catch of bass. Maximum horsepower for all outboards shall not exceed the horsepower capacity set forth on the "Maximum Capacities" placard described below. Each boat must have a clearly legible "Maximum Capacities" (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating affixed to the boat by the manufacturer. By signing the entry form, contestants and coaches agree to submit their boat and/or motor to an inspection by tournament officials. Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower numbers on the motor or rating placard will be cause for disqualification from the tournament and may result in ineligibility to compete in future Lake Fork Open tournaments. Fishing platforms must be factory-installed equipment. No portable platforms may be used in tournament competition. Fuel may be carried only in factory-installed (built-in) fuel tanks or auxiliary fuel tanks that are securely strapped or otherwise fastened to the boat. Any additional fuel used during the tournament day must be purchased from a retail facility open to the public and pumped through a hose with a nozzle.
11. **PERMITTED FISHING METHODS** - Fishing is defined as having a lure attached to a line and a rod and reel with the lure in the water. All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. Only artificial lures may be used, with the exception of pork trailers and biodegradable soft baits. Only ONE fishing rod per contestant may be used at a time. Trolling as a method of fishing is strictly prohibited. All bass caught while sight-fishing must be hooked inside the mouth and immediately shown to your coach for verification.
12. **PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS AND BOUNDARIES** - Teams may fish anywhere on tournament waters within the boundaries defined by the tournament director that is available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off-limits," "no boats," "keep out," "restricted," "no trespassing" or "no fishing" (or similar language or markings intended to restrict public access) by tournament officials, local, state or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a contestant's boat that was first anchored. 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 shallow water anchor with the trolling motor in the up position. All fishing must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing

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waters. The use of cables, ropes, chains or any type of block and tackle system to maneuver a boat into fishing waters is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification from the tournament. Due to the size and scope of this event, this will be a "Trailer" tournament. In the event of equipment failure or emergency, there are three permitted methods of returning to the check-in: (1) by both contestants remaining in their boat and being towed by water, (2) by one contestant entering the boat of another team with their catch or (3) both contestants entering a rescue boat with their catch so designated by the tournament director. Under these three conditions the team's catch may be counted without a penalty (except for late penalties or other penalties pertaining to other tournament rules). Teams that elect to return to the check-in by any other means than cited above will forfeit their day's catch to that point in time of the tournament day. Any team returning to the check-in point will be eligible to restart and resume competition under the supervision of the tournament director or his designated tournament official. It is the sole responsibility of teams to locate the tournament director to request a restart. Teams must remain together at all times and within sight of their coach until check-in. The momentary condition of being out of sight of each other for restroom breaks is permitted. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification.

- 13. WEIGH-IN/CHECK-IN – You can launch at 5:00 am but first cast will be 6:00 am. All fishing must stop at your assigned flight time. You will have one (1) hour to arrive at the check-in site. There will be a one (1) pound penalty for each minute you are late up to 15 minutes. After that your weight will not be counted.** The weigh-in/check-in point for all teams at the conclusion of each tournament competition day will be Oak Ridge Marina. There will be an official "Time Keeper" on the water and the street entrance to the marina that will record the check in times for each team at the end of each competition day. To ensure all teams have safely returned from the water. **Every team is required to check in regardless if they have fish to weigh or not. Failure to go through the boat check in process at the end of either competition day will result in disqualification. Checking in may be done by Mobil Communications if a team has no fish to check in.** All fishing must cease upon check-in. Weigh-in bags will be provided at registration.
- 14. LATE PENALTY - Teams will have one (1) hour to arrive at the check-in site. There will be a one (1) pound penalty for each minute you are late up to 15 minutes. After that your weigh will not be counted.**
- 15. LIVE FISH -** Every effort must be made to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live well. **1 Pound** will be deducted from the total weight for each dead bass presented for weigh-in.
- 16. SCORING -** Scoring is determined by the final weight of each team's catch during the tournament. Only largemouth, spotted, redeye or smallmouth bass are accepted species. The tournament limit is five bass per team. Teams possessing more than the tournament limit will have their catch to that point in the day disqualified and, time permitting, are eligible for a restart from the takeoff location. Lake Fork has a restrictive "Slot-Limit" and the following rules must be observed by all competitors regarding legal bass to be weighed. **For largemouth bass, length limit is a 16-24" slot. Bass under 16 inches or 24 inches or greater in length may be retained. Only one (1) one bass 24 inches or greater may be retained each day per contestant. There will be a question administered on the truth verification test. For smallmouth bass (if present), minimum length = 14 inches. No minimum length on spotted and Guadalupe bass (if present.) Daily bag limit for all four species = five (5) bass in combination.**
Bass presented for weigh-in that fail to measure the prescribed length limit will be penalized at the rate of one (1) pound for each bass presented plus loss of that fish.
There will be a There will be a courtesy measuring board available to use. Check-it stick is the official measuring board. Each team's catch must be presented in an official weigh-in bag. The winning team is determined by the heaviest catch for the combined two day event.
- 17. TIES -** Will be broken by big bass. If a tie remains, total number of fish weighed in for the tournament will break the tie. If a tie still remains, it will be broken by a flip of the coin.
- 18. LOGO DISPLAY AND TELEVISION COVERAGE -** Contestants and coaches may wear their own shirts or jerseys during the tournament. Tournament officials reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to prohibit any contestant or coach's shirt or jersey found to be offensive. All decisions are at the Tournament Director or Lake Fork Open Committee's sole discretion.
- 19. ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO -** During all days of competition any and all alcohol and tobacco logos are prohibited and may not be worn or displayed. Contestants may not smoke or use tobacco products during tournament hours, the weigh-in proceedings, or during the tournament registration process.
- 20. TRUTH VERIFICATION TEST -** Each contestant and coach agrees to submit, by signature on the tournament entry form, to a polygraph or voice stress analysis examination and to abide by its conclusion. Failure to pass an examination will result in disqualification from the tournament. Truth verification tests will be used at the sole discretion of tournament officials, and the determination of the meaning of the results will be made solely by tournament officials.
- 21. INSURANCE -** Liability insurance with coverage in reasonable amounts is required on all boats used in High School Fishing tournaments. Proof of insurance must be with the boat being used and must cover all passengers in the boat. Random checks will be conducted. Failure to provide proof of insurance when requested by the tournament director may result in disqualification.

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22. CAPTIONS - The captions at the beginning of each paragraph are intended to facilitate convenience in referring to the various rules. The captions are not part of the substance of the paragraph and should not be used in construction of any paragraph or of this overall set of rules.

23. In case of an emergency or boat break down- If there is a medical emergency call 911 then call the Tournament Director, Micheal Rogge at 903-440-0525. If there is a boat break down, that team may enter another contestant boat with their catch to come to check-in. All fishing must stop at that time for both teams. The disabled boat can be towed in by a non-contestant boat but the team must remain in the tournament boat. Fishing must stop if the boat is being towed. If the disabled boat can be repaired and there is ample time, fishing can resume. Late penalty rule will still apply in any case.