



Illini Big Bass Fundraiser

April 11, 2020 Clinton Lake, IL

Details and Rules

Tournament Details:

The Illini Big Bass Fundraiser is limited to 160 competitors or 80 boats, whichever comes first. We strongly recommend that you register online to reserve your spot. If you must cancel, please contact us as soon as possible so that we can give other anglers a chance to participate if registration is full.

Registration will be open online in March 2020 via a fillable form that must be e-mailed to fightingillinibassclub@gmail.com. You may also register the morning of the event at the check-in site as long as spots are still available. We will announce the number of registered anglers and available spots on April 10th on our Facebook page (Illini Bass Fishing Club) and on our website (<http://www.fightingillinibassclub.com>). Registration is first come first serve.

Cost to participate is \$60 per angler, not including the \$5 launch fee that boat captains are responsible for and must pay at launch before launching their boat. Payments are not refundable once made! If you wish to pay before check-in, methods are listed on the registration form. If you choose to submit payment before check-in, payments must be received by April 9th.

Check-in and weigh-in will take place at the Clinton Lake Marina at 6599 Sailboat Rd., Weldon, IL 61882. Check-in will open at 5:30 am at the launch. All competitors must check-in; competitors who do not check-in will not be allowed to weigh-in. All boats must be launched from the Clinton Lake Marina. Competitors may launch and travel to their first fishing spot any time after they have checked in. Competitors are not allowed to begin fishing until 7:00 am on the tournament day. This is enforced by the honor system and we encourage anglers to watch each other for compliance. Any competitor caught violating this fishing time start will be disqualified.

All competitors must be in the weigh-in line/area by 2:15 pm. Late competitors will not be allowed to weigh their fish.

Anglers will be competing for the largest single bass over 16" in length. Prizes will be given out to the top six places. Payouts will be a percent of entry fees and are as follows: 6th place receives 2.5%, 5th place receives 5%, 4th place receives 10%, 3rd place receives 15%, 2nd place receives 20%, and 1st place receives 25%. 22.5% of the entries will go to supporting the Illini Bass Fishing Club.

Rules:

Competitors

Any age, non-professional angler can participate. Only registered competitors can fish with each other. In other words, no unregistered competitors other than tournament staff are allowed on competitor boats. All competitors must be assigned to a boat. This tournament is "Individual," meaning only the competitor that catches a bass may weigh it. Any competitors caught weighing in a bass not caught by themselves will be disqualified. Competitors in the same boat may help net a bass. Bass must either be marked with a cull tag or in a separate live well than other competitors on the same boat.

Safety

Safe boating must always be observed. Competitors must observe "no wake" areas including posted bridges and other areas identified by the Tournament Director.

Each competitor is required to wear a fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device at all times when the combustion engine is in operation.

All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition shut off device that must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is in operation.

Sportsmanship

All competitors are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation. Our number one goal is for anglers to have fun, so please be courteous to your fellow competitors and other anglers on the water.

Boat and Horsepower Regulations

All boats must be a minimum of 16 feet in length. Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard required safety equipment. Boats must contain a properly aerated live-well capable of maintaining alive a limit of bass. Maximum horsepower for all outboards used in the tournament may not to exceed the horsepower set forth on the "Maximum Capacities" plate on the boat.

Permitted Fishing Methods and Baits

All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. Only artificial lures may be used. No trolling or long-lining will be permitted.

Permitted Fishing Locations

Competitors may fish anywhere on Clinton Lake waters available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as "Off-Limits", "No Fishing", "No Boats", "Boats Keep Out", etc. by local, state or federal officials.

Live Fish

Every effort must be made to keep bass alive using a properly aerated live-well. A half-pound (.50 pounds) will be deducted from the total weight for each dead bass presented for weigh-in. Competitors are not allowed to cull dead fish.

Scoring

Only Largemouth and Smallmouth bass are accepted species. Only one bass may be weighed in per competitor. The minimum length bass for both smallmouth and largemouth bass is 16 inches. Short fish will not be weighed. The competitor with the heaviest bass over 16 inches will be deemed the winner. Final scores/weights and places will be announced and posted once all competitors have weighed in the day of the tournament. Results will also be posted on the Illini Bass Fishing Club website and Facebook page.

Ties

Ties will be determined by a coin flip.

Phones, photos, and video

We encourage competitors to take photos and videos. We discourage anglers from communicating fishing locations or lure information to competitors on other boats during tournament hours.

Insurance

Watercraft liability insurance will be the responsibility of each angler. It must have the minimum coverage that the state requires and is mandatory of all competitors participating in the tournament.

DNR Waver

All competitors must agree and sign an IDNR liability waiver provided by the Tournament Director. The Illini Bass Fishing Club, its members, officers, and directors, and University of Illinois and its assigns are not responsible for any injuries or damages that take place during the conducting of this tournament.

Weather and Cancellation

The Tournament Director has the authority to postpone, cancel, or alter start and weigh-in times to prevent fishing during unsafe conditions. If the tournament is cancelled before 7:00 am the day of the tournament, full refunds will be provided to registered competitors.

Rule Violations and Contestations

If you wish to report a violation of any rules, tournament proceedings, or unsafe/inappropriate conduct of a competitor, please notify an Illini Bass Fishing Club staff member immediately or call (815)-592-5354. All rule violations, contestations, and penalties will be reviewed and up to the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Tournament Director: Tyson Stork (815)-842-7650

BFC President: AJ Hack (815)-592-5354

Official and Permit Holder: Benjamin Johnson (309)-338-9542