



# OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

Little Lake Santa Fe Boat Ramp (21B) • Melrose, Florida • Every Friday 6–9 PM

## ENTRY FEE & PAYOUTS

**\$50 per boat**

\$40 → Tournament Pot

\$10 → Big Bass Pot

**Big Bass** = heaviest single bass

Boats	Places Paid
1–10	1st
11–20	1st–2nd
21–30	1st–3rd
31–40	1st–4th

## TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Team Size	Limit	Min Length	Scoring
1–2 anglers/boat	5 bass/boat	12 inches	Total weight

## FISHING WATERS

All navigable waters are open: **Lake Santa Fe, Little Lake Santa Fe, and all connecting canals.** If you can legally get your boat there, you can fish there.

## CHECK-IN / RETURN RULE

**ALL BOATS MUST BE INSIDE THE CANAL AT 21B BY  
9:00 PM**

Inside the canal entrance = on time. Not inside by 9:00 PM = **DISQUALIFIED.**

## PENALTIES

Violation	Penalty
Dead fish at weigh-in	–1 lb per dead fish
Short fish (under 12")	–1 lb per short fish

Penalties are deducted from your total weight.

## TIEBREAKER

1. Team with the bigger single bass wins the tie.
2. If neither team has a qualifying Big Bass, the tied teams combine and split the prize money evenly.

## FISHING RULES

- **Artificial lures ONLY** — no live bait
- **No trolling**
- One rod and reel per angler at a time
- Forward-facing sonar and all sonar tech **ARE allowed**

## SAFETY & LEGAL

Follow all Florida boating laws at all times:

- Navigation lights on and working
- Kill switch in use while running
- Coast Guard–approved life jacket for everyone on board
- Safe, responsible boat operation

Must comply with FWC and Coast Guard regs. **Breaking safety rules = disqualification and possible ban.**

## SPORTSMANSHIP & CONDUCT

**Sportsmanship is mandatory.** Be respectful to anglers, staff, and the public.

You will be **disqualified** for: unsportsmanlike behavior, conflict, threatening language, unsafe boating, or cheating. Serious misconduct = permanent ban and possible law enforcement.

**Tournament officials can refuse entry to anyone.**

## SIGN-UP REQUIREMENTS

Every angler must sign the **Tournament Rules Agreement** and **Liability Waiver** before fishing. No signature = no fishing. By signing you confirm you've read these rules, agree to follow them, take responsibility for your own safety, and release organizers from liability.

**ALL DECISIONS BY TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS ARE FINAL.**