

# Mid-South Tournament Trail

Sponsored by



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Schedule:	March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Beech Lake
	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Gibson County Lake
	May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Perryville (Mousetail ramp)
	June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Horeshoe Lake
	August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Cold Creek or Mckellar Lake (TBD)
	September 12 <sup>th</sup>	Classic at Birdsong Landing on Kentucky Lake

**Time:** 1 Hour before sunrise until 2:00 PM (Weigh-in before 2:30PM)

**Fee:** \$60.00 per boat with optional \$10 "Big Fish" per boat

**Prizes:** Number of payout positions based on number of boats entered. Elite-Fishing.com is donating two rods valued at over \$300 to be awarded to the team earning the most points for the year from their best four finishes and the Classic.

**Contact Information:**

Tournament Director: R.A. Latham	(731)-413-9556
William "Jerly" Bilderback	(901)-326-2828
Bill Doyle	(901)-497-1577
John Gant	(901)-229-9937

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## Rules and Regulations

**Participation:**

- You must abide by all rules of the competition, as well as all local, state and federal regulations. All participants are to meet at the tournament ramp 1hr before sunrise in order to register and pay tournament fees.
- There is a maximum of two persons per boat. No one under age 18 can fish alone.
- All fishing is to stop promptly at or before 2:00PM on each tournament, and each team **MUST** be at the weigh-in area **BEFORE** 2:30PM to avoid disqualification!! Please **DO NOT BE LATE!!**
- We ask that anyone serving as a licensed guide, or that is paid for guiding on tournament waters within the previous 30 day period are not eligible to compete in that tournament
- Please note that this tournament is 100% payout and therefore all tournament fees are to be **CASH ONLY**.

**Scoring:**

- There is a tournament limit of 5 bass per boat. All fish must be within lake regulations. The weight of each team's fish will determine scoring during the tournament. Largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass are accepted species. At no time will a contestant possess more

than the tournament limit (5 per boat). Any contestant who possesses more than the tournament limit will have his catch for that day disqualified.

- First place earns 50 points, with values decreasing by one with each lower finish. Teams not weighing in fish will be awarded last place points so that all participants will receive points.
- Bass that fail to measure the prescribed lake regulations shall be removed from the catch, and a penalty of one (1) pound will be deducted from the remaining weight. Deductions for dead fish will be discussed at the tournament.
- **Contestants who are not at the official weigh-in area by the appointed time (2:30) will be disqualified, and will receive last place points for that tournament. DON'T BE LATE!!!**

### Prize payout:

- Each tournament will be 100% payout, with number of payout positions depending on number of boats competing. Each team can also enter one fish for the optional "Big Fish" contest, which will be 100% payout. Cost of entry is \$10, and this must be payed before the tournament begins.

### Classic:

- The Classic on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> will have an \$80 per boat entry fee.
- The number of points each team earns from this tournament will be multiplied by 1.5, so that this tournament is worth 1 ½ the points of a regular tournament.

### Angler of the Year

- The year end "Angler of the year" team will be determined by adding the team's total points earned from each of their best four (4) regular season tournaments, and the points earned from the classic. The team with the highest point value will be the "Angler of the year" team. This team will be awarded two fishing rods valued at over \$300 from Elite-Fishing.com
- To be eligible for Angler of the year, at least 3 of the 4 regular season tournaments that are used for point totals must be fished with the same partner (or alone). In addition, the Classic must also be fished with this same partner (or alone) for those points to be counted toward the "Angler of the year" team award.

### Fishing methods, Tackle and Equipment:

- Only artificial baits and lures may be used. No live baits or prepared bait may be used other than pork bait types. Trolling is not permitted. Only one rod may be used at a time. All bass must be caught on a rod and reel. A landing net may be used. All bass must be caught and landed from the boat.

### Safety:

- Safe boating must be observed at all times. During competition everyone is required to wear a fastened U. S. Coast Guard approved life preserver anytime the combustion engine is in operation. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device, which must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is in operation.
- Each contestant must abide by all federal, state, and local laws.
- This will be a shotgun start; we will discuss the morning of the tournament. Bigger boats are to respect smaller boats, and smaller boats are to yield to bigger boats.

### Sportsmanship:

- All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation. Conduct reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition, and compliance with tournament rules are grounds for disqualification.
- Bass are preferred not to be on a stringer at any time during the tournament. Contestants shall make every effort to keep fish alive through the use of a properly aerated live-well.

- The use of mobile communication devices such as cellular telephones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CB's etc., to communicate fishing information during tournament hours is strictly prohibited.
- A contestant cited during the tournament by wildlife officers for violation of State or Federal fishing or boating regulations may be disqualified.
- NO ALCOHOL! No alcoholic beverages are allowed during tournament hours. No alcoholic beverages are allowed in any tournament boat.

### Permitted Fishing Methods:

- Contestants may fish anywhere accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by local, state, or federal officials, or within 50 yards of any other competitor's boat which was first anchored without permission from the competitor. An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight with the trolling motor in the up position.
- All angling 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 waters. The boat must remain in the tournament waters during the tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat.
- Tournament Lake is closed to fishing from sunset the day before tournament until the start of the tournament. You may not start fishing until the official start of the tournament or you will be disqualified.

### Official Checkpoints:

- There will be only one official checkpoint for boat check in the morning and one official checkpoint for check-in in the afternoon. Failure to go through boat check-in and checkout in the morning or failure to check-in at the check-in point will result in disqualification.

### **Important!**

- Each team should have their own weigh-in bag as one will not be provided!!
- All contestants are responsible for having their own insurance, required permits, and licenses to fish any and all tournaments. Mid-South tournament trail cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur during these tournaments.
- All tournament results will be posted on our sponsor's website, Elite-fishing.com, as soon as possible after each tournament. Also, please check elite-fishing.com before each tournament to verify that the tournament has not been changed or cancelled due to unforeseen reasons.

**Any questions or concerns should be mentioned to the tournament officials. Any decision made by the tournament officials will stand as called.**