

**FULTON COUNTY TOURNAMENT ASSOCIATION RULES
2009**

1. A high standard of sportsmanship must be maintained at all times. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
2. Drunkenness will not be tolerated. Disqualification effective immediately.
3. Tournament committee will have the final decision on all tournaments. (Last team to sign up at morning check-in).
4. Any protest must be lodged within (5) minutes after weigh in.
5. All fishing must be done from a boat. No lake changing unless otherwise specified.
6. All boats must have an aerated live well or cooler. Every possible step must be taken to keep fish alive.
7. All fish will be returned to the water unharmed. Exception: #6 trophy!
8. All dead fish will be docked (8 oz.) each.
9. Only large, small or spotted bass will score. Bass must be a minimum of 12" in length or the minimum length for the tournament site. Bass will be measured with closed mouth, lying on a flat board. A courtesy board will be provided at the weigh in.
10. Tournament payouts will be based on total team weight in pounds and ounces. Big bass will break all ties. If still tied, bump last place and combine money from place after tie.
11. Artificial lures only. No trolling. No more than one line per fisherman in the water at one time.
12. Boats must maintain at least 50' from other boats.
13. Teams may bring in a total of (5) fish to the weigh in – if team member is absent lake rule will apply; i.e.: lake limit is (3) fish per person then team may only weigh in (3) fish. If over limit - a 2# dock will be applied.
14. All teams must be present at the tournament site one-half hour before tournament take off for boat inspection, entry fee payment and take off position draw.
15. Fish weighed in under specified limit will be docked (1#).
16. Each minute late for weigh in, team will be docked (1#) until (5) minutes have been reached then team is disqualified.
17. No more than (50) boats; (100) people per tournament.
18. Anyone showing up late must locate a tournament competitor boat and pass inspection before wetting a line.
19. No fishing within (50) yards of anchored boat. Boat is anchored when anchor is over the side and trolling motor is up.
20. All boats equipped with kill switches must have them hooked up and in working order.
21. On non-restricted horsepower lakes or rivers, those boats having (50) hp motors or less will be allowed a (10) minute head start over boats equipped with larger than (50) hp motors at take off time - **river division only**. See rule #23.
22. Partner substitution allowed once per year/team. Substitute must be a member of FCTA. Team receiving the points must be declared prior to tournament take off.
23. Tournament take off position will be a draw system (river division only). When tournament entry fee is paid at the pre-tournament meeting each team will draw for take off positions. Teams using boats with (50) hp motors or less will still take off using Rule #21.
24. Members of the FCTA may fish either river or lake divisions anytime during the 2009 season.
25. A membership fee of \$20 per person will be required to join FCTA.
26. Life vest **must** be worn at all times when operating gasoline engines.
27. Entry fees for all tournaments will be \$40 (river and lake division) per team, per tournament with a 90% payback. The other 10% will go to the payout for the Classic at the end of the season. Single entries same as team entries. Big bass \$5 optional per team.
28. Tournament entry fees will be collected the day of the tournament – must be cash. Pay outs immediately following weigh ins. No money will be refunded. Pay outs are as follows:

16 or more boats: 5 places
11-15 boats: 4 places
10 or less boats: 3 places
29. Members must fish a minimum of (3) tournaments to qualify to fish the Classic.

Scoring System

A scoring system similar to the American Scholarships will be used this year to provide a competitive race for the championship.

Point System

- 1st Place 100
- 2nd Place 99
- 3rd Place 98
- 4th Place 97
- 5th Place 96

- Points will decrease and stop at the last team that has (1) or more fish.
- (20) points will be given to all teams not weighing in fish.
- Big Bass of the year will break ties for point championship.
- Teams are determined at the beginning of the year.
- A change of partner creates a new team. See Rule #22.