



**2019 TOURNAMENT RULES
NEFAR CHARITY BASS TOURNAMENT
PRESENTED BY THE**



**THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, INC.
NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC.
BENEFITING "HAVEN" HOSPICE**

PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: Participants should be at least 18 years of age. If a participant is under the age of 18 years, his or her partner must be of adult age and the adult partner must assume liability in all matters. All participants should familiarize themselves with FS 327.395 (Florida Boating License Requirements) prior to operating a gas-powered motor. All participants must have a valid and current Florida freshwater fishing license, if applicable. Participants over the age of 65 must have valid I.D with date of birth in their possession. If a participant fails to comply with Florida fresh water licensing requirements that participant and their team member will automatically be disqualified.

PRE-ENTRY: Pre-register online by credit card at www.nefarbass.org with completed entry form. Online registration will close at 5 pm, April 25, 2019. Boat numbers for launch sequence are determined as entry monies are received and will be posted on the website within 24 hours of NEFAR receiving payment. Mail entries to: NEFAR, 1723 Reid St., Palatka, FL, 32177, Attn: Savannah Williams. If full entry has not been received by tournament date, you will be expected to pay all remaining entry fees at the ramp in cash to the tournament official assigned to said task. The tournament director or assistant director has the right to reject any tournament entry.

FEES: Entry fee is \$120.00 per boat.

PAYBACK: The payback to the field will be 90% of the remaining balance. One place will be paid for every seven boats entered.

TEAM MEMBERS: Each boat is limited to two (2) team members; a Boater and a Partner. A boater may fish alone if he or she so desires.

QUALIFYING FISH: A limit of fish will be five (5) largemouth black bass with **no minimum length**.

PENALTIES: Competitors who present a bass for weigh-in that is determined to be dead shall accrue a penalty of .250 of a pound or 4 ounces from their total weight. If the dead fish is also the big fish the same penalty will be given towards the big fish pot. Any bass that appears to have been taken unlawfully, mangled, mashed, mauled or snatch hooked will be weighed at the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director. Bass must not be placed on a stringer or on ice at any time. A dead fish may not be culled. At the discretion of the tournament director or assistant director, any dead fish may become the property of the tournament. Competitors who are not in the official check in area, which is determined by the tournament director, within the time allowed, shall be penalized one pound per minute from their big fish, and aggregate total. After fifteen (15) minutes have elapsed, the daily catch will be disqualified. Any team submitting more than five (5) fish to the scale will be penalized by having the entire day's catch disqualified. All protests must be sworn to in writing and accompanied by a \$200 deposit prior to the issuance of awards at any tournament. Deposit maybe refunded pending outcome of polygraph and determination of a rules violation.

LEGAL METHOD OF TAKING BASS: Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait, prepared bait, cast nets, bread, or baiting pellets, will be permitted on or within tournament boats with the exception of pork stripes, rinds or other baits similar to such baits. Only one (1) casting, spinning, or spin casting rod and reel combination may be used at any one time, others may be in boat, but only one rod per team member can be in use at any one time. The rod may not exceed eight (8) eight feet in overall length. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner during tournament hours. Intentional foul hooking of bass will not be permitted. Trolling is not permitted. Dip nets are permitted for their lawful intended use; however, may not exceed 60 inches in length when fully expanded. **No fish may be taken from any water designated by state or local authorities as closed or off limits and/or properly marked private canals.** Any violation of this section will result in immediate disqualification.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All persons participating within the tournament must display only the highest form of sportsmanship and fairness. Any intentional actions conducted by any party to include retaliation of any previous action may lead up to and include verbal warning, written warning, disqualification of daily creel, and possibly the revocation of future opportunities to participate in any NEFAR Charity Bass Tournaments. All disciplinary actions taken by the director are final. All participants are subject to being asked to submit to an examination to determine the truth in any instance the director deems necessary. Refusal to or not making oneself readily available to submit to such examination will result in a disqualification. Such examination may or may not be on the date of the tournament. No protest will be received once the rewards ceremony has commenced.

BOATING SAFETY: All boats must meet all U.S. Coast Guard requirements. All boaters will abide by all Federal, State, and Local laws governing the operation of a vessel. Boats must be equipped with operable ignition kill switch. The safety kill lanyard must be affixed to the driver of the boat during those times in which the gas engine is in operation. Each competitor is required to wear an U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device during times the gas engine is in operation. Each boat must be equipped with an operable live well capable of maintaining a limit of fish alive during tournament hours. No beverages containing alcohol will be allowed on any boat associated with the tournament during tournament hours. No person who has the appearance of being under the influence of an intoxicant will be permitted to occupy any vessel associated with the tournament. Any violation of the above safety rules will be grounds for immediate disqualification. No canoes, kayaks, airboats, or pontoon boats allowed. No fishing from an elevated platform during tournament hours.

RELEASE: In consideration of being permitted to register and participate in the NEFAR Charity Bass Tournament ("Tournament") held at the City Docks in Palatka, Florida, tournament participants (Releasers), for themselves, their personal representatives, executors, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns, hereby release and forever discharge the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors®, Inc., the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors Charitable Foundation, Inc., Haven, Haven Hospice, Hospice of North Central Florida, Hospice of The Lakes, and OGS Tournaments, LLC, and all of their officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, and all sponsors, contributors, participants, volunteers, producers and their agents, representatives, successors and assigns, from all liabilities, claims, actions, suits, demands, costs and expenses for bodily injury, death and property damage which Releasers may have against them arising out of or in any way connected with our participation in the Tournament, including but without limited to, all risks, known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, without regard to whether they are inherent in participating in a fishing tournament. We understand that this Release is unconditional, full and general, and that it includes all claims, whether caused by the gross or simple negligence, action or inaction of any of the released parties.

Releasers hereby further release the released parties from all claims whatsoever on account of first aid, treatment or services rendered to them in connection with participation in the Tournament.

This Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Florida, and if any portion of this Release is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full legal force and effect. Releasers understand and agree that fishing and boating are potentially hazardous activities that could result in injury to person or property or death. Releasers have carefully read this entire Release and fully understand the contents of it.

Releasers hereby authorize the use of their name and/or likeness as well as that of the boat, free of further consideration, for promotion and advertising purposes in any media form and reproduction, including but not limited to, radio, television, internet, newspaper, brochure, and video.