

Texas Collegiate Tournament Series #5: Lake Belton May 12th and 13th

This Collegiate Bass Fishing tournament trail will consist of five events and a championship on Texas lakes (listed below), but registration is open to all teams nationwide. Event number five will be held on Lake Belton in Belton, TX. The lake is an impoundment of the Leon River that covers a surface area of 12,385 acres, and all waters accessible by boat will be considered the legal angling area for this tournament. The Rogers Park facility is the suggested launch point, and is where check-ins and weigh-ins will be held for both days of the tournament (subject to change per lake level at the time of competition); use of any other facility for boat launch is at angler's discretion. Each team will be required to pay one \$50 entry fee, with 100% of all fees collected paid back to anglers. The lake will remain open to anglers until midnight on Monday May 7th, at which time it will close until official practice begins at safe light, Thursday May 10th. A detailed list of rules is provided in this packet, and registration denotes an intimate understanding and absolute agreement to the rules therein.

Series Information:

- Whitney (Landre Wilson/Nathan Perkins UT Austin)
- LBJ (February 18+19)
- Lewisville (March 31+April 1)
- Conroe (April 28+29)
- Lake Belton (May 12+13)**
- Choke Canyon (June 9+10) (Championship)

Teams fishing 3 events will automatically qualify for the championship in June.

The top 15 teams by weight, not including teams who have qualified by fishing 3 events, will also qualify for the championship.

\$50 entry fee per boat with 100% of funds collected paid back to the anglers.

Event Information: Texas Tournament Series #5: Lake Belton

Recommended lodging: Budget Host Inn Belton (\$65/night)

Recommended launch site: Rogers Park Facility (Subject to change per lake levels)

- Two lane ramp, no launch fee required

The final registration meeting is mandatory, and at least one angler from each team must be present. It will be conducted on Friday May 11th at 6:00PM at the Budget Host Inn Belton, and entry fees will be

due in cash at that time. Anglers will be given a safety briefing, boat numbers, and the official time as per the tournament director.

Take off: Will be at safe light both tournament days as determined by the tournament director. Flights will be organized if necessary, as well as the adjusted weigh-in deadlines if needed.

Check in: Livewell checks will be conducted at the launch site by tournament officials each morning prior to take off. Failure to report for check in will result in forfeiture of a team's entire catch for that day and may result in disqualification from the event.

Weigh-in: Weigh-in for both days will be held at the official launch ramp. One angler from each team will be required to check in with tournament officials by 3:00PM (or adjusted time as per flight number). After their assigned time, teams will be penalized one pound per minute for the first 15 minutes, and after 15 minutes past deadline, any team that has not reported to weigh in will receive a weight of 0.00 pounds for that day of competition.

Prizes: Prizes will consist of payouts from 100% of all collected registration fees, and any sponsor merchandize donated to the tournament. Both the size, and the number of places to which payouts will be awarded, will be determined by the number of teams entered in the event. Awards will be given to no less than 1st-3rd place finishers, the anglers who weigh-in the event's big bass, and the anglers who weigh-in the event's big bag.

Official Regulations

1. Rules: All decisions made by the tournament director and or the tournament officials will be final. The tournament director can make a change at his discretion or when the safety of anglers is in question. Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament director.
2. Alcoholic beverages and drugs: Anyone consuming alcoholic beverages or drugs (other than prescription) during tournament hours will be disqualified. If you feel you may have big bass or your fish may put you in the money, do not consume alcohol or drugs until polygraphs have been determined. NO alcohol or drugs allowed in boat during tournament hours.
3. Sportsmanship: All contestants are expected to practice courtesy, safety, and follow local and state game laws. Anyone displaying poor sportsmanship or violating local and state game laws will be disqualified.
4. Eligibility: This is an open tournament; college teams from any state are allowed to register and compete in any event of this tournament series. You must be 18 or older to fish as an individual, or at least one team member must be over the age of 18 to be eligible for competition. Anglers must also currently be enrolled at, or have graduated from, the same university during the course of the tournament season (August 2011-June 2012); team members who have graduated during the course of the season will be eligible to fish Texas Tournament Series events until the conclusion of this season's championship (June 2012). No one other than paid contestants are allowed in the boat during tournament hours, including official practice days. You must have a valid Texas fishing license and state issued driver's license or photo identification card in your possession during tournament hours.

5. Baits and tackle: Only artificial Lures may be used with the exception of pork rinds and liquid bait attractants. No live bait. No trolling with the main engine. Only one rod at a time may be used. A cast must be fully retrieved before another rod is picked up. You may not snag or foul hook bedding fish.
6. Polygraph: Each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph examination by entering this tournament and must abide by its conclusion. All polygraphs must be passed in order to receive cash or product. If you have ever failed for any form of cheating, you cannot participate in SHSU Tournaments.
7. Permissible waters: No fishing within 50 yards of an operating gas pump, within 25 yards of a non anchored boat without permission or 50 yards of an anchored or tied boat with troll motor up on deck without permission. Contestant must be able to float into all fishing areas without leaving the boat. Contestants cannot leave boat to land a fish, or to aid in the catch or retrieval of any fish in any way.
8. Late Penalty: You will be penalized one pound per minute and after 15 minutes, you will be given a weight of 0.00 pounds for that day of competition.
9. Boats and motors: No engine shall exceed the maximum BIA horsepower rating for the boat on which it is used. All boats shall meet USCG and state regulations. All boats must have an emergency shut off device. All boats must have aerated livewells in working order, unless other aerated setups are approved by director.
10. Safety: Coast Guard approved life vest must be worn and secured and the shut off engine device attached to driver while the main engine is operating. This is suggested at all times and will be enforced on competition days. Cell phones may be used for emergency or break downs only during tournament hours. In case of breakdown, you may get into another contestant's boat to come to weigh-in.
11. Scoring fish: A maximum of five fish per team will be weighed per tournament. A dead fish penalty of .50 (one half pound) per fish will be deducted from total weight. Penalty of .50 will be deducted of any dead Big Bass weighed. Only largemouth, Kentucky spotted, or smallmouth bass will be weighed. Any team or individual bringing in more than five fish to weigh-in will be disqualified. All fish must measure at least 14 inches in length. Short fish will incur a 1 pound penalty.
12. Culling: No team or individual may have more that five fish in the livewell at any one time. The team member responsible for catching the sixth legal bass must release the fish to be culled prior to making their next cast.
13. Ties: Tiebreaker will be the team's big fish.
14. Registration: Teams must register in person at the final registration meeting on February 17th, although pre-registration through the ACA website is recommended as well.
15. Protests: All protests must be submitted in writing within 15 minutes after weigh-in to the tournament director.