

Rules and Information- MSU College Opens

- Participants may be one individual angler or teams of two, ONLY collegiate anglers who are in good academic standing with both their school and the Association of Collegiate Anglers are eligible to fish this series.
- There will be an \$60 entry fee (75% payback) per team along with a \$20 for big bass entry (100% payback, two big bass payouts).
- All participants must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD). The flotation device must be zipped and/or snapped, secured at all times when the combustion engine is running. All participants should be seated in the boat while the boat is in combustion operation.
- A participant must check in the morning of the tournament.
- There will be flights. 25 boats per flight.
- 3 spots guaranteed payout. Another spot payed out for every 8 boats signed up after the first 20 boats.
- Only artificial lures and pork style baits are allowed. Alabama Rigs are allowed. All bass must be caught on a rod and reel. Only one rod and reel in use at any time by any one angler.
- No boats over 25 feet can be used. Any boat, 14 feet or longer, meeting B.I.A. and Coast Guard requirements with a functional kill switch, functional bilge pump, and a properly aerated live well will be accepted. No over-powered boats. The boat must be operated in accordance with all posted speed limit restrictions
- Breakdown: In the event of a boat breakdown, participants may transfer their fish to another contestant's boat for transport to the weigh-in site, meeting the following conditions: The fish must be placed in a segregated live well with cull tags attached to the fish and one of the participating team anglers must accompany those fish at all times to the weigh-in site.
- Early Departure: Any team departing prior to the weigh-in from the tournament lake must contact the tournament director or appointed staff member.
- Cell Phones: We encourage all contestants to have cell phones in their boats for emergency use only. No communication is allowed for fishing tips or fishing locations during tournament hours
- Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass will be scored, five (5) fish limit. A SHORT FISH will result in a 1-pound penalty per short fish. A DEAD FISH will result in a one-half (.5) pound penalty per fish. If dead fish is big bass, a one-half (.5) pound will be deducted from the big bass. No more than five (5) fish are allowed in the live well (in possession) at any time. Anyone bringing more than five (5) fish to the weigh-in scales will not be allowed to weigh-in ANY Fish. All fish MUST be brought to the scales in an official weigh-in bag. Culling of dead fish is prohibited. **15-inch limit across ALL species (Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted/Kentucky Bass)**
- A team's weight will be deducted by one (1) pound per minute late.
- Ties will be broken by 1) big bass 2) most fish weighed 3) by earliest entry for the tournament.

- Protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within fifteen (15) minutes of the weigh-in completion. The appointed Tournament Advisory Committee will handle all protests. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final in all matters.
- Safe boating must be observed at all times. Contestants may not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Contestants must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. No tournament boat may be loaded on the trailer before weigh-in except with the permission of the Tournament Director or announced if the event is announced as a trailered weigh-in.
- All contestants are required to follow the highest degree of Sportsmanship, Courtesy, and Conservation. The Tournament Director has the discretion to shorten or cancel tournament days due to unsafe weather or water conditions. No alcohol or controlled substances can be used or allowed in the boat during tournament hours. No hole sitting is allowed.
- **There will be a meeting at 6:15am in the morning of the tournament to cover some of the rules. All participants must attend.**
- Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted/Kentucky Bass must be 15 inches.
- YOU MUST SIGN THE LIABILITY RELEASE WAIVER BEFORE COMPETING, BUT YOU ONLY HAVE TO SIGN IT ONCE FOR THE YEAR.
- By checking and/or signing below, you agree to these rules, you also agree with the same intent of a physical signature on a legally binding document to the rules and regulations of this tournament series.

