

**FAIRFIELD GLADE BASS CLUB
2023 INFORMATION PACKET**

CLUB PURPOSES: To stimulate awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our state conservation department (TWRA) and the Fairfield Glade Biologist and Lakes Committee our organized support and encouragement. To improve the fishing experience on Fairfield Glade's lakes by financial support from the Club Fisheries Management Fund and by volunteer support of habitat improvement and stocking efforts. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and sound conservation practices. To detect and report any polluter or fish and game law violator and call attention to those crimes. To improve our skills as bass anglers through a friendly exchange of knowledge and shared love of this great recreation.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS: An individual must have a valid and current Fairfield Glade Community Club membership card and be 16 years of age or older. Other cards that may provide temporary or periodic access to Fairfield Glade facilities or amenities do not qualify.

OPERATING PROCEDURES:

1. Annual membership dues are \$25.00, of which \$10.00 goes to the Fisheries Management Fund and \$15.00 goes to the General Fund for Club operating expenses
2. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month, January through September, at Fairfield Glade Community Church 521 Snead Drive. (Locations may vary due to Covid-19 restrictions. Call for location).
3. Tournaments are held approximately every two weeks during March through early October. The tournament schedule is proposed by the Club officers and voted on by the membership before the season begins. (See Tournament Rules for additional details.)
4. Cash prizes are awarded for individual tournaments throughout the year with the Big Fish winner of each tournament awarded a free entry in a following tournament of their choice.
5. A fish-off is held in October of each year among members who have qualified by meeting attendance, tournament participation, and support of Club activities. (See Fish-off Rules for additional details.)

6. Trophies are awarded at an annual banquet in October based on a point system for determining the anglers of the year, and trophies and cash prizes are awarded for the fish-off.
7. A Fisheries Management fund is maintained by the Club to be used for actions to improve fishing in FFG lakes. The fund is supported by \$10.00 from the annual membership dues and donations by the members and public.
8. Throughout the year, the Club works to improve fish habitat in FFG lakes by placing structure and stocking forage fish in cooperation with the FFG Biologist and Lakes Committee.
9. The Club also supports the FFG July 4th Kid's Tournament and other efforts to help children learn and enjoy fishing.
10. Decisions of the club, including financial decisions and changes to these operating procedures or tournament and fishoff rules will be by a simple majority vote of members present at regular meetings or at any special meeting, provided members are given notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting at least 72 hours in advance.

INFORMATION CONTACTS

President - Brian Morris - 847-226-4474

Vice President – Ed Wolters – 931-707-0510

Secretary – Jim Johnson – 931-446-3693

Treasurer - Jim Andersen – 209-756-8777

Tournament Director – Chris Carter – 937-580-6682

Assistant Tournament Director - Ed Snell 610-507-3762

Webmaster – Karl Seidl – 920-287-5032

OR VISIT THE CLUB WEBSITE @ www.ffgbassclub.com

Attachments:

Tournament Rules

Fish-off Rules

Code of Conduct

Awards and Point System

FAIRFIELD GLADE BASS CLUB TOURNAMENT RULES

- 1. Tournaments are normally five hours in duration, with starting times varying based upon the time of year. Tournaments are normally scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Monday, but may vary for evening or night tournaments or those on small lakes.**
- 2. The tournament schedule is voted upon by the membership at the beginning of a new season. To promote fairness and facilitate member planning, no changes will be made, except for single tournament changes made by the officers due to unusual weather, lake, or other fishing conditions. The Tournament Director may delay the start or postpone and reschedule a tournament day if in his judgment it would be unsafe due to weather or water conditions, but he may not suspend, extend, or restart it. Once a tournament day starts, it will continue for the scheduled time and safety decisions, including seeking appropriate shelter, are the responsibility of the individual team.**
- 3. Members fish in two-person teams, with non-boat owners matched with boat owners; however, limited participation or scheduling may result in boat owners fishing together or a member fishing alone. All members must rotate and no permanent teams are allowed. The Tournament Director will attempt to have members fish with as many different members as practical over the course of the season, but to ensure safety for members, the Tournament Director will take into account known physical limitations when assigning tournament pairings. When it is necessary for a boater to fish alone, the Tournament Director will follow in random order a list of those volunteering to fish alone which will be prepared at the beginning of each season.**
- 4. During the course of the year a member may fish in a tournament with a guest who is not a Bass Club member no more than two times, unless the person is a family member. Then 3 tournaments are allowed. All guests must have a Bass Club member in the boat as a sponsor.**
- 5. Participants must register on the web site, by e-mail, or by telephone with the Tournament Director or his designee by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before each tournament. Members must provide alternate days on which they can fish, unless they can only fish on one day, in which case they must provide the reason to the Tournament Director on line in the “comment” area when they register. If**

no reason is provided, the Tournament Director may assign the member to a different day. If there are not enough boats available to permit all members who signed up to fish, members will be bumped from the tournament based on their sign-up time on the website.

6. No Bass Club member (or guest) participating in a tournament may leisure fish a lake designated for that tournament. The restrictions are Lake Dartmoor and Lake St. George 10:00 PM Thursday before the tournament and smaller lakes 5 days prior to the tournament.

No participant shall be on the water sooner than one hour prior to a tournament start time and no farther than 30 yards from the launch site. For lakes St George and Dartmoor this would mean not to be outside of the no fishing area as stated in rule 18. The exception to this would be for a participant who lives on the lake to be fished and has his boat in the water. He may bring his boat directly to the launch site.

7. No member boater will have to fish out of the rear of another boater's boat more than once a year.
8. No member or guest may fish in a tournament until they provide a signed waiver and release of liability. New members must complete the waiver with required information and pay their dues prior to the tournament sign-up deadline and sign up under Rule 5 in order to be eligible to participate in the next tournament. New member sign-up at the ramp is prohibited.
9. The tournament fee of \$10.00 for each participant is to be paid at the ramp before the tournament begins.
10. During the tournament, only artificial bait may be used, and only one active rod per person may be used at any one time. If a member or guest is hung up on shore, in a tree, or under the water, he may use another rod to continue fishing in that spot.
11. Participants must be within 50 yards of the loading ramp at closing time of the tournament AND all fishing must be stopped.
12. The Tournament Director or his designee will weigh, and as necessary measure, all fish and record the information.
13. Only largemouth, smallmouth, or spotted bass will be weighed.

The minimum size limit is ten (10) inches, except where State law requires a larger size. A limit of five (5) bass per boat will be weighed. No more than seven (7) fish shall be brought to the loading ramp, of which, a limit of 5 per boat will be weighed.

14. In order to determine the big fish and track fish over three pounds, the largest bass will be weighed and measured separately. All of a team's bass will be weighed together to determine the total. A penalty of two tenths of a pound (.2) will be deducted for each dead fish. Once a team's bass have been weighed and released, the result is final and not subject to appeal or change.
15. If a team inadvertently brings more than five (5) bass to be weighed and they are deposited in the weigh-in basket, the largest fish will be released, and it will not be considered for big fish of the tournament.
16. First through fifth places will be determined by total weight, after deduction of any penalty. The big fish will be determined by weight, except in event of a tie, length will be considered.
17. All live bass must be promptly released, except that one trophy-sized fish may be kept at the option of the angler.
18. Members must comply with all State and Fairfield Glade fishing regulations, including the possession limit of five (5) bass per angler, and ensure that all required safety equipment is on board. Non-boater members must provide their own life jacket to ensure that it fits and wear it if required by the boat owner while in his boat.
19. All boats must stay outside of red buoys around beaches and docks at marinas as stated in the Lakeside Handbook. The reason for this rule is to avoid casting lures onto moored pontoon boats at the marinas and avoid swimming areas at the beaches. If a lure is lost or hooked on pontoon boats, ropes and/or near the swimming areas, it may pose a danger to residents, swimmers and guests.

Dartmoor – Prohibited fishing (casting) areas are established by drawing an imaginary line from the shore, into the lake and outside the beach area and around any red “beach buoys” farthest from the docks, and outside any red buoys (by the beach). Continue on a line touching each marina dock, to the outside corner of the last marina dock closest to the dam. No boats or fishing (casting) between beach and marina docks. Boats and casting are allowed between the dam and the last dock, unless it is marked with a red buoy. Casting between a red buoy and the “fishing dock” is allowed, if no one is fishing from the fishing docks. Boats must be kept outside the red buoy.

St George – The same basic outline as noted above applies to Lake St George. Draw an imaginary line from the outside corner of the dock

closest to the pavilion and along each marina dock to the outside corner of the marina dock closest to the beach. A similar line will be imagined from the outside corner of the last marina dock closest to the beach and around any red buoys outside the beach area and continue to the shore outside the beach area. No lures may be cast inside that line. Casting between a red buoy and the “fishing dock” is allowed, if no one is fishing from the fishing docks. Boats must be kept outside the red buoy. Casting over or near the submerged wall on the far side of the beach is not allowed.

20. No alcoholic beverages are permitted aboard any boat in a tournament.
21. Prior to the beginning of the tournament season, the Club will provide to members a laminated emergency contact card including instruction to call 911 first and the phone numbers of FFG Public Safety and at least two officers of the Club.
22. Anyone violating these rules may be disqualified from that tournament. Anyone wishing to protest must do so to the Tournament Director or his designee before completion of the weigh in. The Tournament Director and other Bass Club officers will consult with each other and other members as appropriate to determine if a violation was intentional or inadvertent. Intentional violations result in disqualification. For unintentional violations, the Bass Club Officers will consult with each other and with the violator to determine any appropriate action. Any member who believes they have been treated unfairly may bring the issue to the next meeting for consideration by the membership.

FISH-OFF RULES

1. To qualify for participation in the fish-off, a member must have previously fished in at least seven (7) tournaments and attended five (5) meetings; except a member who joined after May 1st must have participated in at least five (5) tournaments and attended three (3) meetings. If a member needs only one more meeting and is otherwise eligible, participation in Club projects, such as structure placement, minnow stocking, or the Kids’ Fishing Tournament may count as one meeting. The officers may invite the non-qualifying member(s) closest to qualification to participate

if needed to ensure that all qualifying members have the opportunity to fish with a partner.

2. The fish-off is conducted on two days, normally Saturday and Monday, in early October at Lakes Dartmoor and St George. Half of the two-person teams fish each of the lakes on the first day and the other lake on the second day, with total weight for the two days determining the winners. Duration is five (5) hours each day.
3. There is no entry fee for the fish-off, since a fund for cash prizes is built up over the year using \$2.00 of the fee from other tournaments.
4. All other tournament rules apply to the fish-off.

FAIRFIELD GLADE BASS CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

As members of the Fairfield Glade Bass Club, we commit ourselves to support the purposes and projects of the Club and to follow the rules that we have collectively agreed upon. In addition, we commit ourselves to:

1. Remember that the primary purpose of the tournaments is to enjoy fishing and improve our bass fishing skills and those of our partners.
2. Participate in one or more Bass Club projects, including serving as an officer, July 4th Kids' Fishing Tournament, minnow stocking, structure placement, or other activities the Club may support.
3. Observe sound catch and release practices including ensuring that our live wells are clean and operating properly and exercising care in our handling of all fish.
4. When culling, avoid releasing dead fish into the lake and bring any dead fish that are not to be weighed to the ramp for proper disposal.
5. Share bass fishing knowledge and techniques with our partners and other Club members.
6. Show courtesy to other boats by allowing at least thirty (30) yards from other boats.
7. Avoid trolling with the main engine or high speed trolling with an electric trolling motor.
8. Leave the lakes as clean or cleaner than we found them by preventing any cans or other trash, discarded fishing line, or lures from entering the lake and where practical removing such items left by others.
9. Ease the scheduling task of the Tournament Director by timely registering for tournaments and promptly reporting any change or cancellation.
10. Be willing to wait for up to fifteen (15) minutes or return to the dock to pick up a late partner.

11. Assist each other, especially those with physical limitations, in boarding, launching or loading boats.
12. Take personal responsibility for safety during tournaments, including carrying emergency notification information. Wear our life jacket when weather or water conditions are hazardous or our physical condition is such that balance, agility, or ability to survive a fall into the water is impaired. Respect the right of the boat owner to require the wearing of our life jacket while in his boat.

TOURNAMENT AWARDS AND POINT SYSTEM

TOURNAMENT AWARDS: All tournaments will pay five (5) places as follows:

First place.....	30%
Second place.....	25%
Third place.....	20%
Fourth place.....	15%
Fifth place.....	10%

A trophy will be awarded for the big fish in each tournament.

If there is a two-boat tie for first place, the money for first and second places will be divided. If there is a two-boat tie for second place, the money for second and third places will be divided. If there is a two-boat tie for third place, the money for third and fourth places will be divided. If there is a two-boat tie for fourth place, the money for fourth and fifth places will be divided and no fifth place will be paid. If there is a tie for fifth place, that money will be divided.

One half of the amounts specified above will be awarded to each partner on a team; however, a boater fishing alone will receive the entire amount for his place specified above.

If less than five boats enter and catch bass, the money for the unused place awards will be distributed in the same percentages as above to the other places. If no bass are caught, all money goes to the fish-off fund.

FISH-OFF AWARDS: The fish-off will pay the following dollar amount for the big fish and percentages of the fish-off fund balance to five places:

Big fish.....	\$50.00
First place.....	30% of fund balance
Second place.....	25%
Third place.....	20%
Fourth place.....	15%
Fifth place.....	10%

If there is a two-boat tie for any place or if less than five boats enter and catch bass, the money will be divided using the same methodology as that for regular tournaments described above.

POINT SYSTEM FOR ANGLERS OF THE YEAR: Using the results of each regular tournament and meeting attendance records, the Secretary determines and maintains a record of cumulative points for the standings based on the following system:

Each meeting attended.....1 meeting point

Each one tenth (1/10) pound of legal fish weighed.....1 point

- Notes:**
1. Weight points are determined after any deductions for dead bass or other penalties.
 2. The Tournament Director or his designee may cancel or delay a tournament due to severe weather. If a tournament is delayed, participants may elect to fish another scheduled day. Any member who cannot fish because of severe weather or the unavailability of a boat partner will receive credit for fishing that tournament upon payment of the fee. In the unlikely event that an entire scheduled tournament is cancelled, all entered participants will receive credit for that tournament and any fee already paid will be refunded.

ANNUAL AWARDS: Trophies/plaques are awarded to members only as follows:

Angler of the Year—First Place

Angler of the Year—Second Place

Angler of the Year—Third Place

Big Fish of the Year—Plus cash award of \$50.00

Highest single regular tournament weight of the year

First Place in Fish-off—One trophy for each Partner

Most Improved Boat Owner

Most Improved Non-Boat Owner

- Notes:**
- The name of the first place Angler of the Year will be engraved on the plaque displayed at Dartmoor Marina.
- The names of the partners with the largest weight of the year will be engraved on a plaque displayed at St. George Marina.