



**The Rick Morgan Memorial Opener
Hosted by The Peterborough Bassmasters
Tournament Rules**

1. Registration is only done via the online registration form. Participants are not fully registered until they have paid their teams registration fee. All payments are to be done via e-transfer. Registration and payment for the event closes at 6pm on the Saturday before the event.
2. All boats must have full functional aerated live well and main motor kill switch which will be inspected at check in.
3. Only artificial lures will be permitted.
4. Tournament hours are 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
5. Boat check in will begin at 5:30 a.m. on the day of the tournament at Golden Beach.
6. After boat check and registration is complete, anglers will be permitted to head to their spots on the lake but must not have **ANY** lines in the water until 7:00 a.m. Any anglers caught fishing prior to 7:00 a.m. will be disqualified with entry fees being kept in the prize pool.
7. Teams must consist of two and only two anglers/competitors per boat and one must be above the age of majority. **All competitors must have a current Ontario Sport Fishing Licence** or be exempted according to the regulations (ie – over 65 years old).
8. Fishing boundaries include any waters accessible by boat only from Rice Lake without locking through, except as outlined in Rule 9 below.
9. **Fishing is prohibited in and around any marina's docks or boats.**
10. **Only non-penetrating culling clips are allowed. Any clip or device that penetrates the skin or mouth of a fish is not allowed. Use of penetrating culling tags will result in an automatic disqualification from the event.**
11. Cell phone number(s) will be provided to boaters at the check in, in case of emergency.
12. Cell phones are for emergency use only.
13. Personal flotation devices must be worn by all competitors while travelling with the main engine.
14. Legal fish entries will include a maximum of five (5) bass. Any combination of largemouth and smallmouth bass will be accepted to the maximum of five (5) fish. Legal length for either species is 12 inches measured from the extreme tip of the nose to the extreme tip of the tail (total length).
15. Teams may weigh in at any time throughout the tournament, to a maximum of five (5) bass, if needed for the health of the fish. Any fish weighed in early cannot be culled (replaced) with a different fish and it will be part of the final 5 fish weight.

16. All fish to be weighed in must be brought to the weighed in using the bag provided by the Peterborough Bassmasters **ONLY**. Any fish brought to the weigh scale in any other bag may be disqualified.
17. All fish to be weighed in must be in good condition at time of weigh in and are subject to the discretion of the weigh master(s). Each dead fish or fish deemed “unfit” by the weigh master(s) will be assessed a half pound penalty per fish to be subtracted from the team’s total weight. The fish(s) in question **WILL** be tallied in the total.
18. For fish falling short of the 12-inch minimum, a half pound penalty for each short fish **WILL** be subtracted from that team’s total weight and the fish in question **WILL NOT** be included into the team’s total weight. A dead fish **MAY NOT** be weighed in for “big fish”.

Simplified: Dead fish – fish weight counts minus a half pound penalty to total weight
 Short fish – fish weight does not count plus half pound penalty to total weight
19. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, cannabis or illegal drugs may be consumed during competition hours or during the weigh in / awards presentation. The weigh in is meant to be a family friendly event and is being held at a family resort.
20. Federal and Provincial fishing and boating regulations are to be practiced at all times.
21. No refund of entry fee; however, last minute substitutions for one or both anglers are permitted before the beginning of the event.
22. All competitors weighing in ***MUST REPORT TO THE CHECK IN BOAT***. It will be located in front of the Golden Beach harbour. Please follow the direction of the check in boat. Please exit the harbour after weighing in to allow for the next competitors.
23. Competitors late to the weigh in location or check in site will be penalized one (1) pound per minute to a maximum penalty of 15 minutes or 15 pounds. Competitor will be disqualified after 15 minutes.
24. Competitors may be disqualified for violations of the rules herein, the Ontario fishing regulations or the law and will not receive any prizes of any kind or refund of their entry fee.
25. For the safety of all competitors, all teams will receive a numbered identity tag at the beginning of the event that must be returned at the end of the event whether weighing fish in or not.
26. All competitors must remain at a courtesy distance from other anglers.
27. In the event of a tie between two (2) or more teams, the prize monies allocated to the positions will be added together and divided equally between the teams that are tied.
28. Competitors may not travel with the main engine with more than five (5) fish in the live well.
29. Launching and parking fees at the event are the sole responsibility of the entrants.
30. Protests must be lodged with the Tournament Director / Officials before the conclusion of the weigh in.
31. All decisions of the Tournament Officials are final.
32. ***A numbered cowling sticker will be provided to each team and must be displayed on the back of the motor cowling at all times during the tournament for identification. Removing the sticker after check in will result in disqualification.***