



Tournament Rules 1-5-2012

1. Entry fees for each tournament will be \$40 per boat for members. Non-members entry fee will be \$40 per boat plus \$10 fee *per boat* to the MTCC general fund for a total of \$50. Any club member fishing with a guest entry fee will be \$40 per boat *plus* \$5 fee to the MTCC general fund for a total of \$45. Non-members fishing alone will be a total of \$50 with \$10 going to the MTCC general fund. In the Lake of Choice tournaments a non-member must fish with a member.
2. An optional Big Slab Pot will be \$5 per boat (only one entry per boat). A Super Slab Pot will be \$5 per boat to be rewarded after November Tournament. (See Super Slab Sheet). This is available to members only.
3. Big Slab will be determined by weight.
4. The Big Slab winner receives all money entered in pot. In the event of a tie, the pot will be split equally.
5. The amount/percentage of the entry fees that will be paid out at each tournament will be:
 - 6 boats or more 50% first, 30% second and 20% third
 - 5-4 boats will be 70% first, 30% second
 - 3 boats or less will be 100% first place
6. In the event of a tie, both teams will equally divide the earnings for the position tied for and the position under it. In the event there is not a winning team, all teams will be refunded their tournament fees. If there is only one winning team, that winning team will receive 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prize money. If there are two winning teams, the 3rd place prize money will be split between the 1st and 2nd place teams (1st place will receive 60% and 2nd place will receive 40%).
7. Entry fees for the entire team (boat) along with the Tournament Entry Form must be received by a Tournament Director by the official start of the tournament.
8. Entry fees will not be refunded unless a tournament is cancelled or postponed by the Tournament Directors/Tournament Committee. Entry fees will be refunded if they have been prepaid and phone call is given to the weigh master that the pre-paid participant will not be able to make it.
9. You may enter alone or with partners of choice in tournaments, 3rd person and above must be below 16 years of age, not to exceed Coast Guard posted limit for vessel.
11. Spectators are not allowed in boat with team during tournament hours, unless under 16 years of age.
12. Teams may start fishing only on weigh masters signal at posted time of the tournament. Any fishing by a team member before these hours on the calendar day of the tournament will result in disqualification. The calendar day of the tournament shall start at 12:01 am.
13. The Weight Masters watch shall be the official time piece.
14. Tournament waters shall be defined as areas open to all participants of the event and accessible by normal navigational means only. Fishing within 50 feet of a marina gas pump or within 50 feet of a competitor's boat which was in position first is prohibited. A safe and courteous distance should be maintained when trolling motors are in use. Rule does not apply when both boats are not fishing. A violation of off limits water will result in disqualification.

15. In the case of extreme weather/water conditions, Middle Tennessee Crappie Club reserves the right to postpone or cancel the tournament with the return of entry fees.
16. Fishermen must remain in boat while fishing. A partner may leave early if desired without penalty.
17. Teams without boats are not allowed to enter and fish. No fishing from shore, docks, piers, crappie houses or marina slips will be permitted.
18. Teams may use rod and reel combos, hand held pole and reel combos or hand held poles.
19. Live and artificial bait may be used.
20. Crappie must be hooked and landed with a rod or pole by team member(s). Teams must comply with all state fishing and boating regulations. Kill switches are highly recommended. Fishing and boating licenses are the responsibility of team members. A landing net may be used to assist in landing the fish.
21. Crappie must be weighed at the official weigh-in site.
22. Participants boat must be within no wake zone by weigh in time and have visual confirmation by the weigh master that they are ready to load boat. Participants failing to be within the zone at weigh in time shall be disqualified. If weigh master is not available then a club officer must verify timely arrival.
23. . A team can weigh-in only 7 crappie (by weight). Any team presenting more than 7 crappie to the weigh master will be docked 1 pound per occurrence.
24. All crappie brought to the scales for weigh-in must have been caught during the tournament hours from tournament waters by the team bringing them to the scales.
25. All crappie presented for weigh-in must meet state length requirements for state in which they are being weighed and may not have any weight enhancements.
26. Any team presenting an illegal crappie to be weighed as part of their catch will be at least penalized 1 pound per violation. Any obvious attempt at cheating, will result in immediate disqualification from the tournament and subject to removal from the club.
27. Any team having a member who has been disqualified for a rule violation during the tournament because he or she misrepresented compliance with the tournament rule will be disqualified.
28. Alcoholic beverages and drugs, other than prescription drugs, are not allowed in the boat or to be consumed during the tournament fishing hours.
29. A contestant who is disqualified because of a contestant's use of alcohol or drugs during a tournament will be disqualified, and that team will not be allowed to participate in any future Middle Tennessee Crappie Club events that year.
30. Protests must be made to the Tournament Directors within 30 minutes following the end of the official weigh-in. Protests must site the rule allegedly broken.
31. NO ONE can be hired or compensated in any way to fish with you or for you at the tournament sites.
33. Instances of poor sportsmanlike conduct can be grounds for disqualification if circumstances require it. Decision by the Tournament Directors/Tournament Committee will be final.
34. There will be no hole sitting by competitor or non-competitor boat during the tournament (holding a spot for another team).
35. Tournaments held by other organizations but designated as official club events will be subject to that organizations rules and regulations.

36. The Weigh Master will be a club officer (President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer). In the case that an Officer may not be able to attend the tournament an alternate weigh master will be elected at the meeting preceding the scheduled tournament. The weigh master will be responsible for checking in all teams at check in time.

37. The Weight Master has the FINAL decision on weight and the measurement of fish. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

38. The Weight Master may measure any fish at his/her sole discretion.

39. The Weight Master will reserve the right to check live-wells before tournament start. Anyone with fish in their live well or anyone who has possession of fish before the tournament will be disqualified.

40. All tournament participants who supply boats must either have on file with the MTCC club secretary or present a copy of their active boat liability insurance to the tournament director before the team can participate in the tournament. Teams will not be allowed to participate in the tournament if proof of insurance is not available. If it is determined at a later time that the insurance on file is invalid then team will forfeit winnings and next the next in line will prevail.

41. Anyone who in under individual sponsorship from a fishing related vendor is not eligible to fish in the MTCC tournaments. Guides and professional are also excluded from tournaments as these events are directed towards amateurs. Persons who do not disclose this information shall be disqualified.

42. The weigh master shall designate a tournament recorder at the weigh in. The recorder cannot be the weigh masters partner in that tournament.

43. The weigh master shall only use 1 basket to sort and weigh fish. A device such as a bucket shall be used to count and sort fish before weighing.

44. The weigh master shall weigh their fish last and be supervised by the tournament recorder for the day.

45. A copy of these tournament rules shall be available to participants before start of the tournament.

46. Co-Ed and kids tournaments shall be limited by the number of legal occupants in the boat designated by the Coast Guard recommended occupancy for that boat.

47. *Lake of Choice tournaments shall be limited to members and member's guests only. Non-members are allowed to fish with members only. Members must have declared the lake that they will be fishing and the ramp they will be using by the end of the Thursday night meeting before the tournament to be eligible to fish.. If unable to attend the meeting then member must call an officer and declare the lake and ramp that they will be fishing. Entry fees must be paid before tournament and the weigh-master for that tourney must be notified that you entered. Weigh in is designated by site on tournament schedule. Start time is safe light and no running lights to be used. Must be "in sight" at weigh-in in order to qualify.

48. Members may use alternate ramps for designated lake tournaments but must have boat available for inspection by the weigh-master before fishing. Must leave and check in at designated site and time. Non-members must launch and check in at designated ramp.