

2008

The SKEETER Boats Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament

OFFICIAL RULES

1. **RULES / CHANGES:** The following rules will remain unchanged throughout the event. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director. In the event of a rules violation the Tournament Director may impose such sanctions, as he deems appropriate, including, without limitation, disqualification, and forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decision of the Tournament Director and tournament officials will be final in all matters. It is at the Director's discretion to make a change where safety of the contestants is a concern. All Federal, State and Local laws must be obeyed and it is the contestant's responsibility to know these laws. All contestants must read and sign the entry form. Your signature on this form will constitute a certification that the contestant has read and understands the rules and entry form participant, agreement, release and acknowledgement of the risk.
2. **PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:** Participation in the Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament will be open to all registered owners, team members, pros, employees and dealers of a Skeeter boat and their individual partner/guest. All fishing must be done out of a Skeeter boat and you must pay your registration fee prior to competing in the tournament.
3. **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND DRUGS:** At no time during tournament hours are any alcoholic beverages or drugs, other than prescription, allowed in the boat or to be consumed while on the water. Violation of the rule will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of all entry fees.
4. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules or any state or local laws or bring unfavorable publicity to the sport of bass fishing will be disqualified. Contestants must have a valid Fishing license (unless exempt) and another form of identification as required by law on their premises.
5. **BOATS and MOTORS:** There is no horsepower limit; however, no engine may exceed the BIA horsepower rating for the boat on which it is used. All boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard and state regulations. All boats must have an emergency kill switch. All boats must have an aerated livewell large enough to sustain a tournament limit in releasable condition. Extra gas tanks must be secured and must meet U.S. Coast Guard specification.
6. **SAFETY:** Boating safety must be observed at all times. An U.S. Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver must be on and fastened anytime the combustible engine in operative and the kill switch must be attached to the driver. In case of an emergency or mechanical breakdown, contestants may take their catch, get into another contestant boat and return to the host marina.
7. **TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** All fish must be caught in a legal sporting manner. Intentional snagging of fish will not be allowed. No trolling is permitted. Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait is permitted with the exception of pork rinds. Liquid fish attractants are allowed. Only one (1) rod may be used at any one time. Other rods may be in the boat and ready for use; however, every cast and retrieve must be completed before another cast is made. Rods may not exceed eight feet in length.
8. **PROTESTS:** All protests must be submitted in writing within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.
9. **POLYGRAPH:** All contestants, winners and non-winners are subject to a polygraph test. Failure to submit to a polygraph test will result in immediate disqualification. Any contestant who previously failed a polygraph test in connection with any bass tournament for cheating will not be eligible to compete in the Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament.
10. **SCORE:** Only Largemouth, Smallmouth and Kentucky Spotted Bass (Black Bass) will be weighed in. There is a seven- (7) fish limit. All fish must be 14 inches or greater in length. Big Bass becomes the tie-breaker, thus, you must ask to have your big fish weighed.
11. **MEASURING OF FISH:** Bass are measured on a flat board, mouth closed, tail compressed to achieve greatest overall length. The official measuring board is the Golden Rule.
12. **PERMITTED FISHING WATERS:** No fishing is allowed inside the take-off area. Fishing is restricted to Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and its waterways. All fishing must be done from a Skeeter Boat. No tube or wade fishing is allowed. No fishing is allowed within 50 yards of another anchored or tied tournament boat with trolling motor out of the water, without the anchored boat's permission. Both team partners must fish from the same boat. Only contestants may be in the boat during the tournament hours.
13. **TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS:** Boat launch and registration will be held at the Elizabeth Park Boat Launch in Trenton, Michigan.
14. **REGISTRATION:** Boat numbers will be assigned in order of entries received. You will receive a confirmation letter with all the information upon payment. Registration will occur at the ramp from 2:00-5:00 pm Saturday Sept.13th; new entries will be still be taken at that time. We will not have the meeting this year, but you must still come through registration. Send registration forms and checks to Skeeter Boats Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament, PO Box 2011, Columbus, IN, 47201.
15. **FISHING HOURS:** Boat checks will begin (2) hrs before sunrise on the ramp. Any boat that doesn't launch on the ramp must report to a tournament official to have your livewells checked before take-off. You will receive a take-off card with your weigh in times when your livewells are checked. There will also be a short tournament meeting on the water before you are released to answer any other questions. First flight will be released at sunrise. The Tournament Official will dismiss all flights and determine whether it is SAFE LIGHT.
16. **OFF LIMITS:** The lake will be off limits at 5:00pm Saturday, SEPTEMBER 13th.
17. **ENTRY FEE:** \$125.00. This covers both team members for one competition day. The tournament will be held regardless of weather conditions and there will be no refunds.
18. **CONSERVATION:** This is a primary concern of Skeeter Boats. Adequate livewells are mandatory on each boat and must provide aeration to maintain fish in good condition. There will be a 1 lb. penalty for each dead fish. Every effort will be made to release as many live fish as possible following weigh-in.
19. **APPLICATIONS:** All applications for entry in the Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament, determinations of winners, rights to awards and prizes, and interpretation of all rules are subject to the sole approval and discretion of the tournament officials. **DECISIONS BY THE TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS ARE FINAL.**
20. **SPONSORS:** The sponsor of the tournament expressly reserves the right to accept or reject any entry form or contest application.
21. **RULE VIOLATIONS:** All bass caught by contestants fishing together will be disqualified if any of the said contestants are found to be in violation of any tournament rules and regulations.
22. **WINNINGS:** All winners are subject to state and local tax regulations, including the winner of the boat. All applicable taxes must be paid before possession is awarded.

Tournament Director: Nathan Gray
Tournament Official: Todd Larson
Tournament Official: Jeff Uetrecht
Tournament Coordinator: Nathan Gray

- Remember:**
- Registration 2:00-5:00 pm on 9/13/08
 - Entries Taken up until 5:00 pm on 9/13/08
 - No meeting, but someone must register team
 - Both Partners must sign release

Michigan Customer Appreciation Tournament
 PO Box 2011
 Columbus, IN 47201

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

In consideration of Skeeter Products allowing me to participate in this tournament, I acknowledge and agree as follows:

1. I have read and understand the description of the tournament and the Official Rules of this tournament. I will obey all rules and understand that any violation may result in immediate disqualification without refund of my entry fee. I also understand that tournament officials may reject my application for any reason, and in that event Skeeter will refund my entry fee.
2. I understand and acknowledge that competitive fishing is a dangerous sport, the risk of which include, though not exclusively, drowning, collisions in the water, and injuries from hooks and other fishing paraphernalia. I voluntarily assume responsibility for these risks, identified and not identified and all risk of injury or death or damage to my property or myself or to others, including spectators and their property, arising from my participation in the tournament.
3. In hereby release, discharge and agree to hold harmless, defend and indemnify Skeeter Products, its shareholders, officers, directors agents dealers and employees, the host sponsors and tournament officials and it partner, agents dealers or employees, and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament from any and all liability, claims demands actions or rights of action not limited to the negligent acts or omissions of Skeeter Products its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host sponsors and tournament officials and its partners agents or employees and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, for any and all injury, death, illness or disease, and other damage or loss to property suffered by myself or others. In signing this document, I acknowledge and agree that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged while I am engaged in this event, I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against Skeeter Products, its, shareholder, officers, directory, agents, dealers, or employees, the host sponsor officials, and all other persons or entities, including the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, associated with the tournament, even if they or any of them negligently caused the bodily injury or property damage.
4. Any suit brought against Skeeter Products as a result of this agreement or my participation in the tournament will be brought in state or county court in Gregg County, Texas, where the principal official of Skeeter Products is located. Should it become necessary for Skeeter Products or someone on its behalf, to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, or any portion thereof, I agree to pay the reasonable cost and attorney's fees thereby expended, or for which liability is incurred.
5. I have sufficient health, accident and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage incurred by myself or others as a result of my participation in this event. If I have no such insurance, I represent that I am capable of paying for any and all such expenses or liability.
6. I have no past or present medical or psychological condition that might affect my participation in the tournament in such a way as to cause harm to others or myself.
7. I give Skeeter Products, Inc. permission to use my name, likeness and photograph for promotional purposes. I agree to submit to and accept the results of the polygraph test given at this event.

My signature below reflects that I have read this entire document, understand it completely, understand that it affects my legal rights and agree to be bound by its terms. References herein to "I", "my", "myself", and other first person reference shall include any child or ward for which I sign.

Signature of Partner #1

Signature of Partner #2

Parent, if partner is minor