

# Fishing for Hospice - Centra Hospice Fishing Tournament Rules - 2022

1. To be eligible for participation in the "Fishing for Hospice" fishing tournament, everyone must register. Registration is non-transferable and non-refundable. If registering online, you will be provided a proof of registration. If registering in person, your receipt is your proof of registration.
2. The tournament will begin at 9am on Friday June 10th and run until 3pm on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022. All entries must be caught, measured, and submitted to the tournament in between these hours.
3. Any person under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardians' permission to fish in the tournament.
4. All fish entered in the tournament must be taken by spinning tackle, casting tackle, fly rod and reel, or pole and line. No throw nets, bow fishing, trot line, ect. are allowed. Artificial and/or natural (live) bait is the only bait allowed.
5. **All fish entered in the tournament must be measured by the fisherman using a measuring tape or board. A picture is to be taken of the fish with the measurer showing an accurate length of the fish. Once the picture is taken, it is to be submitted to the tournament via text or email at 434-665-6293 or [Benjamin.osterkamp@centrahealth.com](mailto:Benjamin.osterkamp@centrahealth.com) respectively.** If the picture appears to be tampered with or altered in any way, the measurement will be disqualified. We will have small measuring tapes at the registration booth that you can use, but if you choose to use your own measuring tape or board, your tape/board may be verified for accuracy if necessary.
6. **Every entry must have the fisherman's unique identification number in the picture.** Every person who registers will be randomly assigned a unique identification number. The morning of the tournament, every registrant will receive a text message with their number. This number must be visible in your fish measurement picture for the picture to be a valid entry in the tournament.
7. **The full fish must be visible in measurement pictures.** If the whole fish is not visible, it will be an invalid entry.
8. All fish must be alive when measured. Any fish that has been shot, gilled, mutilated, caged, or shows any sign of unsportsmanlike handling will be disqualified.
9. All fishing must be done so legally. A proper fishing and/or boating license is required. Individuals who fish without proper licenses will be disqualified.
10. All fish entered in the tournament must be taken from Smith Mountain Lake. **Fishing can be done anywhere on Smith Mountain Lake. Fishing is not restricted to Smith Mountain Lake State Park.**
11. Prizes will be awarded only to participants of the tournament whose entry wins, based on length, in a class of fish eligible for entry in the tournament. Those categories include, largemouth bass, catfish, and pan fish (Perch, Crappie, Bluegill, and Sunfish). Additional categories may be introduced based on Trophy Sponsorships. Only 1<sup>st</sup> place will be awarded to Trophy Sponsorship categories. Prizes will be given out via our "Prize Draft" (see "Prize Draft" document for details). One prize will be given each to "longest overall" and "smallest overall" fish, in which any species of legally caught fish can be submitted.
12. In the event of a tie, the participant who submitted their fish first will be given the tiebreaker.
13. All pictures submitted to the tournament will be observed by judges to determine their length. The decision of the judges is final in all instances.
14. If no fish is caught in one of the categories, then no prize will be given for that category.
15. The prize ceremony will be held at the tournament shed at Smith Mountain Lake State Park. This will be conducted at 3:30pm on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022. Prizes will first be given out to the winners of each category and the raffle will be held at the end of the ceremony.
16. This is a family friendly event. Please keep in mind that proper and respectful behavior is required at all times. If a participant is disrespectful, belligerent, or vulgar to anyone, including judges, volunteers, other fishermen, law enforcement, or others associated with the fishing tournament, they will be disqualified and asked to leave the tournament.
17. Enjoyment is required for this tournament. If you do not intend to enjoy your time fishing in this tournament then you are discouraged for participating. This is a charity event held to help support a community project in the Bedford Hospice House.