



# “2012” TOURNAMENT TRAILS

## Tournament Officials

**Chris Fickey, Tournament Director**  
**Dave Aumend, Weigh Master**  
**Susan Fickey, Stephen Fickey, Cole Fickey**  
**Andy Matusевич, Allen Walls**  
**Robert Power and Bob Campbell**

## **INFORMATION NUMBERS**

**Dave Aumend (863) 805-8750**  
**Chris Fickey (941) 232-9539**

**Chris.fickey@BassBustersFlorida.com**  
**VISIT OUR OFFICIAL WEBSITE**

**www.bassbustersflorida.com**

**All Tournaments Run Safeligh to 3 PM**

## **GOLD, SILVER & TOYS FOR KIDS BASS BUSTERS TRAILS OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES & REGULATIONS**

- TOURNAMENT PROGRAM:** The season consists of 10 qualifying tournaments and a two day championship tournament to be held for the qualifying teams. The **TOP (40) NON-REPEATING TEAMS, of Each Division** will be invited to participate in the **2012 CLASSIC. + 20 Wildcards.**
- ELIGIBILITY:** Participation in the BASS BUSTERS, Super Bucks and Toys for Kids Tournament Trails are open to all anglers in good standing of BASS BUSTERS Team Tournaments. **There are NO membership fees.** Each team will consist of up to two anglers.
- PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE:** There is no official practice period or off-limits period prior to regular season tournaments or the CLASSIC.
- ENTRY FEE SCHEDULE:**

<b>Silver Division</b>	<b>\$ 60.00</b>
<b>Gold Division</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Toys for Kids</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>

No partial payments accepted. **Refund or transfer** of entry fees will be made if prior notification is made to tournament officials. Each team **must** submit a completed **2012 OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM.**
- BIG BASS JACKPOT:** The entry fee for the BIG BASS JACKPOT is included in the team entry fee. The payback on the BIG BASS JACKPOT in cash and trophies for Gold & Super Bucks tournaments. The payback will be **SPLIT BETWEEN THE FIRST & SECOND Place BIG BASS** per the Payback Schedule.
- SCORING:** Tournament scores will be determined by the total weight in pounds and hundredths of pounds of legal fish weighed by each team. Legal fish are largemouth bass that are a minimum of 12 inches long, while exemptions apply. The limit shall be five (5) fish per team. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or altered will be weighed only at the discretion of the Tournament Officials. Fish are measured with the mouth closed and on a Golden Ruler. Bags will be provided at the weigh-in site.
- DEAD FISH PENALTY:** One quarter pound (.25) will be deducted for each dead fish from the teams score.
- SHORT FISH:** Any short fish presented for weigh-in by a team that does not meet the minimum length limit will be forfeited. This forfeiture will continue until all short fish have been removed from the teams catch. A **2 LB** penalty will also be assessed for each short fish.
- TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures may be used with the exception of pork-type strips, rinds etc.... Only casting, spin casting or spinning rods may be used and no rods over nine (9) feet in length. **NO FLY RODS. Trolling is not permitted. NO AIRBOATS ALLOWED.**

- PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Teams may fish anywhere on the lake except within fifty (50) yards of another tournament boat that is anchored, with the trolling motor up and anchors out, or within 100 feet of the tournament weigh-in site.
- CARE OF FISH:** Teams must use all reasonable care in handling and keeping of fish to keep them alive and in good condition for release after weighing. All boats must have at least one (1) live well capable of sustaining their catch. Some type of fish saver is recommended for the live wells. All live fish must be returned to the lake-side of the dike. **A STRINGER MAY NOT BE USED.**
- SAFETY:** Safe boating conduct must be observed by all teams at all times. Each team member must wear a Coast Guard Approved personal flotation device at all times when the combustion engine of the boat is operating above idle speed. All boats must have an operable **KILL SWITCH.** Anyone found to be operating their boat in a reckless or unsafe manner will be disqualified. Kill switches may be tested.
- HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS:** It is not recommended nor condoned that any boat be over powered and the BASS BUSTERS Tournament Trail will not be responsible for any individuals or injury possibly caused by such neglect.
- SPORTSMANSHIP:** Courtesy, safety, sportsmanship and conservation is expected from each angler of the BASS BUSTERS Tournament Trail. This includes cooperation with all state, county and local officials in a courteous and accurate manner if approached while fishing. **Failure** to do so shall be grounds for disqualification from this and future events.
- PROTESTS:** There shall be two times during the tournament at which to register a protest. The first time shall be during the morning prior to the launch on the day of the tournament. The second time shall be immediately following the weigh-in of the last team's catch and before the start of the awards presentation. All protests must be registered in person directly to the Tournament Director during the times specified above. Protests shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by a \$ 100.00 deposit which shall be refunded providing the protest is upheld; otherwise, the deposit shall be forfeited for Toys for Toys for Kids. Any competitor accusing another competitor of a violation or infraction of tournament rules and regulations who has not registered a formal protest as described above can be charged with unsportsmanlike conduct and could be disqualified from this and future tournaments.
- CULLING FISH:** **No Culling** allowed at the dock at Roland Martin's Marina. **Presenting short fish to the culling station will result in a Two (2) pound penalty for the team.**
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:** **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** will be allowed in any tournament boat or in the possession of any team member during the tournament hours. **Any team in contention for one of the top three places or a Big Bass winning position, are not to drink any alcoholic beverages until the prizes are received. No applicable for Golf portion.**
- LATE PENALTY:** All teams who do not clear the check-in point for the weigh-in by the end of the official tournament

time will be penalized one half a pound per minute for ten minutes. After ten minutes their entire catch will be disqualified.

- BOAT INSPECTION:** Each boat will be inspected prior to tournament take-off. All live wells and compartments will be inspected for illegal baits, fish, alcoholic beverages and drugs. Each angler must also have the appropriate safety equipment.
- ASSISTANCE:** No team member may ask for or accept fish from another person nor may they offer their fish to another team. Teams are not to hold spots on the lake for other teams. Anglers May Help Boaters in Need (ie towing), or getting a catch to weigh-in if approved.
- TEAM MEMBER SUBSTITUTION:** **Any Substitutions** made during the year for any team member must notify the BASS BUSTERS Tournament Trail. All points earned while there is a substitution will be counted into the overall teams accumulative points for the year. Points can only count for one team not split.
- POINT SYSTEM:** **TOTAL WEIGHT** weighed in X 10 plus 25 points for attendance. First place gets an extra 50 points. First place Big Bass gets an extra 50 points. Second place gets an extra 25 points. Second place Big Bass gets an extra 25 points. Third place gets an extra 10 points. **Contestants must check-in with Tournament Officials before leaving the tournament site to receive their attendance points. 100 Points Extra in Oct. / team.**
- POLYGRAPH:** Each team contractually agrees, by their participation in this tournament and/or signing the **OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM,** to submit to a **Polygraph Test, if requested** by the BASS BUSTERS Officials, and to abide by the results of this test and that the Polygraph Examiners decision will be accepted by both team members without further appeal. Failure of such test will automatically disqualify the team from this tournament and all other future BASS BUSTERS tournaments.
- RULE CHANGES AND INTERPRETATION:** The interpretation of these rules shall be at the discretion of the owners and officials of the BASS BUSTERS Tournament Trail and shall remain unchanged through the entire tournament year. The Tournament owners and officials reserve the right to make all final decisions on any matter related to any tournament event.



**BUSINESS TELEPHONE SYSTEMS**  
**(941) 355-1900**

## SILVER DIVISION

Entry Fee: \$60.00 per team

January	21	June	23
February	18	July	21
March	17	August	18
April	21	September	15
May	19	October	20

### OFFICIAL PAYBACK SCHEDULE

#	/ 1 <sup>ST</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>	BB1	BB2
20	400	200	100	60	0	100	60
30	600	300	120	100	60	150	80
40	800	400	150	100	80	200	100
50	1000	500	200	150	100	250	125
				6 <sup>th</sup>	80	7 <sup>th</sup>	60

## GOLD DIVISION

Entry Fee: \$100.00 per team

January	22	June	24
February	19	July	22
March	18	August	19
April	22	September	16
May	20	October	21

### OFFICIAL PAYBACK SCHEDULE

#	/ 1 <sup>ST</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>	BB1	BB2
20	500	250	150	120	100	100	80
30	1000	500	200	150	120	130	100
40	1500	750	300	200	150	180	120
50	1700	900	500	300	200	220	150
			6 <sup>th</sup>	150	7 <sup>th</sup>	120	8 <sup>th</sup>
				100			

Championship November 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012

## **TOYS For KIDS**

DECEMBER 8, 2012

\$50 Team Entry & 2 Unwrapped Toys  
100% Payback in Cash & Prizes

Team Can Be up to 2 Adults and 2 Kids



## BASS BUSTERS TOURNAMENT TRAIL

LAKE OKEECHOBEE, CLEWISTON, FLORIDA

Team-Member #1

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Team-Member #2

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

SS# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Liability Release:** In signing this application, we understand and will abide by the rules set for this tournament and enclose our team entry fee. We hereby waive and release BASS BUSTERS Team Tournament Trail, S & S Promotions, officials, sponsors, hosts agents and all other contestants (hereafter referred to as BASS BUSTERS, et al) from any and all claims of injury and/or material and bodily damage incurred in connection with the tournament.

2. **Verification of liability insurance:** We agree to maintain liability insurance on the boat we will be using in this tournament and that we are a current member in good standings.

3. **We contractually agree to submit to a polygraph test.**

4. **We signify by our signature** below that we have read and understand the agreements numbered 1, 2 and 3 above. We also agree that the BASS BUSTERS and their agents make take photographs or video of us and use these items and our names without any further written consent.

TEAMMEMBER #1 SIGNATURE

TEAMMEMBER #2 SIGNATURE

REMIT TO: S & S Promotions, Inc 9007 60<sup>th</sup> Ave. East, Bradenton, Florida 34202 C/O Chris Fickey

Check One: Silver\_\_ Gold\_\_ Toy for Kids\_\_\_\_\_

## SPONSORS

Lake Okeechobee Clewiston Florida



**Roland & Mary Ann Martins  
Marina & Resort**



## *Equalizer Scales*

For MORE Information Call  
BASS BUSTERS @ 941-232-9539

[www.bassbustersflorida.com](http://www.bassbustersflorida.com)

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