

# Summit City Bass Masters

## Tournament Etiquette Guidelines

### Boater:

1. Place your name on the list as a boater to fish the tournament. If you cannot be there in person to place your name on the list, ask a reliable friend to do so or contact the tournament committee chairman BEFORE the meeting to have your name placed on the list. Do not expect to call or email after the meeting is over and have it placed on the list. Your request may not be honored. Requesting a place after the tournament may be honored one time even if you are not paired with anyone else. Subsequent late requests, however, may be viewed as attempts to fish alone and you may be denied entry. A late request for entry may require you to be a non-boater. A late request for entry will require you take off last and you may be required to be the starter boat.
2. Make sure your boat is in running order before the tournament. If something happens between the time of the pairings and the tournament, first, let the person in charge of the tournament know as soon as possible so they can make changes in the pairings if needed. Second, let your partner know about your change in status so they are aware that pairing changes may be made. Do not wait until the last minute. Give others as much notice as possible. If you have been having problems with your boat and are not certain it will be ready do not sign up as a boater.
3. Leave as much space for the non-boater's tackle and rods as is practical. Don't fill all the storage compartments so the non-boater has no where to store their rain gear and other essentials.
4. Be courteous to your non-boater partner and treat them as you would like to be treated if your roles were reversed. (The roles may be reversed some time!)
5. Show up at the meeting place ahead of time and ready to go. Times given for meeting places before the tournament are departure times, so give yourself time to load your partner's tackle and depart the meeting place at the scheduled time. A minimum of ten (10) minutes lead time before the departure time is required.

### Non-boater:

1. Place your name on the list as a non-boater to fish the tournament. If you cannot be there in person to place your name on the list, ask a reliable friend to do so or contact the tournament committee chairman BEFORE the meeting to have your name placed on the list. Do not expect to call or email after the meeting is over and have it placed on the list. Accommodations for non-boaters will be made at time of the pairings but after the pairings are made do not expect to always get a ride. There may not be enough boaters to pair with.
2. If you are not able to attend the tournament as you had planned let the boater know as soon as possible. Next, let the person in charge of the tournament know

you will not be able to be there. Not letting others know more than one day or at least twenty four (24) hours before the tournament start time, obligates the non-boater to help the boater pay for expenses if arrangements cannot be made for the boater to get another partner.

3. Do not take unnecessary gear. Take only what you feel you will need for the tournament. However, dress or take clothes for unexpected weather for the day such as a jacket, coat, hat or even snowmobile suit. It is the non-boater's responsibility to supply their own outerwear, rain gear, a life jacket that fits sunscreens, repellants and tackle. Do not expect the boater to supply you with anything. The boater may offer these things for your use during the day but they are not obligated to do so.
4. Wear soft soled shoes and make sure they are clean before entering the boat. Take care not to scratch the boat's finish and fend the boat off all objects that might scratch it. Don't leave trash, weeds, or snippets of line in the boat. Clean up after yourself. Be courteous to your boater and treat them as you would like to be treated if your roles were reversed. (Your roles may be reversed some time!)
5. Show up at the meeting place ahead of time and ready to go. Times given for group meeting places before the tournament are departure times, so give yourself time to load your tackle in the boat and depart the meeting place at the scheduled time. A minimum of ten (10) minutes before the departure time is required.
6. Do not wait until asked to offer money for expenses. Non-boaters should expect to offer about twenty (20) to thirty (30) dollars per day for local one day tournaments within thirty (30) to fifty (50) miles. For longer or farther tournaments expect to at least split the gas and lodging expenses. While it is not expected to do so, a boater will appreciate a little more on long tournaments. For example you might buy dinner one evening. Remember the boater has to buy the outboard oil and maintain the boat and tow vehicle in good working order, in addition to their share of the expenses, so you can have a nice boat to fish from. If you cannot afford these expenses do not sign up for the tournament.
7. If the tournament date is later than the first weekend after the meeting or if you did not talk to the boater at the meeting it is your responsibility to make contact with the boater to make certain of the time and place to meet. You should verify with the boater a day or two before the tournament exactly where and when you will meet before traveling to the tournament site.