

# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual FLORIDA CATFISH CLASSIC 2010

## Friday, Sept. 24th and Saturday, Sept. 25th, 2010

### RULES & REGULATIONS

**REGISTRATION** will begin AT 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 24th at Gaskin Park Landing and continue until 10:00 p.m. on Friday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> 2010. Advance registration is advisable. Advance registration is REQUIRED if you wish to have boats inspected at any authorized landing other than Gaskin Park Landing. To register in advance, mail the attached registration form with your entry fee of \$50.00. Your entry must be postmarked by Sept. 21, 2010, or \$55.00 if paid on or AFTER Sept. 24, 2010 (\$20.00 for kids under 14 entering the Kid's Classic) to Florida Catfish Classic, PO Box 966, Wewahitchka, FL 32465. You may also turn your application & registration fee into **Rudy Sumner** in Bristol, Fl by 9/23/2010.

**TOURNAMENT HOURS** will be from 4 p.m. Central Time, Friday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> and until 12 noon, Central Time on Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. **OFFICIAL STARTING TIME** will be at 4 p.m. Central Time, Friday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, however, participants are allowed to register until 10:00 p.m., Friday, Sept. 24, 2010.

**TOURNAMENT RULES MEETING** will be held thirty minutes prior to official start.

**DECISIONS** of the judges and tournament officials shall be final in all matters.

**SAFE BOATING** conduct is required of all contestants at all times. Caution and safety **MUST** be observed at all times. Each contestant **MUST** have a Coast Guard approved life jacket in addition to other required Coast Guard equipment in the boat.

**All children under the age of 16 MUST wear a life jacket at all times.**

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are expected to practice good sportsmanship, safety, courtesy, and conservation. Contestants may be disqualified due to an infraction of these rules and/or principles. Drunkenness on the part of any contestant shall be ample cause for immediate disqualification.

**ALL STATE AND FEDERAL LAW SHALL BE OBEYED AT ALL TIMES.**

**BOAT CHECK:** Anyone who pre-registers before Sept. 24, 2010 can have their boat checked at the landing that they are launching from. Hickory Landing, Bristol Landing, Estiffanulga Landing, Gaskin Park Landing. **IF YOU ARE NOT PRE-REGISTERED YOU MUST HAVE YOUR BOAT INSPECTED AT GASKIN PARK LANDING.**

**CHECK POINT:** The official check point is Gaskin Park Landing, Wewahitchka.

**FOUR LANDING START:** All boats must be inspected prior to launching. Launch and start tournament at the following landings: Gaskin Park Landing, Bristol Landing, Estiffanulga Landing, and Owl Creek-Hickory Landing. Pre-registered fishermen can also TRAILER OUT from these 4 official landings at 4:00 pm CST Friday.

**OFF LIMITS:** No contestant may fish prior to the official start, except for bait. Boats are not allowed to go through the locks at the Lake Seminole Dam.

**BOAT/FISHERMAN IDENTIFICATION:** Each boat will be given an official identification number that must remain in the boat during the tournament. Each Fisherman will be given an official ID# that must be used to weigh in fish.

**LANDING FISH:** All fish must be caught and landed from a registered boat. No trotlines, no bush hooks, no cast nets, and no shocking. River Patrol will be out!! Fishing from a pontoon boat is allowed and fishermen may leave and return to the pontoon via a smaller boat. **ALL OCCUPANTS OF THE REGISTERED BOAT MUST BE REGISTERED FISHERMEN.**

**NO FISHERMAN MAY HAVE ASSISTANCE IN LANDING A FISH UNTIL THE FISH OR THE LEADER HAS BROKEN THE SURFACE OF THE WATER**

**TACKLE:** Only conventional fishing tackle may be used.

**ELECTRONIC GEAR:** Depth finders, graphs, GPS, LCR, and PH meters are permitted.

**ELIGIBLE FISH:** Only channel catfish (including all freshwater catfish except flathead) and Flathead catfish are eligible. Channel catfish will be released. Flathead and Blue Cat **WILL NOT** be released.

**KIDS DIVISION IS CHANNEL CATFISH ONLY:** Kids wishing to fish for flathead must pay the adult rate and compete against adults.

**SIZE AND BAG LIMIT:** All fish must be at least 14 inches long to be weighed.

**WEIGH-IN:** All fish must be alive to be weighed. The Florida Catfish Classic reserves the right to use photos or video taken in conjunction with the tournament. Preliminary weigh-ins will be held anytime between 4 p.m. Friday Sept. 24th to 12 p.m. noon Saturday, Sept. 26th. **SCALES WILL NOT CLOSE!**

**TIES:** Ties will be decided by tournament officials (ties will be further discussed at the meeting prior to tournament).

**LIE DETECTOR TESTS** will be administered to the first place winner of the Flathead Catfish category; and to one other entry at the discretion of the tournament officials. All entrants into the tournament are subject to a lie detector test at the discretion of the tournament officials.

**PRIZES:** All prizes are guaranteed. It is the winner(s) responsibility to pay all applicable taxes. A \$50,000 cash prize will be awarded to the contestant that breaks the State of Florida Flathead Catfish record, pending all special rules and conditions provided by the tournament insurance company have been followed and provided that winner passes a polygraph test. A copy of special rules and conditions can be requested from the Employees Club of the City of Wewahitchka at (850) 639-2605 or may be picked up at the registration desk at the tournament. Should the state record be broken more than once during the tournament, the grand prize will be awarded to the contestant that holds the record at the end of the tournament. To be eligible for the "most combined individual poundage" prize of \$1200.00, fishermen must fish in 5 out of the 6 tournaments on the Trail.

**MONITORING:** The Employees Club of the City of Wewahitchka and officials of the Florida Catfish Classic reserves the right to monitor applicants and participants. The Employees Club of the City of Wewahitchka and officials of the Florida Catfish Classic also reserves sole and exclusive right to exclude any person or persons, regardless of reason, from participation in the tournament.

**DOOR PRIZES:** Each fisherman will receive a ticket for a door prize drawing.

**YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!!!**