

Solo Pro Tournament Series

Rules & Information

Information for the 2015 Solo Pro Tournament Series Season

Solo Pro Tournament Series has conformed a set of rules that have been compiled from the laws of the State of Missouri, Missouri Department of Conservation and standard rules set forth by the bass tournament fishing industry.

The laws State of Missouri and boater safety regulations can be found at <http://www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/WaterPatrol/>. The Missouri Department of Conservation fishing regulations can be found at <http://mdc.mo.gov/>.

Rules for the 2015 Solo Pro Tournament Series Season

ELIGIBILITY:

All individuals, 18 years of age or older and meet the boater certificate requirements set forth by the State of Missouri with a paid entry fee and a current paid membership to Solo Pro Tournament Series are eligible to fish. Solo Pro Tournament Series reserves the right to reject any entry that is not in the best interest of the tournament.

ENTRY / MEMBERSHIP FEE:

Entry fee is \$160.00 per boat which includes Big Bass. \$20.00 per entry will be put towards the 2015 Solo Pro Tournament Series Championship. There will be an annual membership fee of \$35.00 per angler, which is good for the entire year. Entries will be accepted by mail, online, or may be paid at the ramp. Memberships will expire after the final regular season tournament for that year. Take off positions are determined by order of paid entry. Paid entry fees may be transferred with Solo Pro Tournament Series approval. No refunds.

PAYBACKS:

Solo Pro Tournament Series will pay one (1) place for every five (5) teams entered with a maximum of twenty-five (25) cash places being paid regardless the number of anglers entered. 80% payback.

BIG BASS:

2 Big Bass places will be paid at each tournament.

CHECK-IN / PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING:

Each angler must check in the morning of each tournament. A pre-meeting will take place on the water approximately five (5) minutes prior to the official start. Idle by live well checks may take place at any time either on or off the water.

LOCATIONS:

Anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by the Corp of Engineers, local, state, or federal officials. You cannot fish within 50 yards of a contestant's anchored boat. Any additional off limits will be announced at the pre-meeting prior to take-off. There are no off-limit days.

TACKLE and EQUIPMENT:

Only artificial lures and pork style baits are allowed. All bass must be caught on a rod and reel. Only one rod and reel in use at any time by any one angler.

SCORING:

Largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass will be scored, five (5) fish limit. A short fish will result in a one (1) pound penalty plus the loss of the fish. A dead fish will result in a one (1) pound penalty per fish. If dead fish is big bass, (1) pound will be deducted from big bass. No more than five (5) fish are allowed in live well (in possession) at any time. Anyone bringing more than five (5) fish to the weigh-in scales will not be allowed to weigh in ANY fish. All fish MUST be brought to the scales in an Solo Pro Tournament Series official weigh-in bag. Culling of dead fish is prohibited.

LATE PENALTY:

An Angler will be penalized one pound per minute for up to ten (10) minutes, then disqualification for not being checked in by the tournament officials or their representatives by the prescribed times.

TIES:

All ties will be broken by 1)big bass, 2) most fish weighed in, 3) by earliest entry.

PROTEST:

All protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director within fifteen (15) minutes of the weigh-in completion. The appointed Tournament Advisory Board will handle all protests. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final in all matters.

QUALITY ASSURANCE TESTING:

By contestant(s) signature on entry form and/or participation in these tournaments, the contestant(s) agree to any quality assurance tests if required by the Tournament Director. They may include all or part of the following: CVSA, Polygraph test, Urinalysis, or Blood test. Refusal of an angler to submit to a test or failure of a test will result in loss of winnings, immediate disqualification, plus subsequent disqualification from future tournaments. Quality assurance tests will be conducted as soon as possible at the conclusion of official tournament hours.

SAFETY and SPORTSMANSHIP:

Safe boating must be observed at all times. Contestants may not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Contestants must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. No tournament boat may be loaded on the trailer before weigh-in except with the permission of the Tournament Director or announced as a trailered weigh-in. Life jackets and kill switches must be used any time the combustion motor is running. All contestants are required to follow the highest degree of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation. At the discretion of the Tournament Director, tournament days may be shortened or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. No alcohol or controlled substance can be used or allowed in the boat during tournament hours. No hole-sitting allowed.

BOATS and MOTORS:

Any boat, 14 feet or longer, meeting B.I.A. and Coast Guard requirements with a functional kill switch and functional bilge pump and properly aerated live well will be accepted. No over-powered boats.

INSURANCE:

Boat owners must have at least \$100,000 of Boating Liability Insurance. Proof of insurance may be asked for at any time and may be a question on the polygraph test.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS:

Breakdown: In the event of a boat breakdown, an angler may transfer their fish to another contestants boat for transport to the weigh-in site, meeting the following conditions; The fish must be placed in a segregated live well, and the breakdown angler must accompany those fish at all times to the weigh-in site.

Early Departure: Any angler departing prior to weigh in from the tournament lake, must contact the tournament director or appointed staff member. Failure to do so will result in the loss of any points earned at that tournament.

Cell Phones: We encourage all contestants to have a cell phone in their boat for emergency use only.

POINTS:

Each angler will receive 25 show up points. Points will start at 200 for 1st place and descend 1 point for each place dropped. Each angler will also receive 1 point for each pound of bass weighed in, and will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

DIVISION POINTS CHAMPION:

The Division Points Champion will be determined by the anglers best 5 tournaments at the end of the season.

2015 SOLO PRO TOURNAMENT SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION:

To be eligible to qualify for the 2015 Solo Pro Tournament Series Championship, each angler must fish a minimum of 4 tournaments in their division. Points will be based on an angler's best 5 tournaments and applied towards championship eligibility. The top 40 of anglers in the division will qualify for the 2015 Solo Pro Tournament Series Championship, that meet eligibility requirements. If a qualified angler is unable to attend the Championship, the next eligible angler in points will be invited.

2015 SOLO PRO TOURNAMENT SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP RULE ADDITIONS:

SOLO PRO TOURNAMENT SERIES RESERVES THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN OBSERVER RIDE ALONG WITH COMPETITOR(S) AT ANY QUALIFYING EVENT OR CHAMPIONSHIP. REFUSAL TO HAVE AN OBSERVER WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION

KNOWLEDGE OF THESE RULES IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH CONTESTANT:

Failure to read these rules or ignorance of them is no excuse. The Director reserves the right to reject any entry if he feels that it is not in the best interest of Solo Pro Tournament Series. Any announcements made by the Director at the tournament site take precedent over written rules. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final in all matters.