

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources



DNR

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Director

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Deputy Director for
Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

Youth Bass Fishing Coach,

First, I want to thank you for taking the time to start a bass fishing club at your school and for committing to attend the 2018 SCDNR Youth Bass Fishing Championship and your patience in understanding the logistical changes this year due to unforeseen events. We ask for your help as we conduct the tournament in new locations.

In this packet, you will find:

- enough Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic tickets for each of your student anglers to receive two complimentary tickets. There are also two tickets in there for you too!
- the tournament rules
- the weekend's agenda
- a list of emergency contact numbers
- overall flow of logistics

Please distribute copies of all materials to your boat captains so that they are informed on how we will launch and check in boats!

There will be three flights beginning at safe light with intervals of 20 minutes. Flights 1 and 3 will launch from Lighthouse Marina and flight 2 from the public landing, Hilton. You will know which landing to report to, but your assigned launch number will be made available via email to the coaches Friday morning and at the coaches meeting.

All boats are required to undergo a boater safety check from 5:00pm-8:00pm on a first come first serve basis at the Dreher Island State Park picnic shelter near the tournament ramp on Friday, March 23th. To expedite the launch procedures, it is strongly encouraged that all boats undergo boater safety checks during this time. At 7:30pm on Friday, March 23th, all coaches and boat captains will meet to have final questions answered and discuss launch procedures. Boat captains or at least two representatives from each school (that will be present during the launch on Saturday morning) are required to attend this meeting. There will be a plated chicken bog dinner offered for \$5. Your flight number and angler tournament cards will be distributed Saturday morning after the livewell by an SCDNR staff member. Boat identification numbers will be given back to tournament officials at Saturday check in at the landing at 2:00pm. During the 5:00pm-8:00pm boater safety checks, boat captains and team coaches can receive copies of the tournament rules, the agenda for the tournament and receive notification of the official tournament launch and check in procedures.

On Saturday March 24th launch will begin at safe light utilizing the flights method until all boats have successfully launched between Lighthouse marina and Hilton ramp. **IF your team did not complete boater safety check on Friday, they will be required to go to Hilton ramp to launch regardless of their assigned flight.** Parents and coaches not driving trailored boats are highly encouraged to carpool as parking and traffic will be tight. Your ignition safety switch will be checked prior to launching. Flight return times are 2:00pm (lighthouse), 2:20pm (Hilton Ramp), and 2:40pm (lighthouse). Boats must return to the landing no later than their assigned flight and check in at the designated site. If you boat over in the morning you are asked from the ramp to the fairgrounds. There will be penalties for returning late to the landing. Boats with anglers and fish will travel to the SC State Fairgrounds to check in for the weigh in which will begin at 4:00pm. Boats may be asked to sit in the parking lot at the fairgrounds up to 30 minutes to maintain a steady flow of anglers for the weigh in. SCDNR would like to acknowledge all anglers that participated in the tournament at the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic whether they caught fish or not. Coaches, please encourage your anglers to come to the stage to be interviewed and recognized.

We look forward to the event and can't wait for an opportunity to see student's proud to represent their school, enjoying the sport of fishing. For more information, please feel free to call me at (803) 360-9846 or write at ChabaaneS@dnr.sc.gov.

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