

OFFICIAL RULES FOR S.I.C.A., INC. SPRING TOURNAMENTS

By your participation in this tournament, you agree to comply with the following rules and agree to submit to and pass a POLYGRAPH TEST or similar truth test in order to qualify for the receipt of any prize. Test will be given to teams at random at all events.

1. You may enter alone or with the partner of your choice. Pre-fishing is allowed at local events until midnight the day before the tournament. Spectators are not allowed in boat with team during tournament hours.

2. Tournament waters shall be defined as areas open to all participants of the event and accessible by normal navigational means only. Fishing within 50 yards of a marina gas pump or within 20 yards of a competitor's boat which was first anchored is prohibited. A safe and courteous distance should be maintained when trolling motors are in use. Any violation of off limits water will result in disqualification.

3. In case of extreme weather/water conditions, S.I.C.A., Inc. reserved the right to postpone or cancel this tournament with the return of entry fees by mail.

4. Teams may start fishing (line in water) anywhere on the lake at 6:30 a.m. and may continue fishing until 3:00 p.m. Any fishing by a team member before 6:30 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. on the day of the tournament will disqualify the team.

5. Two person team, one boat per team, although one person can fish as a team. All teams must fish from a boat and team members must stay together at all times.

6. Teams may use rod and reel combos, hand held pole and reel combos or hand held poles. Teams must comply with State of Illinois and individual lake pole limits or no more than six (6) poles or lines per team.

7. Live and artificial bait may be used except when angler is attempting to qualify for certain bonuses by using artificial baits only.

8. Crappie must be hooked and landed with a rod or pole by team members(s). Crappie must be hooked through the lip or in the mouth.

9. Teams must comply with all state fishing and boating regulations as well as special lake rules. Fishing and boating licenses are the responsibility of team members.

10. Crappie must be weighed at the official S.I.C.A, Inc. weigh-in site. Both team members must be present at the time of weigh-in to be eligible for prizes unless waived by tournament director.

11. No team will be allowed to join the weigh-in line after 4:00 p.m. Angler(s) must be in line with fish by 4:00 p.m.

12. No team can weigh-in not more than 7 crappie and those 7 crappie must be alive when entering the official weigh-in line. Any team presenting more than 7 crappie will be disqualified. Once you have entered the weigh-in line, your fish will be checked for count (7 crappie) and be verified dead or alive. All dead crappie will be removed from your creel and only those fish that are alive will be entered on the weigh-in voucher. You may then continue to the scales for your official weigh-in by the tournament director. Once your fish have been verified alive and entered on the weigh-in voucher, you will then be allowed to weigh-in those fish, and only those fish, even if one or more die before reaching the scales. The tournament director has the sole responsibility for the declaration of dead or alive crappie.

13. All crappie brought to the scales for weigh-in must have been caught during the tournament hours from tournament waters by the team bringing them to the scales.

14. All crappie presented for weigh-in must meet lake length requirements for lake in which they are being weighed and may not have any weight enhancements. Any team bringing an illegal crappie to the weigh-in line will be disqualified.

15. Big Fish entry is included in entry fee. Only one Big Fish entry per team. Team must designate its one entry at time of weigh-in.

16. **A team may use one substitute member during the year.** In the event of extenuating circumstances a team may petition the tournament director to use an additional member. The decision to grant the petition rest solely with the tournament director.

17. Any team having a member who has failed or refused to take a polygraph test or was on a team that was disqualified or denied a prize because either of that team failed or refused to take a polygraph or who has ever been denied a prize because he or she misrepresented compliance with a tournament rule will be disqualified.

18. A contestant who failed to pass a polygraph test or whose condition does not permit the administration of a test because of contestant's use of alcohol or drugs will be disqualified and that team will not be allowed to participate in any future S.I.C.A, Inc. event.

19. Any minor who participates must make arrangements to have a parent or guardian present at the weigh-in to sign a release form or have the release on the entry form signed prior to the tournament to allow a polygraph examination if required by the tournament director.

20. Protests must be made in writing to the tournament director within 30 minutes following the end of the official weigh-in. All protests must cite the rule number(s) allegedly broken.

21. Guides cannot be hired to fish with you or for you at any tournament.

22. **REFUND POLICY.** S.I.C.A., Inc. will not refund or forward entry fees for lake conditions, fishing conditions or poor fishing. A team may request a refund or forward of entry fees due to personal, family or work emergencies. Such request must be in writing or by electronic mail and shall state clearly the reason for the request. The approval or denial of the request is at the sole discretion of S.I.C.A., Inc.

RELEASE

At the request of S.I.C.A, Inc., one member of each team that qualified for a prize must submit to and pass a POLYGRAPH TEST and/or any other test deemed necessary to determine compliance with tournament rules. Only one member of the team selected by the tournament director will be tested. If that member passes the test, the prizes earned by the team will be awarded. The test will be given only once, and no contestant will be eligible for a second test under any circumstances. The decision of the test examiner as to the contestant's compliance with the tournament rules will be the final decision as to eligibility for any prize. Contestants agree to release S.I.C.A., Inc., and all sponsors of these events from any liability arising from the administration of the test and/or decision of the test examiner. All decisions regarding compliance with these rules and the interpretation of these rules will be made by the tournament director and S.I.C.A., Inc. which reserves the right to make additional reasonable rules for the conduct of its tournaments in circumstances require. S.I.C.A., Inc. tournaments do not discriminate for reasons of race, creed, color, national origin, and we abide by all rules set forth in the American Disabilities Act.

