



Trail Rules 2026

- 1) These are the rules. Any decisions will be made by the directors and will be final.
- 2) Tournaments will begin January. Membership dead line is **Saturday, March 28th**. Note that teams entering on this date will have to fish all remaining tournaments to qualify for the fish off.
- 3) A team will consist of **2 people**, but 1-person teams will be allowed. However, if a 1-person team has no partner by the dead line he or she must continue by his or herself. TWO substitutes are allowed (but not with another team member.) There are a total of 10 tournaments and a **3 day** fish-off. Teams must fish at least 7 tournaments to qualify for the fish-off.
- 4) This trail will be open to anyone, as long as they are a member. No one will be allowed to fish if they have been disqualified or banned from any other tournament or club.
- 5) ABSOLUTELY NO drugs or alcohol will be allowed. Possession of alcohol will result in disqualification. All boats are subject to inspection at any time.
- 6) ABSOLUTELY NO live bait or trolling will be allowed.
- 7) All TWRA laws are to be followed. Any team that receives a citation from a TWRA or TVA agent during tournament hours must match their citation fee to the trail for the fish off pot.
- 8) There is a 5 fish limit per team. Any team with more than 5 bass in their live well at weigh in time will be disqualified for that tournament. **Creel limit per person is per boat.**
- 9) All fish will be measured on a golden rule, with mouth closed and sweeping the tail. Length requirements are as follows: *(LAKE RULES APPLY)*
 - All Smallmouth must be at least 18" *except Guntersville, Alabama.
 - All Largemouth must be at least 15" *except Woods Reservoir 12".
 - All Spotted bass *TWRA Identification... 12" & jawline does not extend past the eye.
 - Any team with a short fish will lose that fish plus their biggest fish.
 - A **one pound** penalty for dead fish and no more than 1 dead fish per team can be weighed.
- 10) All fish must be brought to the scales in a weigh-in bag or be disqualified & no points awarded. All fish will be released except those kept for mounting.
- 11) There is to be no fishing 12 hours before tournament hours the day of each tournament at that tournament lake.
- 12) Teams are not allowed to come in contact with one another after tournament begins.
- 13) Protest Rule: Any team may protest another team. The protesting team must post a \$100 cash bond with the tournament directors. At that time the accused team will be asked to either take a polygraph test or have an observer assigned to their boat. This will be the director's choice. If the accused team is found guilty or refuses to cooperate; this team will be barred indefinitely from this trail. However, if the accused team is found innocent they will receive the \$100 cash bond from the protesting team.
- 14) Every team will be issued a numbered chip. Numbers will be issued according to your registration number; this will be your number for the entire year. Ease off will be groups of five; your registration determines your ease off position. **All chips must be turned in by 10 minutes after each tournament deadline or your team will forfeit that day's catch.**
- 15) Tournament directors reserve the right to refuse anyone for any reason they see fit.
- 16) All teams are asked to be courteous to each other and to have fun.

Club Director:	Membership dues may be mailed to:
Mark Teal – 931.607.4525	Mark Teal 2233 Pea Ridge Road Manchester, TN 37355



Schedule 2026

Date	Hours	Location	Launch Ramp
January 17 th	7AM-3PM	Tims Ford Lake	Devil Step
February 14 th	7AM-3PM	Woods Reservoir	Morris Ferry
March 7 th	7AM-3PM	Pickwick Lake	Riverfront Park
March 28 th	6AM-2PM	Percy Priest Lake	Long Hunters
April 11 th	6AM-2PM	Centerhill Lake	Ragland Bottom
May 9 th	6AM-2PM	Nickajack Lake	Shell Mound
June 13 th	6AM-2PM	Chickamauga Lake	Holly Park
July 11 th	6AM-2PM	Wheeler Lake	Engalls Harbor
August 15 th	6AM-2PM	Guntersville Lake	Goose Pond
September 12 th	6:30AM-3PM	Normandy Lake	Barton Springs
October 6 th	6PM	Barton Springs Ramp	Meeting
October 7 th	Daylight Hours	Practice	Pre-fish for Classic
October 8 th	TBD	FISH-OFF	Classic
October 9 th	TBD	FISH-OFF	Classic
October 10 th	TBD	FISH-OFF	Classic

Membership Money Pays Points And Classic Payout	
Membership Fee:	Tournament Entry Fee:
\$25.00 per person per year	\$125.00 – Per Boat 1 or 2 persons
Entry Fee Breakdown:	Points Money Will Pay Five Places:
\$ 75 – Tournament Pot \$ 40 – Classic Pot \$ 8 – Big Fish Pot \$ 2 – Admin.’s Cost \$125 – Total	1 st – \$500 2 nd – \$400 3 rd – \$300 4 th – \$200 5 th – \$100

Points & Places	
Points Places:	
Up to 39 boats we will pay 3 places. For every 1-10 boats thereafter we will gain a spot. For example:	39 Boats = 3 places 40 boats thru 49 boats = 4 places 50 boats thru 59 boats = 5 places etc...
Points Will Be Awarded:	
1 st – 100 2 nd – 99 3 rd – 98 etc...	All remaining boats without fish will receive 10 points less than the last boat weighing fish. Teams prepaying and not fishing will not receive any points, but will still qualify for the Classic.
Big Fish:	
We will pay one place for big fish.	



Release Form 2026

The undersigned requests permission to enter and participate in the Tri-Lakes Bass Trail. I know the risks and dangers involved in such activities and I assume all risk of injury to myself and property that may be sustained in connection with their use, hereby for myself, my heirs, administrator of my affairs, and assigns, release the Tri-Lakes Bass Trail and all officials, participants, and sponsors from all causes of action of any sort for injury to myself and my property during my participation in the Tri-Lakes Bass Trail.

I voluntarily consent to a polygraph or having an appointed observer to fish with me if asked to do so by tournament director or committee members. I give tournament officials the right to suspend, withhold, or deny the payment of any money based upon results of such exams. I certify that I have acquainted myself with the tournament rules and agree to be bound by what I have read and understand the above consent and release form.

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE TO:

**Mark Teal
2233 Pea Ridge Road
Manchester, TN 37355**

Name (Print): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Name (Print): _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Signature: _____

*****MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHONE NUMBER FOR EACH MEMBER*****