2018 Summer Slam Rules

**#1-RULES INTERPRETATION**

Enforcement of these rules are at the discretion of the Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee. All local, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations must be obeyed and followed.

**#2-PARTICIPATION**

Summer Slam is open to all interested anglers. We encourage any and all to participate.

**#3-ENTRY FEES**

Entry fee is a $250.00 buy in

**OPTION POT**…Paid back 100%…70% to highest finishing team that enters Option Pot and 30% to second highest finishing team that enters Option Pot

**#4-SPORTSMANSHIP**

SFT Summer Slam Tournaments require sportsmanship and courtesy to be displayed at all times to fellow competitors, other boaters, property owners, etc. The display of poor sportsmanship or any action detrimental to SFT Summer Slam Tournaments will result in immediate disqualification and possible ban from future events. Verbal intimidation before, during, or following a tournament will not be tolerated.

**#5-LAUNCH POSITION**

Launch position will be determined by random draw by participant at registration

**#6-FLIGHTS AND CHECK-IN TIMES**

Flights, check-in times and other pertinent weigh-in instructions will be announced at the tournament briefing 15 minutes prior to blast off.

**#7-DRUGS AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

No alcohol or drugs, with the exception of prescription medication, are to be consumed or used during the tournament hours INCLUDING weigh-in.

**#8-SAFETY**

All boaters and non-boaters must have a Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver (PFD). This MUST be worn any time the gas engine is running with the driver of the boat having a kill switch/lanyard attached. ALL boats must have operating navigational lights in place prior to launch regardless of how light it is at launch. **KILL SWITCHES WILL BE CHECKED FOR OPERATION!**

**#9-PERMITTED TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT**

Only one (1) rod per person may be used at any time. Artificial lures and baits only may be used. Alabama-type rigs may be used provided no more than two (2) hooks are being utilized per state regulations. No trolling allowed.

**#10-LIVEWELLS**

Livewells will be checked in the morning and must be operating/pumping water or entry into the tournament will be denied.

**#11-CELL PHONES** Cell phones may be used for emergency use only and not for the purpose of locating fish, talking to family, or talking with other contestants (with the exception of a breakdown), etc.

**#12-BREAKDOWNS**

Teams that experience mechanical boat malfunctions must contact the Tournament Director. A contestant may contact another competitor, a non-tournament boat, or a tournament staff boat (if available) and one or both angler’s may ride back to weigh-in with your fish. Teams are not allowed to transport their fish by truck or auto to the weigh-in site. Switching boats during a tournament due to a breakdown MUST be approved by the Tournament Director prior to the swap.

**#13-POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION**

Your signature on the entry form states that you agree to a random polygraph examination or Voice Stress Analysis regardless of finish in the tournament.

**#14-PAYOUT**

Summer Slam payout is a minimum of $6000.00. Payout will increase as size of field increases over 75 boats.

**#15-SCORING OF BASS**

Each team may bring in 5 bass with a minimum 12” length.

**#16-CULLING**

Upon catching fish number six (6) one team member must IMMEDIATELY begin culling their bass. One member may continue to fish as long as one is culling. No culling at the ramp permitted.

**#17- “COURTESY CUSHION”**

Boaters MUST give another tournament boat a 25-yard perimeter cushion provided they have an anchor/anchor line out and their trolling motor in the stowed position. **SHALLOW WATER ANHORING SYSTEMS ARE NOT CONSIDERED AN ANCHOR UNDER THIS RULE!** You are not permitted to approach another boat, anchor out or not within 25 yards and drop your anchor forcing them off of a spot. See RULE #4 regarding SPORTSMANSHIP.

**#18-PROTESTS**

All protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director prior to the last team weighing in their fish.

**#19-OFF LIMITS**

#1-Upper Chesapeake Bay-The entire western shoreline from Sandy Point to Abbey Point is off limits in SFT Summer Slam Tournaments the Gunpowder and Bush Rivers that are listed as “Restricted” or “Prohibited” are also Off Limits! It is your responsibility to know the off limits areas as noted on the provided map of **“Aberdeen** **Proving Ground’s Restricted Water Zones”.**

#2-For all tournaments launching from Anchor Marina, the Off Limit’s area will be from the north point of the first cut/canal diagonally to the flagpole at the entrance to North East Creek. No fishing will be permitted inside this area.

**#20-PENALTIES**

Penalties will be assessed as follows:

**DEAD FISH**…deduct .50 pounds

**SHORT FISH**…deduct 1 pound plus loss of that fish

**OVER 5 FISH LIMIT…**deduct 3 lb per fish over limit

**LATE PENALTY**…deduct 1 pound per minute for each minute late, DQ’d after 15 minutes

**#21-LANDING NETS**

Landing nets may be used..

**#22-TIES**

In the case of a tie, the heaviest bass will break the tie. If each team’s heaviest bass weighs the same, then the money will be divided equally.

**#23-LUNKER**

A dead bass cannot be weighed for lunker, but can be included in overall catch.