

## **Information for New Lunker Lovers Members**

- The Winter Haven Lunker Lovers Bass Club is a group of friends who fish competitively against one another. The club encourages cooperation among members to include sharing of information on fishing techniques, equipment, etc.
- Club members socialize with each other during both club events and outside activities. It is hoped that all new members will participate in the camaraderie of the club.
- A prospective member must be sponsored by a current member and will be accepted into the club after an affirmative vote by the majority of the members attending a club meeting.
- Club Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month. Qualifying tournaments are held monthly, January through October, with a Classic Tournament in October or November. The club's annual award banquet is usually held in December.
- The club is a draw club where your partner for each tournament will be determined by a random draw. You will not be paired with the same partner twice within a year. Boater partners are expected to allow their co-angler partners a fair and reasonable chance to catch fish.
- All new members should familiarize themselves with the tournament rules, tournament procedures and other club rules/procedures. All this information is on the club website, <https://lunkerlovers.com>, and/or available at the meetings.
- Co-anglers are encouraged to share expenses with their boater partner. Club rules currently recommend a minimum of \$40 per day of fishing. This includes practice days in addition to tournament days. The amount should be increased for tournaments involving extensive travel time or when the co-angler rides to the tournament site with his boater partner. Co-anglers should consider paying the boater at the beginning of the day of fishing. Boaters should ask the co-angler for the amount should the co-angler fail to offer to pay. Any failure to pay should be reported to the tournament director.
- Members who sign-up for a tournament and who subsequently cannot fish, must contact the tournament director to cancel by Friday night for a one-day tournament and by Thursday night for a two-day tournament. The tournament entry fee is forfeited. Members who do not cancel properly must pay an additional one-day entry fee as a penalty. Payment of the penalty is subject to review by the club officers. A member must be clear of debt to the club in order to participate in any club function.

- Members may sign-up for a tournament late, i.e. after the tournament draw. Late entrants, or members who do not pay the tournament entry fee at or before the draw meeting, are assessed a \$10 late fee. Boaters who sign-up late for a tournament will have a co-angler partner.
- Members who agree to participate in a club function for which a fee is charged are generally expected to pay that fee even if they eventually do not participate in the function. For example, if a member signs-up to attend the annual awards banquet and does not cancel before the attendee count is given to the caterer, the member is expected to pay the fee.
- Each boat used in a club tournament must carry a minimum of \$300,000 liability insurance. Proof of insurance must be provided to the tournament director.
- Tournament rules (and Florida regulations) prohibit the culling of dead fish.
- Violation of tournament rules by your partner can, in some situations, result in the disqualification of both members fishing in a boat. Each member should become familiar with the rules and assist his partner in complying with them.
- The total annual dues that a member must pay are \$80 plus B.A.S.S. membership. Of this total \$30 is for B.A.S.S. Nation, \$25 is for the Florida B.A.S.S. Federation Nation (FBFN) and \$25 is for the club.