

NEWSLETTER

Hawg Hawlers Bass Club of St. Louis

(February, 1996)

First Tournament...

Well, it's here! The first tournament of 1996 is just around the corner, and it's time to get your membership stuff and your registration in the mail to Steve. Enclosed you will find a revised schedule with lakes, times, dates, locations and other information for you to begin your tournament year with the Hawg Hawlers Bass Club. Get your registrations in early.

Clearwater Lake has always been our kickoff lake, because of it's Southern location (warms earlier), and the fact that there is no size limit. Thus, any bass caught, can be weighed in. Clearwater has produced the smallest bass in club history, at .07 pounds, and has also produced some of the largest bass with 2 of the top 5 heaviest fish. It has also produced the 4th highest quantity of fish with 100 in 1994.

Hawg Hawler History (Clearwater Lake)

YEAR	# of FISH	TOTAL Weight	BOATS	1st Place	BIG Bass
1991	56	39.73	8	11.00	1.64
1992	52	38.02	11	14.77	6.56
1993	14	11.62	9	7.33	2.11
1994	100	84.79	15	16.85	7.00
1995	6	6.63	18	1.93	1.81

Defending champs Dave Jett and John White caught their 2 fish on Shad Raps (lowest all time winning weight). Second (Big Bass - 1.81lbs), Third and Fourth places were all taken with 1 fish (each), caught on crankbaits. Ron LaGarce's 7.00 Lake Record was also caught on a Shad Rap in 1994.

Fishing tip of the month.....crankbaits at Clearwater.

Results from the past 3 years confirm that Clearwater is truly our Feast or Famine lake. But if there is a pattern to be found, then this year should be the Feast.

Lost Fish?????

Over the years, we have taken many steps to insure that all fish brought to weigh-in, actually make it through weigh-in. When it is feasible, we try to hold the weigh-in, in the parking lot, or on shore. On lakes where there is no size limit, we have spread weigh-in bags over the deck of the marina, so small fish cannot fall through the cracks. And, we always have plenty of anglers around to 'catch' a flopper. But, what exactly is the club's policy if a fish is accidentally dropped back into the lake?

(lost fish...cont)

First, it should be understood that the officers and weigh-in committee, will take the utmost care when measuring and weighing fish. However, in the unfortunate event of a fish being accidentally dropped into the lake, the following will be in effect.

It is the responsibility of the angler (who caught the fish) to insure the "safety" of the fish, at all times, throughout the weigh-in process. The angler should be available to prevent any fish from getting back into the lake.

If a fish is lost PRIOR to being presented for weigh-in, there will be NO POINTS OR WEIGHT AWARDED, regardless of the size, length or weight of the fish.

If a fish is lost AFTER it has been determined to be of legal size, 1 creel point will be awarded to the angler for the fish, but NO WEIGHT WILL BE RECORDED, regardless of the size, length or weight of the fish.

Again, it should be stated that the weigh-in committee will take all steps necessary to insure the "safety" of the fish, but it still remains the responsibility of the angler to insure that his/her fish is not "LOST".

Tournament Directors needed!

Same old story, with a new phone number. This time it's Dave Sona who is looking for (more than) a few good tournament directors. Remember, it's an additional two points. Call Dave at 586-7951.

RESCHEDULE (Truman)

It seems there was another tournament scheduled to take off from Osage Bluff Marina (Truman Lake) at our start time. The Water Patrol decided to reschedule our tournament to take off at 6:30 instead of 6:00. Our officers felt that the loss of that half hour of good fishing was worth moving our take off location. So, our tournament location for Truman (August) will be Long Shoal Marina. See enclosed schedule.

Last Newsletter....

The last "free" newsletter will be the March Newsletter. Those 1995 members who have not rejoined the club for 1996 will receive the March Newsletter, but it will be their last. So, make sure you get your \$15.00 to Steve soon and keep up your prescription to the Hawg Hawler News.