

Hawg Hawler News - February 2005

From The President's Boat

02--2-05

Hello Again Hawg Hawlers,

I hope 2005 is starting off well for all our members. Without a team in the Super bowl, the NHL locked out, and Baseball still months away, I'm sure we could all use a good day on the water right? Well, we are getting closer and closer to our 2005 kickoff at Clearwater so here is your chance to get after it. Last years event brought out 44 boats and yielded the two largest bass in the clubs history (Right Josh and Dave?) and a few other huge bass as well so we have the incentive. Remember, our largest turnout ever is 45 boats so let's try to best that this year and see if we can track down those Hawgs again. I can tell you that one of them had a distinct "scar". He's still in Clearwater somewhere and he ought to weigh 8Lbs or more by now..... find him again and you just may have a few prizes waiting for you at this year's awards dinner. What was his favorite lure again? We'll all find out at weigh-in so make sure you all get down to Clearwater and we will get 2005 started right.

One **additional** incentive note: After all the big fish last year at Clearwater, we've decided to expand the Big Bass competition and will award both 1st and 2nd place big bass (At Clearwater ONLY). Your 2nd place Big Bass will be worth 4 points and top honors still gets 5 points. You'll all want to stay close in the points race this year as the officer group has also agreed that special recognition of our 2005 top 10 anglers is in order. Stay tuned for more details on that.

Schedule Change

The officer group has been staying busy working out details, tying up loose ends, and even making some adjustments to our schedule. Yes, we've made a schedule change. Our apologies for the late change but after adding Kinkade Lake in Illinois to our calendar we were informed that the lake has self-imposed regulations that only allow tournaments of 25 boats or less during the months of June, July, and August. This was put in place to help protect the fish from the stress of warm weather tournament handling. Rather than limit our entries, we have decided to bring our members back to the Show-Me state. Loved by some, not really liked too much by a few, Mark Twain Lake is back on tap. We'll be going out of our traditional Hwy U access ramp again this year. Although the past few years on Twain have been tough to say the least, it has been slowly improving. In 2001 we had 28 boats and a 4 fish total In 2002 we had 32 boats and 8 fish total, then in 2004 18 boats caught 23 fish total so at least its on the upswing and if nothing else, It's relatively close. For those of you that may have made reservations for Kinkade, we have explained the situation to the fine folks at The Apple Tree Inn and they understand. Make sure and call in your cancellations to Apple Tree Inn. Just so everybody knows, they were all set to give Hawg Hawlers a 10% discount across the board and on top of that they agreed to give the club one free night's stay valued at \$60 to give away at our tournament. Special thanks go out to The Apple Tree Inn and we hope that any anglers headed that way will support our new friends in Murphysboro.

Stay For Free ?

Speaking of favorite resorts, this year Rob Cook, Club Secretary, has been making arrangements and deals with resorts at nearly every lake on the schedule. Some resorts have agreed to give a Hawg Hawlers discount and some have donated a free night to be given away at our tournaments. A lot of work is going into getting a good deal and a prize or two from our favorite resorts. With that in mind, remember to try to support these establishments when we can. They are marked on our schedule page in the notes column. As always, the club will be awarding terrific attendance prizes at tournaments but in addition to these, the free nights stay (when available) will be drawn for from a pool of members staying at that establishment. Certain other conditions may apply such as a 2 night stay requirement but in all instances it will be a prize worth sticking around for.

Mail it in !

A reminder to make sure and send in your membership forms to Lori. Folks, these forms are CRITICAL with our new insurance provider. From those forms we have to make a list of members to send to our agent. As our insurance will be renewed in March, its imperative that we get these all mailed in before Clearwater (rather than hand delivered at the ramp) so we can get the correct list to our provider. PLEASE INCLUDE A COMPLETED AND SIGNED MEMBERSHIP FORM (along with the fee if applicable) WITH YOUR FIRST ENTRY THIS YEAR. Also remember that all tournament entry forms must be received by the Wednesday before each tournament so get em' in on time folks. Late and "pay at the ramp" entries are subject to a \$10 late fee, are not eligible for attendance prizes, and will be last take off position each tournament day.

A final word on your 2005 entry correspondence. When sending an entry, remember that the official slip is not necessary but we MUST have:

- 1) The Boater and Non-Boater names
- 2) Which lake the entry is for (include dates if lake is on schedule twice)
- 3) Correct entry fee (and membership fees for first tourney only)

Note: Fees can be combined on one check. We only need to know what the total submitted is targeted for. I.e. Membership and Entry fees can go on a single check.

2005 Tournament directors

As always, we need volunteers to act as tournament directors. As positions are filled they will be posted on the schedule page. Please send an e-mail or phone message including Boater and Partner names, to our Tournament Chairman, Dave McGarity, with the lake and date you would like to be a TD. Please be aware that volunteers will be posted to the schedule ASAP but no TD position submitted is guaranteed until we have it posted. In the events of multiple volunteers for one spot, we will award spots to the first request. Additionally, no second request may be made until after our June tournament in order to give all members a fair shot at serving. WHY BE A TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR? Hey, good question. First off, on two day tournaments, you and your partner will be the first boat out on the day you are not directors!! As if that's not enough, you receive 2 points toward your angler of they year total (maximum of 4 points per year per angler). It's also a good chance to get to know club members and make yourself known. And most importantly, you can use it as an excuse to eye ball what everybody has tied on!!!! For details on duties or volunteering, get in touch with . Info is also available in the points section of our web site.

News on Club gear

New in 2005 Hawg Hawlers gear will be easier than ever to get your hands on. We will make the club logo available through the Bass Pro Embroidery shop. The club is paying the fee to have the Logo put on file at the store. Soon members will be able to get Hawg Hawlers logos on nearly anything they like. More info and details will be coming on this as we confirm details with the Bass Pro Shops. In addition, our established relationship with Terry at Bee Creative Embroidery in New Haven Missouri is open to direct orders from our membership. We've all seen the terrific work they do on club jackets and hats. Contact Terry directly at 573 459-4008 for more info and pricing if no answer just leave a message.

Thanks Everyone. More information as we get closer to Clearwater.

That's all for now so go fishing!

Teddy