

2007 - Big Bear Lake October TroutfesT Rules

PLEASE READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY AS THEY APPLY TO ALL CONTESTANTS

- 1) Contestants may fish from shore, float tube, canoe, kayak, boat, or any other legally permissible vessel provided they meet all local, state, and federal regulations.
- 2) All boats used during the TroutfesT must be equipped with Coast Guard approved equipment, including life vests, paddles, signal devices, bailing device, and working running and anchor lights. Anglers fishing from float tubes, canoes, and kayaks must wear life vests during contest hours.
- 3) If contestants are using their own boats, they must obtain a special permit through the Big Bear Municipal Water District prior to the contest. These permits will be available on Friday evening during the check-in.
- 4) All children 16 years of age and under who are entered in the contest must wear life vests while in the boat during tournament hours.
- 5) All contestants will be issued a wristband with their angler number embossed on it. These wristbands must be worn during the event and cannot be removed until the close of the event on October 7th, 2007.
- 6) No fishing guides licensed on Big Bear Lake may participate or in any way assist TroutfesT participants during official contest hours.
- 7) Pre-Fishing with a licensed guide is permitted up until 5 PM on Thursday, October 4th.
- 8) All fish must be legally caught in the waters of Big Bear Lake. All fish must be caught live, with rod and reel, fair game hooked, and not snagged. Contestants found fishing outside of Big Bear Lake will be disqualified.
- 9) All California Dept of Fish & Game rules must be observed during the tournament. Any angler cited for violating any Federal or California Fish and Game laws during the contest will be disqualified.
- 10) All California Department of Boating and Waterways, and all local Big Bear Lake Municipal Water District laws must be observed during the tournament. Any angler cited by any Federal, State, County, or Local law enforcement agency for a violation of fishing or boating laws will be disqualified from the TroutFesT.
- 11) ***Lake Closures*** –Big Bear Lake will be closed to TroutfesT contestant fishing on Friday October 5th at 5 PM. Pre fishing will be allowed up until this time, however, ***ANY TROUTFEST ANGLER FOUND FISHING ON THE LAKE DURING CLOSED PERIODS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE CONTEST– NO EXCEPTIONS!***
- 12) ***TroutfesT Fishing Times*** – The tournament will start on Saturday, October 6th at 6am PST and cease at 3pm PST on Saturday October 6th. Scales will open Saturday morning at 11am PST and close at 4pm PST. Weigh in will occur at the Big Bear Lake Municipal Water District parking lot. The lake will be closed to fishing from 3pm on Saturday October 6th until 6am on Sunday October 7th. On Sunday, October 7th, fishing will commence at 6am PST and end at 12 Noon Sunday October 7th. Scales will be open at the Big Bear Lake Municipal Water District parking lot starting at 10:00am PST. Scales will close on Sunday October 8th at 2:00pm. The tournament director will establish and keep the official time for the event. Any contestant arriving late to the scales will not have their fish for that day count towards the event.
- 13) ***Limits/Size*** –Trout must measure 10” from the tip of the nose to the widest part of the tail to qualify for the Troutfest. All fish 10” or less as determined by our weigh staff will not count towards the event. The TroutfesT has a limit of 5 trout per day per angler. Only 5 trout may be brought to the scales each day and once you weigh you fish, you are done for that day, You may not go back out fishing once you have weighed your catch.

- 14) Unless cooperating jointly, all derby boats must keep a distance of 50 feet between them when anchored or drift fishing. Boats, which are trolling, are exempt from this rule. There is no minimum distance for shoreline anglers.
- 15) The tournament directors have the sole discretion to disqualify any catch for reasons they deem violate tournament rules or the spirit of the competition. Decisions of the tournament directors are final and may not be appealed. Protests must be filed in writing with the tournament directors no later than 3pm PST on Sunday, October 7th.
- 16) Merchandise prizes will be awarded to the top 5 positions in each category based upon total weight at the end of the competition. The largest trout caught during the tournament will receive a trophy and merchandise. Youth divisions consist of anglers age 16 and under.
- 17) All winners must be present or the prizes will be donated to the general raffle and distributed as raffle prizes.
- 18) The Grand Raffle prize at the TroutfesT is a Crestliner boat, Mercury motor and trailer valued around \$10,000. Each contestant will receive a raffle ticket at the Friday night check-in. The drawing will be held at the close of the awards ceremony on Sunday, October 7th. Winner must be present or raffle tickets will continue to be drawn until a winner is produced. Winner is responsible for all taxes, title, license, transportation, and any other related fees incurred as a result of winning this prize. *Your raffle ticket is like cash - do not lose your raffle ticket(s) as it will not be replaced.*

TroutfesT tagged fish rules

The Big Bear Lake Municipal Water District Troutfest will be planting 30 trout in the waters of Big Bear Lake. These fish will be worth various high dollar prizes including \$10,000 cash courtesy of Big Bear Sporting Goods or a \$25,000 Toyota Tundra Truck from Toyota of San Bernardino.

- 1) **The prizes for the tagged fish are valid only if the fish is caught during contest hours on Saturday October 6th only. Due to insurance company limitations, the prizes are not valid should the tagged fish be caught on Sunday, October 7th.**
- 2) It is recommended that should you catch a tagged fish, you keep it as fresh as possible (on ice in a cooler as opposed to on a stringer would be a good idea) to eliminate any possible questions regarding the freshness of the catch. **Under no circumstances** should you remove the tag from the fish as this will disqualify the catch. Handle the catch very carefully – wrap it in a soft cloth and put it in a cooler if necessary.
- 3) If you catch the Toyota of San Bernardino Truck tagged fish, or the \$10,000 tagged fish, you may be requested by the underwriter to take a polygraph test to verify the validity of the catch.
- 4) Should the tagged fish be caught and the Toyota Truck awarded, the prize may be picked up at Toyota of San Bernardino. Winner is responsible for all taxes, insurance, and license fees associated with this prize.

Blind Bogey Contest

- 1) Each person entered in the TroutfesT is a part of the Blind Bogey contest. \$20 of each entry fee is allocated for this contest. 75% of all blind bogey monies will go to the Big Bear Municipal Water District and will be used solely for restocking Big Bear Lake with trout. The remaining 25% will be distributed to the participating anglers in the form of cash prizes. Blind Bogey prize drawings will be held Sunday during the awards ceremonies. You must be present to win.

Good luck to all TroutfesT contestants!