



## Lake Fork Carp & Buffalo Challenge Registration Form

- Date** February 28 – March 3, 2013
- Venue** Lake Fork; headquartered at Oak Ridge Marina & Motel in Quitman, TX
- Peg Draw** Friday, March 1 at 1:00 PM; Oak Ridge Marina

### **Registration Payment**

Registration is \$600 per two-person team.

Teams may reserve their entry with a non-refundable \$200 deposit. Full payment must be made by February 15, 2013. Failure to complete registration payment by February 15 will render participants ineligible for the Lake Fork Carp & Buffalo Challenge and any deposits will be forfeited.

Payments may be remitted via Paypal, check or money order. To make a credit card payment, please email Jason Bernhardt (Jason@wildcarpcompanies.com) to arrange to do so by phone.

Please remit completed registration forms (pages 2 and 3) and non-electronic payments to:

Wild Carp Companies  
PO Box 128  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

## Competitor Information

**Angler #1** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Angler #2** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Runner** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# Agreement

I have read, understand and agree to be bound by the rules and etiquette of the 2013 Lake Fork Carp & Buffalo Challenge. I understand and agree that I am wholly responsible for my own property, my safety and my liability for any damage or injury to others.

Angler #1 (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #1 (signed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #2 (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Angler #2 (signed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Runner (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Runner (signed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Wild Carp Companies  
PO Box 128  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
[www.wildcarpcompanies.com](http://www.wildcarpcompanies.com)



# Tournament Rules

The rules for this competition have been created to ensure the safety of each angler, spectators and the fish, and to give an equal chance for any angler to win. Competition rules have been provided and reprinted with permission by Coach Lee Young of Team USA Carp Angling, with adjustments by Wild Carp Companies.

Wild Carp Companies reserves the right to update and/or amend tournament rules prior to the commencement of the Lake Fork Carp & Buffalo Challenge.

## Registration

Wild Carp Companies tournaments are open to everyone 16 years of age or older with a valid fishing license in the State of the hosting venue. Tournament Directors reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone who is a distraction to the event due to a violation of Tournament Rules, detrimental behavior and/or a previous history of such behavior at Wild Carp Companies events.

## Liability

Anglers and Runners are responsible for their own property, safety and liability for any damage or injury to others. The Organizer of this competition, the Sponsors, and the hosting Township waive any and all liability for any personal loss or injury, howsoever caused. This is an "enter-at-your-own-risk" event. Please remember that there are likely to be spectators and children present at all times.

## Fishing License

All anglers must hold a valid Texas State fishing license. You will be asked to present this license at the tournament peg draw. All competitors must have pre-registered and have pre-paid all entry fees before the peg draw.

## Pre-fishing

All pre-fishing must end along the venue two weeks prior to competition. Any competitor found fishing after this time and before the official start of the competition (unless authorized by the Organizer) will be disqualified, and their entry fees forfeit.

## Peg Draw and Etiquette

There will be a peg draw to determine angler placement prior to the start of competition. If anglers are not present at the time of peg draw, the Tournament Director(s) will draw a peg.

Tournament Directors will draw a team name. That team will then select the peg of its choice out of the entire field of remaining peg locations.

Anglers must fish and place all of their fishing equipment within the boundary of the defined peg, as indicated by marking paint. This rule is to protect anglers from inflicting any accidental injury to spectators, and to keep their equipment from being damaged by spectators during the



competition. The Weighing Stewards and Attendants will attempt to prevent spectators from getting in your way. Your discretion, tact and good sense as Ambassadors for Carp fishing is appreciated. Please be prepared to answer questions and allow photographs.

Any angler leaving the peg site to answer a call of nature, gather supplies, etc must notify the weigh marshal and reel his or her lines before leaving. If Angler(s) wishes to leave their peg for one hour or more, he or she must reel his or her lines and inform weigh marshal or Tournament Director(s) to record their leaving time—and meet with Tournament Director(s) upon returning to the venue. Anglers leaving tournament grounds in excess of 25% of the total time of the event may be subject to withdrawal from event.

Anglers are encouraged to be present at the end of the Awards Ceremony after competition closes to be eligible for any door prizes and awards.

Keep pegs free of trash and debris. Tournament directors will provide trash bags as needed. Peg locations are to be left in the same condition as they were found.

### **Runners**

A Runner (Angler's guest) is allowed to be with the Angler at their designated peg to support the Angler by preparing and throwing pack- and groundbait, netting fish, assisting Weigh Marshals with the weighing and recording of fish, and by releasing fish safely back to the water.

In addition, the Runner can leave the peg at any time to fetch food and drink, carry the Angler's gear, and liaise with spectators, Weigh Marshals and media representatives.

The Runner cannot bait the hook for the angler, cast out or otherwise touch the fishing rod until the fish is netted; at that point the Runner may move the rod and net out of the way, assist with unhooking the fish, and liaise with the Weigh Marshal.

There may be only one Runner per designated peg and each Runner must be registered prior to start of competition. Runners may not provide support to more than one team.

### **Tournament Start and Finish**

No breaking of the water is allowed before the start of the pre-bait portion of competition, except to plumb the depth, position a marker float, or to wet nets, unhooking mats and carp-sacks. Anglers are allowed to draw a small amount of water, in a suitable bucket or pail, to wet and prepare ground bait (chum).

The competition will start promptly at the advertised time. The start of competition will be announced via weigh marshal, PA Loudspeaker System and/or signaled by horn. The fishing period will last a maximum of 44 hours, with competition close announced by PA and/or signaled by one long blast on a horn.

All fishing lines must be removed promptly at the end of the competition. Any angler playing a fish when the competition end is announced must call out to a Weigh marshal or fellow competitor and signal "Fish On." The angler will have a maximum of 15 minutes to play the fish in and net it; timekeeping will be the responsibility of the nearest Weigh Marshal. The Weigh Marshal's decision will be final.

## **Shelter Use and Noise Control**

In accordance with the rules of the Sabine River Authority and the hosting marinas, the use of sheltering equipment such as pop-up tents, camping tents, bivvies, etc. are only permitted to be erected upon tournament start and must be dismantled at tournament conclusion.

As a courtesy to the hosting venues, Tournament Directors reserve the right to restrict the use of any excessively loud bite alarms, radios, etc. Anglers will be given sufficient warning, but repeated failure to comply with noise control requests may result in disqualification and forfeiture of tournament registration fees.

## **Bait**

Baits allowed include food-quality baits such as bread, corn, beans, carp-safe boiled baits, pellet and paste baits, etc. The rule here is that the angler must be prepared to eat the bait, to prove it is safe for the fish.

In addition, anglers can use natural baits; worms, nightcrawlers, maggots, mealworms, waxworms, crickets, etc. A maximum of one artificial bait, attached to each hook/hair rig system (e.g. artificial corn, boillie, crayfish fly, etc.) can be used, but no plastic, wood or metal lures can be used (plugs, jigs, etc. cannot be used). No live or dead whole or cut fish or fish pieces can be used as bait. Weigh Marshals have the right to inspect all baits and disallow any bait they deem illegal, offensive or dangerous.

Ground baiting (chumming) is permitted within the area parallel to the stated boundaries of each peg. Spods, PVA bags, nets & string, catapults (fishing slingshots), throwing spoons, and feeders of all types are acceptable. Please bait intelligently, as too much ground bait, chum and/or free offerings will definitely affect your chances of catching and ruin your neighbor's sport, too.

## **Casting**

Lines must be casted within the area parallel to the stated boundaries of each peg.

Anglers found to be casting beyond the buffer zone into a neighboring peg's swim will be warned and penalized for repeat occurrences. All hook baits must settle within the designated swim. Intentional fishing or baiting of a neighbor's swim will result in penalization and/or expulsion from event.

## **Playing Fish**

This is a catch-and-release competition; no fish will be weighed unless it was caught fairly, has been handled safely and can be released alive.

No boats, bait-boats or wading, use of floatation devices or swimming (except in an emergency); fishing from the shoreline only. Exceptions—(1) Angler(s) may enter the water to net a fish or free a fish caught in a snag, weed or otherwise in distress or possible danger. Safety is a priority. Please exercise sound judgment. (2) Angler(s) may enter the water to cast should there be low-lying



obstructions, at the approval of Tournament Director(s). (3) Angler(s) may enter water to anchor captured fish in holding sacks.

Carp and Smallmouth Buffalo are hard-fighting fish and there may be a need for an angler to leave their peg location momentarily to play a fish that is running parallel to the bank. Adjacent pegged anglers are encouraged to help an angler in difficulties with a fish by removing their lines from the water while the fish is being played. Weigh Marshals and Attendants will help, as required.

Please be considerate of other anglers and try to avoid playing your fish in their pegged areas. Tournament Directors reserve the right to disqualify fish caught in this manner if it becomes a chronic occurrence.

Should an angler require assistance landing a fish while multiple fish are hooked at the same time, a Weigh Marshal may help safely recover the fish. However, fish landed by a third party will not count towards the angler's objective.

### **Landing Mats**

Anglers are required to have a well-padded unhooking mat and a soft, knotless mesh or rubber mesh landing net of the appropriate size. Anglers will not be allowed to count fish towards their objective if they do not have a mat. In addition, it is recommended that all anglers have access to an approved holding sack, as there may be occasions when the Weigh Marshal is not immediately available to weigh fish.

In an emergency and without a holding sack, the angler is allowed to retain a catch momentarily by placing the landing net and fish back in the water. Please make sure that you have a fellow angler or Weigh Marshal as a witness to the reason for this emergency retention, and that you don't allow the fish to escape before weighing.

### **Equipment Use**

Up to three rods per angler may be used at any time, with 1 single hook per rod. Anglers found fishing more than the allowable number of rods will be disqualified and their registration fee forfeit.

Anglers can use an additional rod for spodding or controlling a marker float; no fishhooks can be attached to any part of the line on this rod. The angler can have additional rods pre-rigged at the peg, but they can only have a maximum of three baits in the water at any time. Any angler found breaking these rules or fishing or attempting to fish in an unsportsmanlike way will be disqualified from the competition.

Hooks can be no larger than a size 1, recommended hook patterns are barbless and micro-barbed (e.g. a standard Carp Hook), or have the barb squeezed down with pliers. Hooks larger than a size 1, multiple hooks, double or treble hooks and hooks with an oversized barb are not allowed. Weigh Marshals have the right to inspect an angler's hooks, and can disallow fish caught on any unapproved hook. Anglers may appeal a Weigh Marshal's decision with Tournament Directors, who have the final decision on hook validity.

Standard, Carp-safe rigs are allowed. All rigs should include either a Safety Clip or be capable of sliding over knots in the case of an Inline, Helicopter, or Method Feeder rig. Fly Fishing, Float Fishing or Pole Fishing Rigs must include a lower breaking strain leader/hooklength/tippet, to avoid a Carp

breaking off the whole rig. All rigs are liable to inspection by Weigh Marshals. Any unsafe rigs found must be changed immediately or the angler concerned will be disqualified from the competition.

### **Valid Fish**

Only Carp (Common, Mirror and Leather) and Smallmouth Buffalo can be weighed in and counted for any awards or prizes. All other fish (including Game Fish) do not count, and must be returned immediately to the water. Anyone attempting to retain a Game Fish will be disqualified from the competition.

Any angler found attempting to weigh in fish that are dead, snagged, foul-hooked (hook is in a part of the fishes body more than 1 inch from the mouth) or caught by any other unfair means would be disqualified from the competition. The Tournament Director's decision in all such cases shall be final.

### **Weighing System**

Wild Carp Companies uses State-certified scales in the scoring of its competitions.

Weigh Marshals will record exact weight, type (Common or Mirror Carp/Smallmouth Buffalo) and time caught will be recorded on Official Score Sheets. The angler will then be asked to sign the Official Score Sheet confirming that the information has been correctly recorded.

Anglers may also record exact weight, type (Common or Mirror Carp/Smallmouth Buffalo) and time caught on their Angler Score Sheet; the Weigh Marshal will check both records and sign the Angler Score Sheet.

Anglers are responsible for visually confirming the weight shown on the scale. Anglers may request a fish be re-weighed one additional time, with the second recorded weight counting as the official score. It is each angler's ultimate responsibility for ensuring that his/her fish is recorded accurately.

At the end of each shift, Weigh Marshals will report each angler's catch to Tournament Directors.

### **Confirm Your Scores**

At the end of the competition, Angler(s) may compare the Angler Score Sheet with the Tournament Director(s). In the event of any discrepancies, please notify the organizers or the Weigh Marshal immediately, within 1 hour of the end of the competition. Tournament Director(s) and Weigh Marshals will examine the Angler Score Sheet, the Official Score Sheet and final tournament results, advise the angler of the discrepancy found and update the Board and any other documentation as appropriate. In all cases, the tournament director's decision shall be final and binding.

In the event of a tie for the total weight awards & prizes, the angler with the biggest single fish shall be adjudged the winner. In the event of a tie for the weight of a single fish award or prize, the angler with the second largest fish shall be adjudged the winner, and so on.



## **Cancellation**

If the event needs to be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions (e.g. Tornado warning), all pre-registered and paid anglers will be refunded their fees, less their percentage share of the cost of any administration charges (e.g. DNR Tournament Permit fees, City park fees, etc.) that cannot be recovered by the organizers.

## **Copyrighted Materials**

All images, descriptions and associated intellectual property are solely owned by Wild Carp Companies and USCARPPRO magazine. These items cannot be used without expressed written consent from the owners.

## **Penalties/Disqualification**

Tournament Director(s) reserve the right to penalize and/or disqualify any competitor for violating rules and guidelines expressed in writing and verbally prior to and throughout the start of competition. In the event that a competitor is found in violation, they will be reprimanded accordingly for the violation.

Anglers found to be violating tournament rules will be issued a verbal warning, and reoccurring and/or extreme violations will be immediately assessed a penalty (ie. removal of rods for a specified time, fish not being counted, expulsion from the event) commensurate with the severity of the violation committed.

Penalized and disqualified Angler(s) will be required to sign a Tournament Rules Violation Form (see attached). A witness may sign the Tournament Rules Violation Form should Angler(s) refuse to do so.

Any competitors who repeatedly violate WCC tournament rules across events may be banned from future competitions.

Wild Carp Companies  
PO Box 128  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
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## Tournament Rules Violation Form

Wild Carp Companies (WCC) makes every effort to provide competitors with a fair and consistent opportunity to compete in our tournaments and Wild Carp Club sessions. WCC takes all rule and policy violations seriously. In the event that a competitor is found in violation, they will be reprimanded accordingly for the violation. Anglers found to be violating tournament rules will be issued a verbal warning, and reoccurring and/or extreme violations will be immediately assessed a penalty (ie. removal of rods for a specified time, fish not being counted, expulsion from the event) depending on the nature and severity of the violation. Any competitors who repeatedly violate WCC tournament rules across events may be banned from future competitions.

**Check all that apply to violation(s):**

- Baiting or Fishing outside of designated times
- Fishing/Baiting in neighboring peg
- Unattended rods/Angler left immediate Peg area w/o notifying official
- Abusive Language/Un-sportsmanlike Behavior
- Threatening or Disruptive Behavior
- Destruction of public/private property
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Details of violation:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Penalty assessed:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Director

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Angler

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness (in lieu of Angler signature)

