

Results of the 27th Annual KCKL 95.9 FM Big Bass Tournament Cedar Creek Lake March 27-28th, 2010



L to R - 2010 "Top Netter" Mike McWhorter (Chris's fishing partner), Tournament Winner Chris Baugh with his 7.79, and Tournament Director Mike McBurney. Chris received \$5,200 plus a Tournament Champion Tackle Bag and Hat. Congratulations to Chris for catching the biggest bass during a slow bite and tough fishing conditions

Cedar Creek fished tough for the anglers at the 27th Annual KCKL 95.9 FM Big Bass Tournament. Both numbers and size suffered as challenging wind conditions (south winds gusting to 40 MPH on Saturday and 20 MPH north winds on Sunday) hampered boat handling and made presentations difficult to say the least. Even though a near full moon was present, it does not appear that the bass have yet moved to the shallows in great numbers. Water temperatures started in the low 50's each morning and warmed to 60 at the upper ends of protected pockets and coves. Overall, the bite was reported to be only about 1/3 the numbers normally encountered at this annual event where normal late March water temps are well into the mid 60s range throughout the Lake. As a result of the colder than normal weather this spring, it seems the spawn is running 2 or 3 weeks

late this year (and 4 inches of snow on the ground six days before the Tournament certainly doesn't help!!).



Past KCKL Tournament Winner Gene Dodson brings in a nice hourly Prize contender

With a Tournament having a 27 year history of being fished on the same weekend at the same Lake every year, many interesting comparisons can be done. For example, at 7.79 lbs., this year's winning bass is the lowest winning weight since 1986 and well below the 26 year average of 9.71 lbs. Every year is different, but this year's weather definitely seems to have negatively affected February and March fishing at most of the lakes throughout the North Texas area. Perhaps over the next few weeks we will see the typically strong March fishing patterns develop and hopefully better fishing results will show up a little later in April.

Some anglers say they like a tough Tournament, so if you're in that group, this year's Tournament was one you that would have fit you well - 2 and 3 lb. bass regularly won \$\$ in the Hourly competitions. Four pounders became something to celebrate and a 5+ would put you into the Top 20. By comparison, at this event in late March 1999, there were more than 100 bass over 5 lbs. weighed in over the two competition days and many

five pounders did not place in the Hourly competition at all that year. Even more surprising, that year it took a 6 lb. plus big bass just to break into the Top 50 Finals.

See the Record Breaking 1999 results here

<http://www.fishingworld.com/KCKLBass/1999/1999Results.html>

Even in a tough Tournament, somebody always finds something that will work and those guys bring a few to the scales. Tony and Tommy Climer are shown below as they come in to weigh a fish in one of the Hourly competitions; think they took home 4 or 5 of the 125+ checks paid out.



One of the Special Prizes offered at the Tournament is the Strike King \$500 Bonus Prize. If the angler that finishes in 10th Place in the overall Final Standings catches his bass on a Strike King Lure, he wins an additional \$500 cash prize from Strike King. For the 2nd time in the last 12 years, we had a winner of the Bonus Prize. Turner Hall, a member of the University of Arkansas collegiate bass fishing team, finished in 10th Place and caught his 5.51 lb. bass on a Strike King Wild Shiner minnow jerkbait.



Turner Hall and his extra \$500 Strike King Bonus Lure

This event encourages parents and guardians to bring the kids to compete in the Tournament by offering a \$10 Entry Fee for the Youth participants. Not only do they have their own Youth Division which paid ten Places at \$100, but they are eligible for all other Tournament Prizes including the \$5,000 1st Place.



Happy (\$10 Entry Fee) Youth Anglers get to experience the thrill of weighing a fish

Haven't had a Youth win the Tournament yet, but a couple of years back one capable 14 year old junior angler caught a 7+ and took home about \$1500 with a high finish in the Final Standings.

One final interesting tidbit in this year's Tournament was the performance by the lady angler who won the Ladies Division and finished 5th in the overall Final Standings. Rhonda Wilcox didn't have a conventional fishing boat, but utilized a float tube to catch a 6.55 bass and win \$800. We haven't seen anyone fishing the Tournament this way since the west Texas guys come over with their tubes, kayaks, and "water wagons" in the 1980s.



Final Overall Standings

1.	Chris Baugh	7.79
2.	Steve White	7.15
3.	Travis Klepper	6.85
4.	Randy Hanna	6.71
5.	Rhonda Wilcox	6.55
6.	Ronnie Norris	6.35
7.	J.T. Jones III	5.93
8.	Mike Settle	5.87
9.	Bobby Montgomery	5.66
10.	Turner Hall	5.51
11.	Greg McFadin	5.40
12.	Gene Dodson	5.29
13.	Steve Kaye	5.29
14.	Steve Silvertooth	5.16
15.	Donnie Covert	5.03
16.	Tony Climer	4.86

17.	Dee Banks	4.72
18.	Billy Lawson	4.72
19.	Cody Davis	4.68
20.	Jeff Baugus	4.67

Ladies Division

1.	Rhonda Wilcox	6.55
2.	Rachel Hitt	4.48
3.	Mary Bazilewich	2.63

Youth Division (under 16)

1.	Rachel Hitt	4.48
2.	Garrett Thomas	2.96
3.	Rusty Roger	2.65
4.	Austin Thomas	2.56
5.	Jacob Honza	2.45
6.	Austin Megallon	2.23
7.	Jonathon Rook	2.22
8.	Colton Norris	2.22
9.	Benny Newland	2.19
10.	Dakota Moore	2.06
11.	Tristan Godbey	2.04



Despite the challenging winds and tough fishing, a good time was had by all with over \$8,000 in Door Prizes given away and Saturday afternoon BBQ, plus the opportunity to see the many anglers who have fished this event for 25+ years.

Plans for the 28th Annual event have been finalized so mark your calendar for April 2-3, 2011 at Log Cabin Park and join us for the “funnest” Tournament you will fish this year.

Good fishing in 2011,

The KCKL Tournament Staff

