



**Ever-Bloom
BASS Tournament Trail
2019 Dates and Locations**

Apr 13 - Evergreen
 May 4 - Bloomington
 May 18 - Evergreen
 Jun 1 - Bloomington
 Jun 15 - Evergreen
 Jul 20 - Bloomington
 Aug 3 - Evergreen
 Aug 24 - Bloomington
 Sep 14 & 15 - Bloomington/Evergreen

\$80.00 per boat, includes Big Bass
100 % Payback. Limited to the first 25 boats.



Angler #1:	Angler #2:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City:	City:
State:	State:
Zip:	Zip:
Day Phone:	Day Phone:
Email:	Email:

VERIFICATION OF LIABILITY INSURANCE: By signing the entry form, teams verify that they are current participants of Ever-Bloom and that liability insurance is in force on the boat used in the tournament.

RELEASE WAIVER: By signing entry forms, participants waive and release all other contestants, hosts, sponsors, and tournament officials from all claims of injury/damage in connection with the tournaments. They further understand that they must abide by the official rules of Ever-Bloom Team Tournaments. They must verify that they have liability insurance and it is maintained on the boat used in these tournaments. BOTH participants of each team must sign the Release of Waiver on the entry form prior to take-off.

Signed: Angler #1: _____ Date: _____

Signed: Angler #2: _____ Date: _____

Signed: Substitute: _____ Date: _____

Please print out, fill in and mail/email to:
EBTT/Terry Brown 604 South Blair Dr., Normal Illinois 61761
Phone: 309-452-0313 – Email: tbrown@wired2fish.com



Sam Lemman Ever-Bloom Trail Rules

The following rules will be used for the Ever-Bloom Tournament Trails. These rules will be interpreted solely by the tournament board (all directors and Ever-Bloom Staff) and their decision is final. Tournaments will be on Evergreen Lake and Lake Bloomington. Lake Evergreen events will be out of Comlara Access. Participants must park on second tier parking for these events. Lake Bloomington events will be held at Lake Bloomington ramp. Parking for this event should be in south end of lot. NOTE: It is each participant's responsibility to know the rules.

- ELIGIBILITY:** An entry form is mandatory for each event fished and must be completed in full and signed by both the boater and partner (or substitute).
NOTE: Entrants from prior years have priority for current year events but must pay \$80.00 deposit before March 1 to secure their spot. Entries will be opened up for remaining spots on March 2.
- AGE REQUIREMENT:** Anglers under the age of 16 may compete as long as their partner is at least 18 years old and has a valid drivers license.
- MEMBERSHIP:** Ever-Bloom tournaments are open to all. No membership dues are required and the first 25 teams accepted will maintain their spots until they cannot participate. Nonparticipation in any event could cause loss of spot.
- LICENSE:** BOTH team members must hold a valid fishing license for the water where the tournament is being held, regardless of age.
- ENTRY FEE:** The division fished determines the entry fee of \$80.00 per team. 100% payback. Entries must be paid in CASH. No checks allowed.
- ENTRY FEE DEADLINE:** All entry forms must be received via email to tbrown@wired2fish.com or US Mail at 604 South Blair Drive, Normal, Illinois 61761 on the Wednesday prior to the tournament date by 3:00 p.m to secure a spot. This is to make sure waivers are signed, as well. Payment can be made at the ramp for the event.
- LATE FEE:** There will be no late fee.
- CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS:** None accepted, cash only.
- REFUND:** A refund or transfer to another tournament date may be requested in the event a team cannot participate in a tournament it has entered; however, the request must be made before the Wed. 3:00 deadline.
- SUBSTITUTES:** Any team may use a substitute if one of its members cannot fish a given tournament. The Ever-Bloom staff prior to take-off must approve any substitute. Two substitutes will be allowed per team, per division, per year. You may fish alone but the same entry fee applies.
- BOAT NUMBERS:** Only those teams that have prepaid prior to the deadline are eligible to draw for take-off position. Late entries will take-off after the drawn numbers, in the order in which they are received.
- FISHING HOURS:** Tournaments will run from 6:00 am (the ability to run a water craft safely under power with visibility of 1/2 mile or more) until 2:00 p.m. unless regulated by a government agency.
- PRE-TOURNAMENT INSPECTION:** All teams must check-in at the official checkpoint for live well and kill switch inspection prior to take-off.
- TYPE OF FISH ELIGIBLE:** Largemouth, Small mouth, and Kentucky Spotted bass will be counted.
- LIVE WELL:** All boats must be equipped with a live well capable of re circulating and/or aerating the live well water. No stringers, ropes, or other devices other than a working livewell are acceptable.
- TOURNAMENT LIMIT:** No more than a tournament limit of 5 bass will be allowed in a team's live well at any time (unless other state or local restrictions apply). Frozen, iced, or mangled fish presented for weigh-in will result in immediate disqualification.
- OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT LEGAL LENGTH:** The official Ever-Bloom tournament legal length limit is 15". Every effort will be made to make sure fish are given every opportunity to measure but short fish will result in a 1 lb penalty.
- OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN:** The Tournament Director will announce when fish may be taken from the live well. Ever-Bloom will supply weigh-in bags. No team is allowed to use their own bag. At least one team member must be present during weigh-in to verify weight and to SIGN, NOT INITIAL the weigh slip. Once the team has presented their fish for weigh-in and has deposited the fish in the "bump tub", no one will be allowed to handle the fish except for an Ever-Bloom staff member.
- CHECK-IN FOR WEIGH-IN:** There will be a designated check in area. The penalty for late check-in will be one pound per minute up to 5 minutes. After 5 minutes team will be disqualified.
- WEIGH-IN SLIPS:** Weigh-in slips are the responsibility of the team. You will not be allowed to weigh your fish if you do not have your weigh-in slip or official weigh in sheet maintained by Tournament Director.
- DEAD FISH PENALTY:** It is the team's responsibility to make every effort to keep its bass alive. A one-pound penalty will be deducted from the total weight for each dead bass presented for weigh-in. A DEAD BASS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR BIG BASS AWARDS.
- TIES:** All ties will be broken by largest fish caught, then by the number of fish caught, and finally by the lowest boat position (lowest being boat #1).
- TACKLE:** Only artificial lures may be used. Pork-style baits are allowed. The use of multi-bait rigs to include umbrella rigs, twin bait rigs like the double fluke rig, and baits tied in unison are not allowed during competition for the EverBloom Tournament Trail. Trailer hooks are allowed on spinnerbaits and buzzbaits.
- RODS:** All bass must be caught by the use of rod and reel. Only one rod and reel may be used at a time per angler. Rods exceeding 8 feet in length are prohibited. Hooking and landing of fish must be done from the boat. The use of landing nets is permissible.
- EQUIPMENT:** No trolling is permitted. An operational "kill switch" is mandatory for any boat used in an Ever-Bloom Tournament. It must be connected and fastened to the life jacket when motor is running.
- BOAT AND MOTORS:** A participant may use his/her own boat motor or rental equipment. All boats must be B.I.A. and Coast Guard requirements. No over-powered boats allowed. Both participants must fish from the same boat.
- SAFETY:** Safe boating practices must be observed.
- LIFE JACKETS:** LIFE JACKETS MUST BE ZIPPED, BUCKLED OR CLASPED. Kill switch must be attached to the life jacket of the boat operator while the combustible engine is in operation. INFLATABLE LIFE JACKETS ARE ALLOWED ONLY IF COAST GUARD APPROVED.
- SPORTSMANSHIP:** Each team is expected to follow high standards of fairness, courtesy, safety, and conservation. No alcoholic beverages, stimulants or firearms of any kind are allowed in the boat during official tournament hours.
- HOLE SITTING:** Allowing anyone to restrict fishing in a an area due to their boat position while allowing another participant to fish said area is expressly forbidden and will result in disqualification.
- PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** These locations are anywhere on the tournament lake except within 50 yards of an operational gas pump, 50 yards of another participant's boat that is anchored with the trolling motor up or in any area designated by the Tournament Director to be off-limits. Any announcement of off-limits at the tournament site takes precedence over written rules. All lake rules apply.
- TRAILERING:** Trailering of boats during tournament hours is not allowed unless a breakdown or accident occurs. (Tournament hours are from take-off until official check-in). The Tournament Director must be notified immediately and approval is at his/her discretion. Fish caught prior to breakdown will be counted but TD must know number of fish caught prior to trailering. If a different boat is used during the tournament hour's tournament officials must again check live wells.
- OFFICIAL BOAT:** Officials will be on the lake during contest hours and can approach, observe, or inspect a participant's boat at any time.
- TICKETS:** Any participant receiving a ticket by the DNR or Water Patrol during a tournament will be disqualified for the day's event.
- LIABILITY:** Damages of any kind to a team's boat, tackle or equipment, are the responsibility of the individuals involved.
- VERIFICATION OF LIABILITY INSURANCE:** By signing the entry form, teams verify that they are current members of Ever-Bloom and that liability insurance is in force on the boat being used in the tournament.
- RELEASE WAIVER:** By signing entry forms, participants waive and release all other contestants, hosts, sponsors, and tournament officials from all claims of injury/damage in connection with the tournaments. They further understand that they must abide by the official rules of Ever-Bloom Team Tournaments. They must verify that they have liability insurance and it is maintained on the boat being used in these tournaments. BOTH participants of each team must sign the Release of Waiver on the entry form prior to take-off.
- PROTESTS:** All protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director no more than 15 minutes after the end of the official tournament weigh-in.
- BUY-IN FOR YEAR END:** If both members cannot participate a entry fee can be paid to maintain position for future events.
- YEAR END SUBSTITUTE:** Substitutes for the year-end tournament must have fished an Ever-Bloom event prior to the classic.
- REFUSAL OF PARTICIPATION:** Ever-Bloom Tournament Trail Board retains the right to refuse participation to any team or participant that is not a member in good standing. A complete knowledge of these rules will be the team's responsibility. Any violation of these rules will be grounds for disqualification from the tournament and from all future Ever-Bloom events.
- Payback:** These tournaments have a 100% payback and three places plus big fish will be paid for each event. Classic will have two big fish pots (one each day) and at a minimum 4 places will be paid in (can be cash and prizes).
- Boat Registration:** Each boat must have a valid Illinois Registration and all licenses for Lake Evergreen and Lake Bloomington. All Lake rules at each lake will be strictly adhered to and any infractions can cause disqualification. Tournament Director is responsible for interpretation and final decision of all rules infractions and outcome of those infractions.
- Tournament Committee:** Tournament organizers reserve the right to appoint a tournament committee to oversee events and rules interpretation during the events. Tournament Committee members will be chosen by Ever-Bloom organizers prior to the first event.
- Classic Participation:** Teams must fish at least 6 events to qualify for the year-end Classic.

Have fun...this is your trail.