



In partnership with the Wounded War Heroes organization, the Westside Bassmaster's & Optimal Field Services are proud to announce the:

### 2024 8th ANNUAL VETERAN'S OPEN

• Date: July 13th, 2024

• Location: Teams may launch at Doiron's Landing (Either Side)

 Boundaries: Below Hwy. 90 is off limits/ALL Oak Harbor Subdivisions Canals & Bayou Tranquille Subdivisions Canal & Doiron's Launch Canal are Off Limits

Entry Fee: Veterans are not required to pay an entry fee. Teams
consisting of two veterans will not have to pay an entry fee.
Teams consisting of one veteran only must pay half of the entry
fee (\$100.00). Teams consisting of two non-veterans require full

### **Pre-Registration Banquet**

Date: July 11

**Place:** Plaquemine Water Front

57845 Foundry St Plaquemine, LA 70764

Time: Doors Open at 4:30

Food, Live & Silent Auction

and Raffles

entry fee. Pre-Registration will be \$200.00. Registration the morning of the tournament will be \$210.00. We encourage all those planning to fish to preregister. Boat numbers will be assigned as you register and will be posted before the tournament.

#### Payout:

- 1 place per 7 boats will pay out. 1st place is guaranteed amount \$10,000(based on 150 boat field)
- 1st place big bass is guaranteed \$1000.00
- 70% of the pot will go to the payout, and 30 % will go to the Wounded War Heroes organization.
- In addition to great payouts food, drinks, raffles and door prizes will be provided. No one goes home empty handed.

Come on out and support our nation's veterans and an amazing organization all at once! For anyone interested in donating money or gifts, please contact Joey Stein at 225-776-6982.

Wounded War Heroes is a Louisiana based organization that was founded to show appreciation to the men and women who have been wounded while in combat by providing them therapeutic outdoor experiences upon their return home from fighting for our country. Their sole purpose is to show these veterans their courageous service to our nation is not forgotten. <a href="https://woundedwarheroes.org">https://woundedwarheroes.org</a>





## WESTSIDE BASSMATERS VETERANS OPEN RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. Posted and or private canals that have a gate access and key to enter and private ponds are off limits. Contestants may not leave the boat to gain access to fishing waters. Boundaries for tournaments are no fishing below Hwy. 90, ALL Oak Harbor Subdivision Canals, Doiron's Launch Canal & Bayou Tranquille Canal Off Limits.
- 2. 1 place per 7 boats will be paid.
- 3. Westside Bassmasters members will be allowed to fish with another club member and will both receive the points.
- 4. Only 2 fishermen per boat, but singles fishing will be allowed.
- 5. No alcohol or narcotics will be allowed in the possession of contestants during tournament hours.
- 6. No fishing within 25 yards of another tournament boat without mutual consent.
- 7. You will be allowed to start idling after your boat live-well check is completed and can get on plane at 5:30am. Official start time(first cast) will be 5:30am and last cast at 3:00pm. You must have your chip off the board by 4:00 & Board will be located near the stage behind Doiron's. If you break down and are not able to make it back, you can have another boater (TEAM) bring you and your fish back to landing by 4pm.
- 8. Safety. Fish at your own safety and risk and follow coast guard rules. Be careful out there and respectful of other boaters and anglers. Life jackets AND kill switches must be always worn when the combustion engine is operating.
- 9. Cheating and un-sportsmanship between anglers and other boaters will not be allowed and will result in disqualification from tournament and club.
- 10. Artificial bait/lures on fishing rod and reels to catch fish are all that is allowed for tournaments.
- 11. 5 fish in length of 12" or greater -per TEAM/angler will be weighed in and released back into water. Any fish under the 12" will result in disqualification. Penalty for dead fish will be 0.25LBS for each dead fish. Tie breakers will be determined by biggest bass. This is the responsibility of the fisherman to weigh big bass. If either team did not weigh big bass, it will be determined by a coin toss.
- 12. Upon entering this tournament, contestants release tournament officials and sponsors from liability of accidents, losses, or thefts. Contestants are responsible for knowing and understanding.
- 13. No surface drives allowed. All boats must have built in and functioning live wells. Ice chest live wells are not allowed.
- 14. Any protest must be in writing to tournament director no later than 15 min of scales closing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Joey Stein at 225-776-6982.





# WESTSIDE BASSMASTERS 8TH ANNUAL 2024 VETERAN OPEN

Westside Bassmaster's is hosting its 8th Annual Veteran Open Tournament for the Wounded War Heroes (WWH) at Doiron's Landing in Morgan City, Louisiana. The event will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and participants will be able to fish the Atchafalaya Spillway or Belle River Basins.

Westside Bassmaster's is a singles club that was founded in 2016 by Michael Himel and Darren Hernadez based out the Plaquemine/Brusly Louisiana area. Starting as a group of guys just wanting to fish competitively against their peers, the club now has 8 regular season events, a Classic starting in January, and a Classic in October. Also, with Westside being B.A.S.S. Nation affiliated club members could have a chance to qualify for the Bassmaster Classic. If it is your dream to fish the Classic it can be done - Westside's own Blake Sylvester qualified for 2021 and fished on the biggest stage in bass fishing "THE BASSMASTER CLASSIC"!!!

This is Westside Bassmaster's 5th year teaming up with the WWH, with 30% of the \$200 tournament entry fees and 100% of all raffles and silent auction item donated straight to WWH. The tournament continues to grow every year and has turned into a great event with a \$10,000 guarantee for 1st place based on 150 boats and the highest placing Veteran receiving a handmade wooden American Flag. The event has raised over \$270,000 in the last four years, with last year's event seeing 182 teams compete raising over \$200,000 cash and prizes for WWH. Even better, 50 veterans fished and had the choice to fish for free, meaning if the team consist of 1 Veteran the entry fee is \$100 and if team consist of 2 Veterans the entry is waved. Westside Bassmaster's partnership continues to grow with WWH and it's awesome to see the money go to a great local organization!!!

Wounded War Heroes is a local nonprofit organization headquartered in Lafayette, LA, founded to show our appreciation to the men and women who have been wounded while in combat. Founded 14 years ago, WWH provides therapeutic outdoor experiences upon their return home from fighting for our country – supporting over 300 veterans and hosting outreach events throughout the year. WWH's sole purpose is to show these veterans they are not forgotten, that their courageous service to our nation hasn't gone unnoticed, and they are very much cared for.

Our passion for the outdoors and desire to give generously is demonstrated by our support of WWH's vision, funding vital therapeutic outdoor experiences for these warriors. Over 22 veterans commit suicide every day - which is 22 too many! Please come out and support our Veterans! Without their sacrifices for this Great Country we could not enjoy the freedoms we have today!

All Tournament information can be found on the Westside Bassmaster's Facebook page or westsidebassmasters.com. For cash, raffle or door prize donation please contact Westside Bassmaster's Club president Joey Stein at steinbopper@aol.com.

Working together we can help our veterans enjoy the great outdoors.