

## **NEWS – March 10, 2011**

Written by: Greg Shands

### **Well just a couple more days and the 2011 season begins.**

If you haven't already done it check your boat over from front to rear.

Clean the fishing line out from behind the trolling motor prop.

Charge the batteries and then get a load test done on them.

Check the grease level of your lower unit.

Hook the water hose up to the motor and see if it will start.

Do all the pumps work?

When was the last time you had your trailer wheel bearings repacked?

Check to see if all your trailer lights work.

Are the licenses on the boat and trailer good?

Have you got your new fishing license?

These are just a small list of things that should be checked before you get to the lake. Remember it is easier to fix a problem at home than out on the water.

### **Directions**

If you haven't been down to Clearwater yet this year, you'll find that the exit has been moved. It is now south of the spot it used to be. As you come down hwy 67 you'll go past the old turn off for hwy 34 and go just past the gas station there. Also, highway 34 has been upgraded with wider shoulders and a few of the curves taken out. Once you get to the town of Piedmont go through the town until you come to the Y. Stay to the right and follow the road to the top of the dam. Turn right. When you come to the campground you will turn left towards the gate house, go past gate house and head straight to the boat ramp.

This year there is a new sign at the gate house that states you must pay the \$3.00 ramp fee year around, so have your \$3.00 ready.

The take off site is over at the marina which is just around the corner from the ramp.

Also remember that the season is still closed on bass up in the river arm, which starts just above Bluff View Marina.

### **Tournament directors**

We need tournament directors for all the tournaments. If you want to help us out you can get with Mark or Andy to see what dates are available.

This year you will receive 2 points for the first time you serve as a tournament director and then 1 point for the second time with a maximum of 3 points per angler.

Being a tournament director is a great way to meet and get to know all the people in the club.

There is nothing hard about being a tournament director. All you have to do is show up about 30 minutes before takeoff to inspect all the live wells and insure all teams are present. Then go out to the release point, call out the boat numbers and release each boat, insuring that all occupants are wearing their life vests.

## **Membership and tournament sign up**

Remember to have your money for the tournament and membership fees turned in on time. Dan has to have all fees in by the Wednesday before each tournament for you to be eligible for the attendance prize drawings and to be in the mix for takeoff positions. Any team registering late must pay a \$10 late fee and will be last to take off (both days) and will not be eligible for the attendance prize drawings.

Also remember to include the signed membership forms and the tournament entry form along with your money.

I hope everyone is looking forward to a great year of fishing. Invite your family and friends to come fish with us and above all be safe.

We, the 2011 officers, are looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces next weekend.