



Saturday February 28, 2009

Great food, great friends and a lot of wind would be one way to describe the second tournament for the Fishers of Men Central Texas Division tournament held on Lake Buchanan Feb 28, 2009. The past several days prior to the event were unseasonable warm and calm and fishing was great on the 22,000 acre reservoir. There was even a rumor of a 10 pound largemouth caught during practice Friday afternoon. Friday evening would end the warm weather trend as a cold front was forecasted to arrive Saturday morning with wind running 23 mph and gusting to around 40 mph. With concern of the high wind expected Saturday we made a few adjustments to the launch and check in process to ensure the safest event we could.

With much anticipation the fisherman and their families gathered at The Highlander Restaurant in Burnet Texas Where the VanBrocklin family along with Rick Smith of Marine Outlet hosted one of the best eats on the Central Texas Trail, stuffed crab, catfish, chicken fried steak crawfish - you get the idea, we ate well, very well. Our Chaplain Bill Shelnuttt entertained us with his top 11 and a great story about Noah and "are you in the boat?" Based on a few of you comments on the door prize cards, you are "In the boat". What a great evening at the Highlander.

Hi Line Lake Resort in Tow Texas would be hosting the weigh in, and as we woke up Saturday morning the weather reports were pretty much dead on as we woke up to a brisk 45 degree morning and a stiff wind out of the north at 22 mph. The wind would only get worse throughout the day, and the 35+ gust made the days' fishing difficult, to say the least. Most would hold out in the protected coves, if you could find a protected cove, otherwise you just held on and put your game face on and fished. As the day wore on so did the trolling batteries and with that most started coming into the scales early.

Coming to the scales first with what would be the biggest stringer of the day was the team of Randy Grounds of Horseshoe Bay, TX and Larry Owens from Marble Falls, TX. Randy told me they fished a main lake ledge in 20' of water, throwing jigs, and TX rigged worms. Randy said they fished into the wind as long as they could stay in one main spot, until they lost their trolling motor at 11:30. "We fished as long as we could, and managed to cull one more before they called it, and made their way to the scales. With a 6.74 kicker large mouth bass their total weight of 22.92 would earn them first place overall and the big bass of the day and a \$2309.50 pay day.

Second place honors would go to the team of Ken Massey of Waco and Jerry Hays from Lorena, TX. They cranked deep and shallow in the wind to manage a nice limit of 21.20 including a 5.95 large mouth; their efforts earned them \$1158.50 for a day of wind fishing. 3<sup>rd</sup> place would go to the team of Mel Barker of Austin and Lloyd Wards of Horseshoe Bay with 17.54 pounds and a check for \$914.00. The rest of the results can be found at [www.fomcentex.com](http://www.fomcentex.com)

Taking home the Sportsman's Warehouse "Just out of the money" \$50 gift cards, were the team of Lee Benton and Alan Kitterman, ironically they both work for Sportsman's Warehouse. I am sure they will put those gift cards to good use.

After 2 of the five scheduled tournament for 2009 the stack rankings are starting to take shape. With 395 points Ken Massey and Jerry Hays are holding the top spot with John Weatherly and Rex Wheeler only 8 points behind. Teams Kevin Pederzani/Robert Brown, Rand Nolen/Robert Knezek, and Trey Groce/Bryan Cook all share the third place spot tied with 381 point each. Leading the Male/Female category are the husband wife team of Craig and Carla Gilbert with 355 points, and the top Youth/Adult team in Glyn and Joseph Kennedy with 336 points. With merely points separating the rest of the top 10, the next event on Lake LBJ March 20<sup>th</sup> will be even more exciting

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