



Lake Hotline: 919-499-1300

Libby Bibb, Director, TUFF and the Carolina Trace  
"Kid Casters" Fishing Club (KCC)

*Hats off to our*

*2015 Winners (Adult Division):*

**First Place Largemouth Bass**

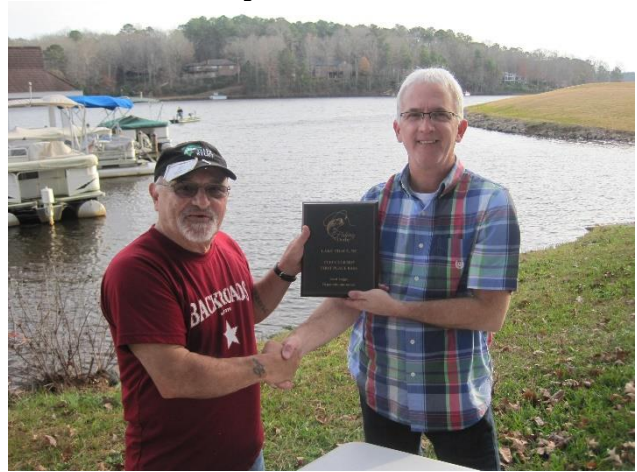
**Scott Legge (SM)**

**10 pounds, one ounce**



A black/purple power worm caught this 24" long by 21" girth spawning female - released 4/12 in Lakewood basin near Traceway South Bridge. Thanks to Scott for sharing his success story!

**TUFF Co-Director Pepe Corello (WM) reveals the new TUFF Derby largemouth bass trophy to Scott at the December 12<sup>th</sup> Awards Ceremony at the CTCC dock!**



**Thirteen prizes were awarded to the Adult and Youth Division winners who registered their catches (Length & Girth) in Bass, Crappie, Bream & Catfish Categories!**



Shown: Scott with TUFF plaque and NCSTATE Certificate for 8+ bass, Gale w/TUFF mascot IZZY and our other 2015 winners who participated in the Carolina Trace TUFF Seasonal Derby. **CONGRATS!**

**Second Place Bass  
Gale Watson (NS)  
Eight pounds, one ounce**



On June 9 Gale was fishing in deeper channel waters tossing a Carolina rig with plastic worm when this lunker nailed it. It measured 24.25 inches with a healthy 16.5 inch girth and was released.

**First Place Crappie  
Rick Schock (NS)  
Two pounds, three ounces**

Rick caught and released a 14 inch crappie in the channel near 18 Creek Golf Cart Bridge



**Honorable Mention Bass  
Pepe Corello (WM)  
Six pounds, 13 ounces**



Pepe stayed on the TUFF Scoreboard in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Bass with this May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 21 inch by 17.5 inch bass caught on a Mister Twister plastic worm cast toward a dock near Mallard Cove.

**First Place Bream  
Brittany Watson (NS)  
10 inches x 8 inches  
Fourteen ounces**



After TUFF's Fish for Fun lesson June 14<sup>th</sup> at Hidden Lake pond, Brittany caught this nice sized bluegill that weighed almost a pound.

Note: there were no registered entries in the Adult Division/ Catfish Category this year. Please note that in past years the winning entries for catfish weighed from four to ten pounds. (Minimum weight of at least four pounds to register.)

**THE TUFF FISHING DERBY RUNS FROM MARCH 1<sup>st</sup> TO NOVEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> AND IS OPEN TO ALL TRACE RESIDENTS (PROPERTY OWNERS & RENTERS), THEIR FAMILIES AND GUESTS.**

*You do not need to be a member of TUFF or the Trace "Kid Casters" Club (KCC) to register your catch, but length and girth measurements help us determine an accurate weight. Pictures are welcome! Registration forms can be filled out at [carolinatracetuffclub.yolasite.com](http://carolinatracetuffclub.yolasite.com)*

***Congratulations to our 2015 Winners (Youth Division):***

**First Place Bass  
Harika Mergan (MC)  
Twelve inches (One pound)**



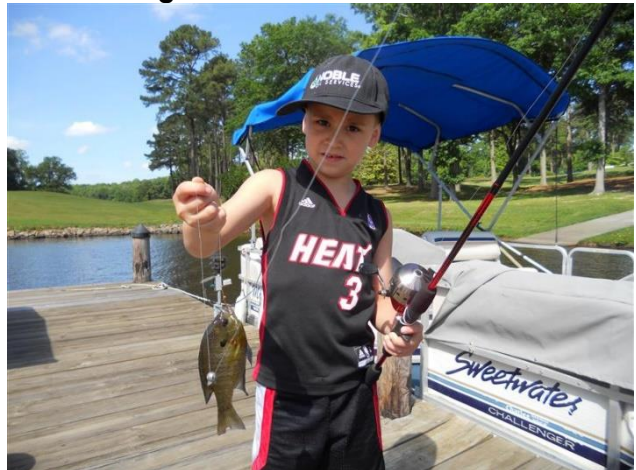
During our June 14<sup>th</sup> "Fish for Fun" lesson at Hidden Lake pond, Harika used her Kid Caster skills to land this nice-sized pond bass on a red wiggler worm.

**First Place Crappie  
Amber McPherson (MC)  
14 ounces**



Amber used a red wiggler worm to fish between the boats at the CTCC dock during TUFF's "Back to School" fish for fun lesson August 13<sup>th</sup>. Her crappie measured 10.5 inches by 8.25 inches.

**First Place Bream  
Yusuf Mergen (MC)  
Length: Nine and a half inches**



Yusuf has become our "KCC Breammaster" hauling in sizeable bluegills like this one at our Memorial Day FFF lesson at CTCC dock. (He won First Place Bream in 2014 with a hefty nine inch bream at a FFF lesson along the bus stop area.)

**Second Place Bream  
Harika Mergen (MC)  
Seven and ¼ inches**



Caught at our Memorial Day fishing lesson event!

**Second Place Catfish  
Leah Stiffler (WM)  
Nine and ¾ inches**



During our final Fish for Fun lesson on October 11<sup>th</sup>, first-time Kid Caster reeled in nine bream and this big catfish to win a silver fish medallion in the 2015 TUFF Derby Youth/ Catfish category!

Join the fun! If anyone in your family, your friends or your guests catch a big fish, call Director "Miss Libby" at the Lake Hotline at 919-499-1300 and you could register and win fabulous prizes like these:

**First Place Catfish  
Brandon McGivney (GN)  
One pound**



Visiting grandson Brandon garnered a gold fish medallion when he caught this ten by nine inch fat cattie during our August FFF morning lesson at the CTCC dock.



Adults get fish medallion plaques and State or TUFF Certificates; Children get really nice (heavy) gold or silver fish medallions plus gift bags with fish ornaments and fish stickers. A new BASS trophy plaque was introduced this year!

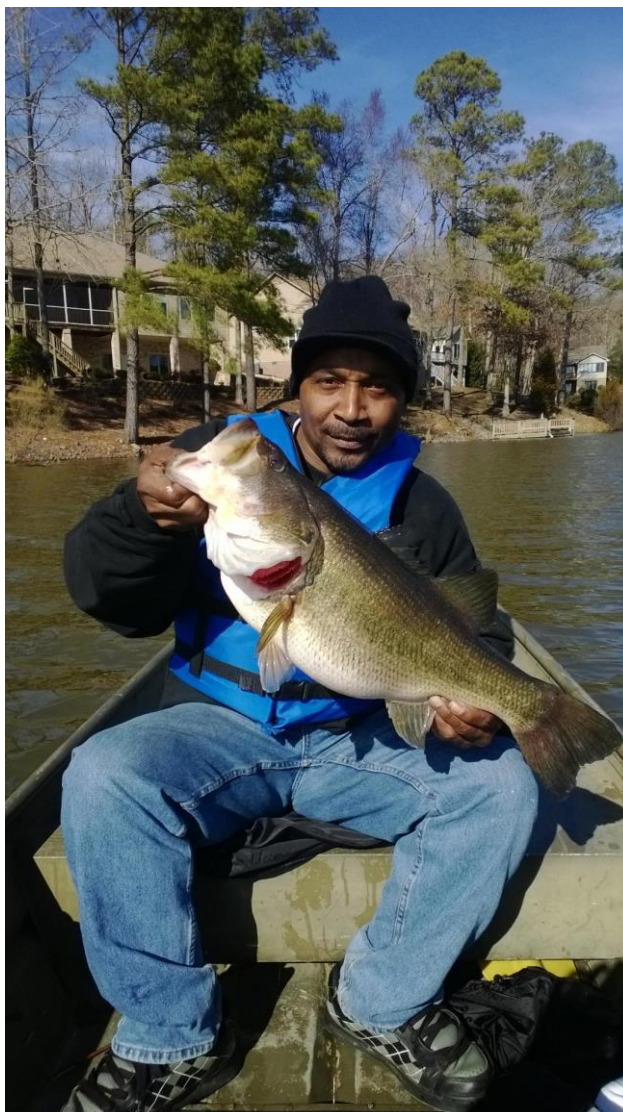
## BIG FISH CAUGHT BEFORE AND AFTER OUR SEASONAL DERBY!

**Who says giant Lake Trace bass are NOT caught in the winter?**



Bud Burgess (GE) caught this over 12# bass in 2.5 feet of water on a top water lure on **January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**. It was released. Measurements were a 21.5 inch girth and 26 inches in length. TUFF members (\$15 per year) heard the incredible story of this winter largemouth bass catch in Lake Trace.

**Call the Lake Trace Hotline at 919-499-1300 to join TUFF or e-mail Libby at [gofishin247@gmail.com](mailto:gofishin247@gmail.com) to get on the Lake Trace database to receive fishing reports and news of upcoming fishing lessons and events!**



Stacy Spinks (LW) was also fishing in **early January** and caught this hefty largemouth bass near Mallard Cove!



TUFF Director Libby took advantage of the warm weather on **December 15** and was tossing night crawlers on ultra-light tackle. Fishing from the shore at Hidden Lake marina, she was enjoying an amazing blitz from 3 to 5pm with a bite on practically every cast including a 16 inch bass and this 23 inch by 16.5 inch, seven pound, five ounce largemouth!