



Lake Hotline: 919-499-1300

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

**Hats off to our**

**2016 Winners (Adult Division):**

**First Place Largemouth Bass**  
**Mike Reynolds (Sanford)**  
**Nine pounds, 13 ounces**



Around 7 PM on April 5<sup>th</sup> Mike was fishing with TUFF member Buster Harrill (NS) near Harbor Creek and was tossing a shaky head dressed with a watermelon Senko when he landed and released this lunker 27" long bass (by 17" girth). He received the handsome **new** TUFF Derby Bass Plaque below!



**A dozen prizes and five Honorable Mention Certificates were awarded to the Adult and Youth Division winners who registered their catches in Bass, Crappie, Bream and Catfish Categories!**

**Second Place Bass**  
**Gale Watson (NS)**  
**Eight pounds, five ounces**



TUFF member Gale Watson has been on the TUFF Derby final scoreboard since his family moved here from South Carolina in 2013. He was pitching a jig around the Country Club dock area at 6 PM on June 14 when he nailed this healthy largemouth that measured 23.5 inches by a hefty 18 inches around its middle.

**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.**

Note: you do not need to be a member of TUFF to register your catch!

**Honorable Mention Bass**  
**Buster Harrill (NS)**  
Six pounds, 13 ounces



During the last week of March in the late afternoon, some big bass were hanging around the Hidden Lake marina when Buster pitched a Senko and nailed this 21 inch beauty. On April 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM, Libby Bibb (HL) was trying to catch shad when they were hugging the west end of the HL dock. Using a red wiggler worm on a gold hook and light tackle, a 23 inch bass decided to take the bait. With a girth of 16.5 inches, it weighed seven pounds, five ounces.



On July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m., David Zorn (SM) tossed a crawler in 12 feet of water SE of 18 Creek green and connected with this feisty 20 inch by 12 inch girth bass that was a solid four pounds. (Note: the (many) 3 to 5 pound males in Lake Trace are great jumpers and fighters!)



**First Place Crappie**  
**Rick Schock (NS)**  
Four pounds, five ounces



Just ten ounces shy of a North Carolina State record, this 17 inch crappie was caught May 15 at 6:30 PM on a jig near the 18 Creek golf cart bridge.

**Second Place Crappie - Pam Zorn (SM)**  
Three pounds



This 15 inch crappie was caught on a minnow June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 a.m. in the channel east of CTCC docks. David Zorn landed a 13.5 incher in the same location on a lure and garnered a 2016 Honorable Mention in this category!



**Honorable Mention Crappie  
Clifton Talley (WM)  
Two pounds, three ounces**



The last week of March was "crazy with crappie" at the Country Club dock when the Talley father/son team caught and released thirty of them in less than two hours, including a 14 inch for Dad & a nine inch for Tucker which put Tucker in 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Youth Division!

**First Place Bream  
Drew Forgione (LW)  
One pound, eight ounces**



This monster bream measured 10.5 inches long by 9.5 inches girth and was caught with a worm in the Lakewood Basin around 4 PM on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

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 10 pounds. (Minimum weight of at least four pounds is needed to register which measures at least 21 inches.)

*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  
2016 Winners (Youth Division):**

**First Place Bass  
Kira Chojnacki (HL)  
Twelve inches (One pound)**



During our August 23rd "Fish for Fun" lesson at the CTCC dock Kira used her Kid Caster skills to land this bass on a red wiggler worm!

**First Place Crappie  
Tucker Talley (WM)  
Nine inches  
(See pic/details above)**



**First Place Bream  
Leah Stiffler (WM)  
Length: Nine inches**



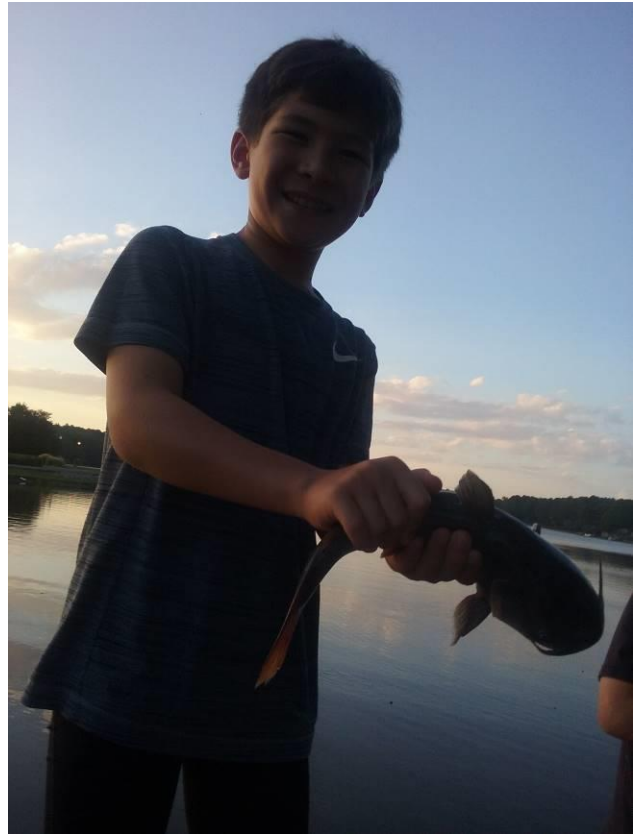
Leah was on the TUFF Scoreboard with her 8 inch bluegill caught during our May 1<sup>st</sup> "Fish for Fun" lesson at Hidden Lake pond. Returning to HL pond in October, she caught this nine incher.

**Second Place Bream  
Karis Chojnacki (HL)  
Seven inches**



It wasn't really the size, but the quantity that Karis reeled in during our 8/23 FFF. Over a dozen and a catfish, too!

**First Place Catfish  
Andrew Lee (EN)  
Fourteen inches**



The Jelen's visiting grandson Andrew was fishing off their dock with bread squished on a hook and landed a 1.5# catfish @ 7:30 PM on May 18<sup>th</sup> !!

**Second Place Catfish  
Kira Chojnacki (HL)  
10 and ½ inches**



Besides her bass catch, Kira also caught a 10.5 inch cattie at the 8/23 event at CTCC dock and Karis landed a 9.5 inch for an honorable mention this year!





Adults get fish medallion plaques 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 last year which is showcased on page one.

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

*Who says giant Lake Trace bass are NOT caught in the winter? Remember the sleet happening on Super Bowl Sunday morning last year?*



Longtime Lake Trace Bassmaster Chuck Byrd caught this big winter bass in the coldest of conditions and was quite successful!



**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!**

