

## **2020 CRAPPIEFEST POSTPONED – TENTATIVE NEW DATE MAY 23, 2020**

As the Corona Virus has spread, Jay, Rhonda and the Crappie Anglers of Texas' Board of Directors have all been in close contact while monitoring the situation. We wanted to make the best decision based on all the facts. Our first, and utmost concern is for our anglers, volunteers and the community.

Fact 1 – The CDC came out with a statement yesterday that said:

Guidance as of 3/15/2020

Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend these events and introduce the virus to new communities. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, **sporting events**, weddings, and other types of assemblies. These events can be planned not only by organizations and communities but also by individuals.

Therefore, CDC, in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing. When feasible, organizers could modify events to be virtual.

Fact #2 – If Rains ISD extends their closure to March 27<sup>th</sup>, or even later, we would not have access to Rains High School. Currently, they are only closed through the 20<sup>th</sup>, but the general consensus is that it will be extended.

There are many other reasons why this is the right answer, but these two facts cannot be overcome. No one knows what will happen over the next days, weeks or even months. We were hoping this would blow over quickly and we could have the tournament as scheduled. We've done a great deal of work to put this event together, so hopefully we can have the tournament on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

If you have already paid your entry fee, and would like a refund, please contact Eric Walker at [cattreasurer11@gmail.com](mailto:cattreasurer11@gmail.com). Otherwise, your entry fee will be applied to the May tournament.

We are sorry for the inconvenience. We are as disappointed as each of you are!! Stay tuned for updates on the tentative May tournament and stay vigilant during these hard times.