## HERE IT IS-ALL THE LATEST DECEMBER 2024

BK Custom Baits – Bill Kunz Creekside Tackle - Ken Eddie Dobyns Rods-Gary Dobyns G-Money Baits-Tray Williams Pro Worms-Sandy Uecker Valley Rod and Gun

# LAKE MILLERTON TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS



#### FRESNO BASS CLUB MEMBERS,

Every December the FBC holds its annual Tournament of Champions (TOC). The previous year's TOC Champion picks the location. In this case, the 2023 TOC Champion (Bill Kunz) picked Lake Millerton. Many people hate Millerton, but last year during this time of year, Millerton was kicking out 13-17 lb. bags to win tournaments.

Well, we all know how that goes...this year and for the past couple of months, it has been extremely tough to catch quality fish at Millerton. However, in the few weeks leading up to the TOC, anglers were starting to catch some quality fish.

The TOC body of water is off limits during the week prior to the tournament so many anglers had pre-fished the weekend before and some reports were good, and others were still reporting a tough bite.

The Saturday before the TOC, Gary Jue reported catching a four-pound spot in Winchell's Cove on a rip-bait and Bill Kunz caught a 4.67 spot at the mouth of the river on a worm.

On that day Bill and Jimmy Arnold put together a limit that weighed about 13 lbs., catching the majority of their fish, with the exception of the big fish, on the main lake.



Fast forward to the day before the TOC, when of course the Fresno area was hit with a major front including high winds, rain, and a full moon to boot. On Saturday, a few club anglers attempted to get in some pre-fishing, but were forced off the water by 9 AM due to the terrible weather conditions which included rain and westerly winds blowing 10-20 MPH with gusts to 30 MPH.

On tournament day, the temperature at the ramp on was 27 degrees colder than the day before and the full moon was just about to set. The water had stabilized but was now slowly rising from the week before.



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Anglers blasted off to bluebird skies and a cold wind which gave away to almost dead calm conditions later in the morning. Some anglers reported catching 25-30 keepers but no size stating that even the 14" fish were skinny and weighed 1.00 - 1.25 lbs. Other anglers said they struggled just to get bit (Typical Millerton).

At the end of the day the 2024 FBC TOC Champion would bring in a limit under 9 lbs. and he was in shock when he found out he won.

Ken Eddie brought in a five fish limit that weighed 8.83 lbs. anchored with the tournament big fish of just 2.24 lbs. earning him the 2024 TOC Tournament of Champions Title! Congratulations Ken!



Ken said he followed Bill and Mark toward the mouth of the river but lost them in the fog. Ken said he continued about 3/4 of the way up the river and started throwing a glide bait. Ken immediately got a bite, but he missed the fish. The fish came back a second time and this time Ken hooked the fish. This was Ken's first fish of the day and also ended up being the big fish of the tournament. Ken threw the glide bait for a couple more hours with nothing to show for his efforts. Ken then caught one more good keeper on a drop-shot and three good keepers on a jig. Ken said he caught about 10 keepers throughout the day, but the rest were just mere 13" fish that didn't weigh much.

Second place went to the newest backseat Millerton expert, Amy Avedikian. Amy was just one point shy of qualifying for the TOC, but with her two December meeting points she crossed the 220-point threshold and qualified as a co-angler. Bob Jones agreed to take Amy out with him only to get beat from the back of the boat (It happens to us all). Amy brought in a five fish limit weighing 8.10 lbs. and enough for second place. Congratulations Amy!



Amy said she and Bob fished inside Winchell's Cove most of the day due to on-going battery issues. Amy said she caught her fish on both a Neko and a Texas rig in about 30 feet of water by 9AM. Amy said she caught a total of about 6 or 7 keepers throughout the day.

Amy said Ron Red Sr. jump started their boat once and then at about 2:15 PM, Paul Shafer towed Bob's boat into the Fresno ramp so they would not be late for weigh-in.



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And finally, rounding out the top three was Cory "Always a bride's maid, never a bride" Kerber. Cory brought in a five fish limit weighing 7.97 lbs. and enough for third place.



Cory said he fished a Texas rig around rock piles on the main lake in 15 to 45 feet of water. Cory struggled all day just to make small culls an ounce at a time, but it was enough to lock up third place and the final check. Good Job Cory!

#### **MILLERTON TOC RESULTS:**

	NAME	WEIGHT
1	Ken Eddy	8.83
2	Amy Avedikian	8.10
3	Cory Kerber	7.97
4	John Albidrez	7.26
5	Mark Corrente	7.12
6	Bill Kunz	7.09
7	Bob Jones	7.05
8	Andrew Skyers	6.70
9	Jimmy Arnold	6.37
10	Ron Red Sr.	6.18
11	David Heirendt	6.11
12	Gary Jue	5.97
13	Walt Austin	4.62
14	Kyle Reynolds	4.40
15	Bill Rowles Sr.	3.93
16	Christian Lopez	2.92
17	Paul Shafer	2.34
18	AJ Duncan	DNW
19	Chris Tillman	DNW

Well, that just about wraps it up for the 2024 FBC tournament season. I know this newsletter is a little late but Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year!





#### **JANUARY 2025 MEETING**

Note: Due to the first Wednesday of the month being New Years Day, the January 2025 meeting will be held on Friday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at the Yosemite Falls Café located at 4020 N. Cedar in Fresno.

### **NOTE:**

ALL BANQUET FEES WILL BE DUE AT THIS TIME. THE COST IS \$32 PER PLATE FOR ANY NON-MEMBERS.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*2025 SCHEDULE NEXT PAGE \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **2025 FBC SCHEDULE**

DATE	LAKE	RAMP LOCATION	SUNRISE / MOON INFO	ADDITIONAL INFO
January 12, 2025	Millerton	Fresno Ramp	Sunrise 7:12 AM	96% Moon
February 23, 2025	Pine Flat	Deer Creek	Sunrise 6:50 AM	28% Moon
March 16, 2025	Bass Lake	Wishon Boat Launch	Sunrise 7:09 AM	97% Moon
April 12 & 13, 2025	New Melones	Glory Hole	Sunrise 6:30 AM	99% & 100% Moon
May 18, 2025	Don Pedro	Flemming Meadows	Sunrise 5:51 AM	75% Moon
June 7 & 8, 2025	Delta	B&W Resort	Sunrise 5:45 AM	84% & 90% Moon
July 12-13, 2025	Millerton	Fresno Ramp	Waning Gibbous (98%)	All Night 6PM-7AM
Aug. 9 & 10, 2025	Pine Flat	Deer Creek	Full Moon (100%)	All Night 6PM-7AM
Sept. 21, 2025	Tulloch	South Ramp	Sunrise 6:50 AM	1% Moon
Oct. 11 & 12, 2025	Clear Lake	Konocti Vista Casino	Sunrise 7:18 AM	80% & 70% Moon
Nov. 16, 2025	McClure	Barrett Cove South	Sunrise 6:44 AM	16% Moon
Dec. 14, 2025	Millerton	Fresno Ramp	Sunrise 7:05 AM	TOC

DATE	LOCATION		
Friday, January 3, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday, February 5, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday March 5, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday April 2, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday May 7, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday June 4, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday July 2, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday August 6, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday September 3, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday October 1, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday November 5, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		
Wednesday December 3, 2025	Yosemite Falls Café 4020 N. Cedar, Fresno, CA		

<u>POSITION</u>	NAME	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
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