



Lawman's Bass Club

Rules & Regulations

The Lawman's Bass Club is a non-profit club. It is established for the purpose of promoting fun through friendly competition with family and friends. We are here for the fun of fishing. It is a club established to promote the future of fishing through conservation and lawful fishing practices. The integrity of every participating member is assumed to be forthright and magnanimous. ***We are about respect and sportsmanship.***

Tournament Rules

1. The following rules will remain fixed and unchanged unless a majority vote of 51% or greater of the members in good standing that are present at a scheduled meeting or are given an opportunity to vote by proxy with one month's notice.
2. All members in good standing are eligible to enter tournament events.
3. Tournament Fees:
 - a. Tournament fees are \$150.00 per boat entry which includes all options. There is no opting out of options. Tournament forms must be filled out and signed, payment included and shall be collected at the club meeting on the Monday prior to the tournament or shall be delivered to the club treasurer a minimum 24 hours prior to start of said tournament. Delivery can be in person or via mail or delivery system.
 - b. Any team that misses a tournament in which the 5 lb. club is not won shall be required to make up each tournament that they missed paying the \$20.00 5 lb. club fee.
4. Lawman's Bass Club is a team venue but single members can fish by themselves if desired. If a team is declared then that team shall be in effect for the tournament year. Teams can switch partners if they are the children of the

team member, this includes grandchildren or great grandchildren. A team can allow one guest, one time in a tournament year. If a team member cannot fish for any reason then the other team member must fish alone or fish with another member and keep their fish separated for weigh-in.

5. If a team splits up for any reason then the boat owner retains the points for the year. The other member loses all points unless the parties agree otherwise.
6. A Guest members will be allowed to fish one tournament per year as a guest of a regular member. After that they must apply for membership to fish any further tournaments. Guest members shall fish with a paid member. Members shall only be allowed one guest per year.
7. All tournament standings will be factored based on the Point System and points will be awarded in the following manner:
 - a. All team's fish shall be weighed and weights recorded. If there is a protest the team's fish shall be retained until the decision has been made by the board members. (See Protest)
 - b. Primary Points will be issued starting at 100 points and then in 2 point increments. Then the teams that did not catch fish will receive 5 points less than the lowest team with fish.

i. 1 st Place Team	100 points
ii. 2 nd Place Team	98 points
iii. 3 rd Place Team	96 points
iv. 4 th Place Team	94 points
v. 5 th Place Team	92 points
vi. 6 th Place Team	90 points
vii. 7 th Place Team	88 points

 - viii. And so on until the last team to catch a fish gets the points for that place. After that the next fishless team will receive 5 points less than the last team to catch a fish and place. (i.e. The team that finished 15th by being the last team to catch a fish will receive 72 point. The next team and all other teams will receive 67 points for participating.)
 - c. 5 additional point will be added to each team that has a team member at the monthly tournament meetings.
 - d. There will be 11 tournaments each year and each team will have their lowest tournament score (one drop) from the point system.
 - e. Additional points shall be awarded for tournament attendance. Any team that fishes all 11 tournaments will receive an additional 10 points.

Any team that fishes a minimum 10 tournaments will receive an additional 5 points

- f. Ties... in the event two teams have the exact same weight; the tie will be broken by big fish weight.
- g. Disputes regarding eligible fish will be resolved immediately by voice protest to a board member prior to the questioned fish being returned to the lake. If a caught fish is in question as to its legality for consideration, it will be determined by a majority vote of the present board of directors as to the final status of the catch. The tournament director will have a "Game & Fish" type measuring device and it will be the final determinant in the legal standing of a disputed fish.
- h. Dead fish... each dead fish will deduct .5 pounds from the final weight for final standings only. (Big fish or 5 pound club will not be affected by dead fish.)
- i. Late arrival... to the weigh-in will result in 1 pound being deducted for each minute past the designated tournament ending time as announced at the beginning of the event. Any team more than 15 minutes late will be given a 0.0 weight for the day and tournament points will be given as if the team weighed zero fish.
- j. Limits... the club has set a 5 fish limit of either large or smallmouth bass for all tournaments. Penalties for bringing more than a legal tournament limit to the weigh-in sink will be the loss of the team's big fish.
- k. No points will be awarded to any team that does not fish the tournament. If a team pays to fish the tournament and does not attend, the money will go into the tournament pot unless the team has a viable excuse. If the viable excuse is accepted by the board of directors the money will be forwarded to the next tournament.

8. Payouts:

- a. Lawman's Bass Club shall payout 1 place for every 3 teams participating in a club tournament, up to 5 places. The club shall retain 10% of the team entry fees for club overhead. The remainder is paid out as tournament prizes. Big fish is paid out to the top 3 big fish. Largest fish over 5 pounds wind the accumulated money collected into the 5 pound club. Note: New members to the club that join after the first tournament of the year are not eligible for the 5 lb. club if the 5 lb. club has not been broken until their second tournament. New members will have to fish the tournament without paying into the 5 lb. club. Then at

their second tournament they will have to make up the money for the previous tournament/s and will be able to fish for the 5 lb. club.

- b. Anglers of the year will be awarded to the top 3 finishers on the point calculations. In the event of a tie the winner will be decided by largest fish caught that year.
 - c. At the end of the year club party trophies and a cash prize is awarded to the top 3 finishers in the club point system. The payout is as follows:
 - a. 1st place team \$300.00
 - b. 2nd place team \$200.00
 - c. 3rd place team \$100.00
 - d. Also at the end of the year party the club shall payout evenly to the teams that fished all 11 tournaments the money collected throughout the year minus club overhead.
9. Equipment:
- a. Boats: All boats will include the following...
 - i. (1) Coast Guard approved wearable life jacket (PFD) per competitor. This PFD will be worn any time the outboard motor is operating and the boat is in motion. Competitors wishing to run the big motor to recharge batteries may do so without the PFD as long as the boat is not in gear.
 - ii. (1) Fire extinguisher. (minimum)
 - iii. An operating engine “kill switch”.
 - iv. All boats must comply with Coast Guard safety requirements and will not be allowed to compete in tournament competition until they meet the requirements.
 - v. All boats shall have an operating live well that has operating fill, empty capabilities and recirculating fresh water device and/or aerating system.
 - vi. Boat shall have the appropriate bow and stern lights and shall operate these lights while the boat is moving. The boat shall have a minimum one light (stern) on during all nighttime operation and even if not moving.
 - b. Fishing Equipment: Only one casting, spinning, spin casting or fly rod may be used at any one time. (Basically, one line in the water per competitor at a time, even if you have a two-pole stamp.)
 - c. Bait: Artificial bait only for all competitors 13 years of age or older. (All competitors 12 years of age and under may use live bait.) No “Prepared Baits” will be permitted. Pork baits, strips and similar “trailer

type” baits may be used. Scents and masking agents/sprays/gels, etc. are allowed.

- d. Electronic fish finders, depth finders, light meters, PH meters, Oxygen meters and “aqua-vies type cameras may be used.
- e. All fish must be caught in a conventional sporting manner as defined by the laws of the state. Snagging or trolling is prohibited. Trolling is defined as the use of the trolling motor or engine to impart the action on the lure. The use of a trolling motor to move the boat is allowed so as to reposition the boat, not impart the action on the bait.
- f. There is no size limit for fish to be brought to the weigh-in unless the local rules and laws of the state dictate so. (i.e. slot fish)
- g. All live fish will be returned to the lake as they are the property of the Lawman’s Bass Club once weighed. In the event there are any floating fish, those fish will be retrieved, if possible, and distributed to anyone who wants them. (In the event of a trophy catch, the member may retain the fish for his/hers own disposition.) We encourage and promote catch and release practices.

10. Tournament Start and Finish compliance:

- a. All boats will take off in a numbered start order to be determined by a draw of numbers at the meeting prior to the tournament. Only teams that are present at the meeting shall draw for the 1st set of numbers. Any member that has paid in advance will be allowed to draw for 2nd set of starting positions. (i.e. 15 teams are stating they wish to compete in the tournament. 9 teams are present and one team has pre-paid for the event. Those 9 teams will draw for start positions 1-9. The prepaid member is drawn after the first 9 teams. Teams that have not paid for the tournament at or prior to the drawing for the tournament will be drawn in a third drawing. (i.e. 5 remaining teams do not pay at the meeting shall be drawn for positions 11-15) Any teams showing up at the tournament that did not attend or prepay for the tournament will not be allowed to participate in the tournament. If you cannot arrive at the set starting time notification must be given to the tournament director. (Once you have paid, show up as late as you want... it is your fishing time.)
- b. The tournament director will establish the “boundary point” that all boats must be within at the established tournament ending time. Any boat not complying with the boundary rules will be subject the late penalties dictated above. (Emergencies withstanding... i.e. equipment

malfunction, weather prohibiting safe passage, assisting another boater, etc.)

- c. Any team receiving a citation for the violation of any Game and Fish laws or boating infractions will be disqualified from that tournament unless they are found not guilty.
- d. The members of the club shall obey the rules set forth by the permits granted as it pertains to each lake.
- e. During tournament hours, there is to be no alcohol on board any boat competing in the tournament. (This rule is set forth by the insurance company for the club and violations will result in immediate disqualification from that event. Alcohol may be consumed in accordance with local laws once the tournament ending time has passed (weigh scales closed). Please be responsible.

11. Protest:

- a. Protest any kind will be filed orally to any board member present as soon as possible. The team in question will be notified of the protest, but not who is filing the protest until the facts are weighed and a decision rendered.
- b. The board member contacted will notify the tournament director of the protest. If the protest is over the eligibility of a fish, the protest must be filed before the fish is returned to the lake. The board/tournament committee will meet and discuss at that time.
- c. If the protest is in regard to any other rule(s) violation, the protest must be lodged prior to the announcement of the final standings by the person appointed to announce the tournament results for that event. The protest will be settled in accordance to the rules of the club and prior to the announcement of final results. The team that has had the protest filed against them will be advised of the results of the determination of the board prior to the final results being announced. The alleged violating team will be allowed to contest the protest at the time. The present board member/tournament committee will convene and discuss the protest. The findings of the board will be final. If a member of the board is a subject of the protest, he/she will not be included in the discussion of the protest.
- d. Penalties will be assessed by the board to include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Loss of fish
 - ii. Loss of points
 - iii. Loss of prize money

- iv. Disqualification...no points, no prize money
- v. Expulsion from future events for egregious violations. (cheating of any kind)

Edited November 11, 2019