

2017 - NC Bassmaster High School Series (West) Official Rules

Tournament Rules:

1. Boats must maintain a safe operating speed at all times. Violators will be disqualified this can be clarified before blast off if needed.
2. All NC Wildlife fishing rules and regulations apply during tournaments, including fishing license and boating regulations.
3. Anglers must be 6th grade or above have registered roster and paid club dues.
4. All school rules apply during fishing tournaments.
5. Team Jerseys should be worn throughout competition.
7. Safety is the number one concern for these tournaments.

All boats must be operated safely at all times.

US Coast Guard approved PFD's must be worn at all times by student anglers and boat captains while the combustion engine is running and in gear.

The boat must have an emergency ignition shut off device that is secured to the driver/captain's body.

Boats must be covered by current liability insurance with a minimum of \$300,000.

8. One captain over the age of 18 and having graduated from High School is required to be on each team's boat at all times during the tournament.

9. Boat Captains:

May not net fish except for Middle School teams

May not hold a fishing rod

May suggest fishing locations

☒ Professional Guides are not eligible to be a boat captain, unless they are an immediate family member of one of the competitors. (Father or Mother only) see ex of guides

☒ Professional Fisherman (FLW, Costa, Elite, Opens) are eligible to be a captain, as long as they are an immediate family member of a competitor. (Father or Mother only)

10. Tournaments will have a 5 fish per boat limit. All fish must be largemouth, spotted, redeye, or small mouth Lake size limits apply. Teams should not possess more than 5 fish at any time during the tournament. Extra fish must be culled immediately on the water.

11. **Dead fish cannot be culled.** If a fish is foul hooked or accidentally killed, the fish must be kept and brought to weigh in as part of the fish limit. A 1/4 pound or 4 oz penalty for each dead fish will be assessed. This penalty will also apply to big fish, in the event the big fish is deceased.

12. All fish must be caught on artificial lures, and anglers may only use one rod at a time. Trolling is not permitted.

13. Every effort should be made to keep fish alive until they are released after weigh-in. All boats must be equipped with a properly working live well with aeration.

14. On Time/End of day check in:

- a. Teams will be issued a number at registration on the morning of the tournament.
- b. To be "checked in" in the afternoon, the Number must be turned in to the tournament trailer and displayed on the key board.

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- c. Boats that are late to weigh in will be assessed a penalty of 1 pound per minute after the designated check in time. (inside bouys not fishing before the clock hits check in time.)
- d. After 15 minutes, the team will be disqualified.
- 15. Tournament rankings will be based on total team weight.
- 16. If an emergency occurs, the captain or an angler should call 911 first, and then notify the tournament director. Any questions or concerns regarding these rules should be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director
- 17. Launch sequence will be determined by random draw in advance of the tournament. Any late registrants will be placed randomly into placeholders in takeoff sequence.
- 18. The violation of a tournament rule by either team member and/or boat captain may result in weight loss, the loss of weight up to a particular time in the tournament day (eligible for a restart), loss of weight for the entire day, disqualification for the entire tournament or, in an extreme circumstance, ineligibility to participate in future events. If a team is disqualified from a tournament their weight will be recorded as 0 lb. However, they will still receive tournament points as if they had just caught no fish. If the director feels that their violation was a willful attempt to gain an unfair advantage or to intentionally cheat, then the director has the right to refuse entry from that team or team members in the future and will inform all members of the situation.
- 19. Interpretation of the rules will be left to the Tournament Director. All decisions by the tournament director are final.
- 20. If a rules infraction is observed on the water, **DO NOT CONFRONT THE OFFENDING TEAM.**
Document the situation as best as you can, including pictures and video when possible.
Take note of the boat manufacturer, color, & Vessel ID if possible.
Call the tournament director or host school to report the infraction.
- 21. By signing the Official Entry Form, signing the sign in form at the ramp, and/or participation in these tournaments, I hereby release NC BASS Nation, its officers, sponsors, hosts, employees, and anyone working in association with them from any damages, injuries, or death that may occur as a result of competing in these events, whether by negligence of the said parties or otherwise to the fullest extent of the law
- 22. All Tie breakers and penalties will be according to BASS High School Rules

Tournament Operation & Officials:

- ☑ The tournaments will be operated by NC BASS Nation. On tournament day, and the necessary equipment for the tournament, including a tournament trailer, scales, PA system, weigh in tanks, etc. will be provided.
- ☑ NC BASS Nation will provide a Tournament Director
- ☑ Tournament Director: Bob Bauer , 336-972-0393, bbauer42@yahoo.com.com