



2010 Official Rules

ELIGIBILITY: In order to participate in the College Bass, an individual (1) must be a member of the College Bass (hereinafter referred to as "CB"); (2) an individual's school club must be registered with CB. (3) Must be enrolled as a student at the college they represent. (4) Must have a minimum of a 2.00 cumulative GPA. All participants must be enrolled as a student at the college they represent with a minimum of 12 hours. No student over the age of twenty-five (25) may compete in the CB Super Regionals or Championship. All schools will be required to participate in a Super Regional in order to be eligible for the 2010 College Bass National Championship.

To be eligible to participate in these events, each club will be responsible for paying a \$50 registration fee. Schools must also register a minimum of four members from their club to be considered a sanctioned College Bass team. Furthermore, each student angler is required to pay a \$20 administrative fee which covers entire season. There will be no additional entry fees for any tournaments after the registration fees.

SAFETY: Safe boating conduct will be observed at all times. During the official practice and competition, each competitor is required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved (PFD). This preserver must be worn any time the combustion engine is running. (CAUTION: When boarding and debarking boat PFD must be worn when engine is being operated in gear.) This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely and maintained in that condition until the combustion engine is shut off. The boat operator must have a safety-stop switch attached to his/her person when the combustion engine is in gear. During practice and tournament hours extreme caution must be exercised by boat operator during bad weather. Violation of either the PFD or safety-stop switch portion of this rule will result in disqualification.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or other stimulants or depressants, shall be allowed in the boats during the official practice or competition days, or when in the weigh-in area. Each contestant must keep the waters clean and bring trash back to the dock for disposal. Chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or other crimes involving immoral turpitude, or other conduct reflecting unfavorable upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules shall be grounds for disqualification.

TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Only artificial lures may be used. No "live bait" or "prepared bait" will be permitted during competition, with the exception of pork strips, rinds, etc. Only one rod and reel combination may be used at one time. No fly rods or rods over 8 ft. are allowed. Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner. All angling must be done from the boat and anglers must stay on tournament waters during tournament hours. Anglers are not permitted to leave the boat to land a fish or leave the boat to gain access to secluded waters. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament hours. Competitors must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. Competitors must remain in boat at all times except in case of dire emergency. In such an emergency, competitors may be removed from their boat to: A BOAT OPERATED BY OTHER COMPETITORS, A RESCUE BOAT DESIGNATED BY THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OR TO DISLodge THEIR BOAT FROM A HAZARD. Partners must remain together at all times, in sight of each other and each other's catch, under the conditions cited above, in order for their catch of that day to be scored in the tournament. Citizen band radios, marine radios and cellular phones are allowed in the boat for emergency use only. Any transmission of information via any communicative device concerning any aspect of fishing is prohibited during tournament hours.

PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director for each tournament. Any water within these boundaries posted Off-Limits or No Fishing by state or federal agencies as well as the live-bass release area established by the Tournament Director will be **OFF-LIMITS** and will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. Only that water open to **ALL** public fishing will be considered tournament waters. All angling must be done from the boat.

SCORING: Tournament standings, auxiliary awards and final winners shall be determined by the pound weight (to the hundredth of a pound) of each competitor's catch during the competition days of the tournament. Only Largemouth, Spotted Bass, and Smallmouth will be weighed.

The limit shall be 5 of the above species and varieties per day, unless otherwise specified by tournament officials. At no time shall a competitor have in his or her possession more than the tournament limit. Tournament officials will conduct checks for violation of this

provision, and in the event a competitor has reduced more than the above-described limits to possession, shall cull down to the limit described, **beginning with the largest bass**. The official length for bass shall be determined by the Tournament Director and announced at the tournament briefing. In most cases it will be the **longest** state limit covering the tournament waters. Only bass as described above which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line, shall be weighed. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure the official length shall result in: **Short fish will be culled from your sack and you will lose a pound off of your total weight**. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited only at the discretion of tournament officials. All fish must be caught in an ethical manner. After competitors check-in at the official checkpoint they **MUST** present all **LEGAL** fish in their possession to a tournament official to be counted, measured and weighed. Once a competitor's catch is measured, counted and verified by a tournament official, that competitor may not return to the boat until their catch has been weighed and recorded. Bass must not be stringered at any time during the tournament. Culling tags or clips are allowed. ****All culling must be done on the water at the time of catching the sixth fish****

CATCH AND RELEASE: CULLING OF DEAD BASS IS PROHIBITED. For each legal dead bass presented to the tournament director, the competitor shall be penalized the following, to be deducted from their daily score: 1 dead fish — 8 oz., 2 dead fish — 16 oz., 3 dead fish — 24 oz., 4 dead fish — 32 oz., 5 dead fish — 40 oz. The Tournament Director or his/her designees shall have sole authority for assessing penalty points. It is suggested in warm weather tournaments anglers keep extra ice for fish care. Contestants are allowed to purchase ice on the water from a retail store. However, they are not allowed to receive ice from non contestants.

PENALTY BOX: For rule violations that may not be deemed a disqualifying offense; the College Bass Tournament Director may place the violators in a "penalty box" at the beginning of the next day of competition. The amount of time the violators will spend in the "penalty box" shall be left to the determination of the College Bass Tournament Director.

LATE PENALTY: Competitors who are not in the official checkpoint area as described in Rule "**OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT**" at the appointed time shall be penalized at the rate of 1 pound per minute late to be deducted from the total weight of his catch that day, including any weight to be counted toward a "big bass award". Any competitor more than 15 minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be **no excuse** for tardiness and in no case shall a competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." Competitors are allowed to put their fish in another competitor's boat in the case of an emergency. (Just make sure you can distinguish your catch from your competitor's.) After proper recognition at the check-in point, competitors will be allowed ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site; however, all fishing must cease upon check-in. After the tournament begins, fishing the tournament waters is prohibited except during the

tournament hours. Exact starting and check-in times will be announced at the tournament briefing. It is the angler's responsibility to confirm check-in times.

BOAT AND MOTOR: ALL BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH SOME TYPE OF IGNITION STOP SWITCH. This ignition-kill device must be attached to the driver's body any time the combustion engine is running. Also any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear, there must be a driver in the driver's seat in full control of the boat. Fishing boats that are 16 feet or more in length may be used. No combustion engine may exceed the horse power of **250**. No barges, cumbersome craft or boats without steering wheel will be permitted. Contestants may not use boats equipped with "stick steering" and/or "tiller steering" during tournament hours. Each boat must also have a properly aerated or re-circulating livewell to maintain a live limit catch of bass by contestants.

OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT There will be only one checkout point in the morning and check-in for the afternoon, as designated by the tournament director. Competitors not at the checkpoint at the designated time will be penalized at the rate of 1 pound per minute, deducted from their total weight for the day. Any competitor more than 15 minutes late for send-off or check-in will be disqualified for the day. Official start and weigh-in times will be announced at the pre-tournament meeting.

MEASURING FISH: All fish will be measured on a golden rule ruler by the tournament director. Fish will be measured with the mouth closed to the tip of the tail. The fish's tail cannot be altered in any way to make the fish longer.

TIEBREAKER: The tournament director may decide to break first-place ties with a fish-off of one (1) hour, largest "qualifying" weight, or largest fish.

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS: All contestants are required to follow all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations and laws. Any violation of such rules may result in disqualification from the tournament day, the entire tournament or from all College Bass events.

Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to College Bass officials. Decisions of the tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.

POLYGRAPH: Each competitor agrees to submit to a polygraph examination and abide by its conclusion should he/she be accused of any rule violation. The College Bass Tournament Director, rules committee, or such person designated by the Tournament Director, shall have the discretion to determine the need for a polygraph examination. The College Bass Tournament Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for selecting an independent expert to administer and interpret the results and establishing, in consultation with the expert administrator, the scope of the questions which may be asked during the polygraph examination. The College Bass Tournament Director, or his/her

designee, shall attempt to have the location of such polygraph examination as close in proximity to the angler's permanent address, or such other mutually convenient location as possible. The competitor shall make himself/herself available at the location selected by the Tournament Director and shall cooperate in all respects with such examination. Anglers taking a polygraph examination maybe responsible for any and all costs incurred.

All protests must be submitted to the College Bass Tournament Director IN WRITING no later than 15 minutes after the close of the weigh-in. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director may impose such sanctions, as he deems appropriate, including, without limitation, disqualification, placement in the penalty box, forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decision of the Tournament Director or his designee shall be final in all matters.