

An aerial photograph of a large body of water, likely a reservoir or lake, with a long bridge spanning across it. The surrounding landscape is heavily forested, and there are some buildings and structures visible on the right side of the image. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

2025 LEADERSHIP NATION CONFERENCE

CAST 4 KIDS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oodmgZ-jH6v51X3he_t203LJqxelf0vV/view?usp=drive_link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXB_4OjsR5k

2025 NATION RECAP

<https://basspartner.net/2025-bass-nation-recap>



2026 NATION REGIONAL FORMAT ADJUSTMENTS

- Highest finishing coded angler boater and non-boater from each state will advance if not in the Top 10%.
- State must utilize at least 15 codes to be eligible.





2027 NATION FORMAT ADJUSTMENTS

KEY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Preserve the core grassroots identity of the B.A.S.S. Nation while increasing competitive clarity and perceived value at all levels.
- Broaden international participation by expanding opportunities for foreign Nation anglers based on membership and performance.
- Elevate the overall level of competition through a streamlined qualifier structure and performance-based at-large advancement.
- Keep the Nation Championship field size balanced and competitive, ensuring it remains prestigious while still rewarding the top performers across all divisions.
- Drive membership growth by building an inclusive and accessible platform that serves as the primary pathway for aspiring grassroots anglers to compete, grow, and advance toward the highest levels of the sport

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each B.A.S.S. Nation state will continue to operate a State Championship or State Championship Series, which will serve as a direct qualifying path to the Nation Championship.

- Advancement Structure:
 - 1 Boater and 1 Non-Boater from each State Championship will earn a berth to the Nation Championship, must have a minimum of 100 adult members.
 - For every additional 325 adult members you will receive another berth.
 - At 425 adult members you would get a second berth, 750 adult members you would gain a third berth, etc..
 - All advancement numbers will be based on adult membership ending the August 31 the Calendar year prior to qualifying.
 - EX. Number of spots at State Championships for 2027 will be based on membership accrued from September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2025.



WESTERN REGIONAL HAS RETURNED





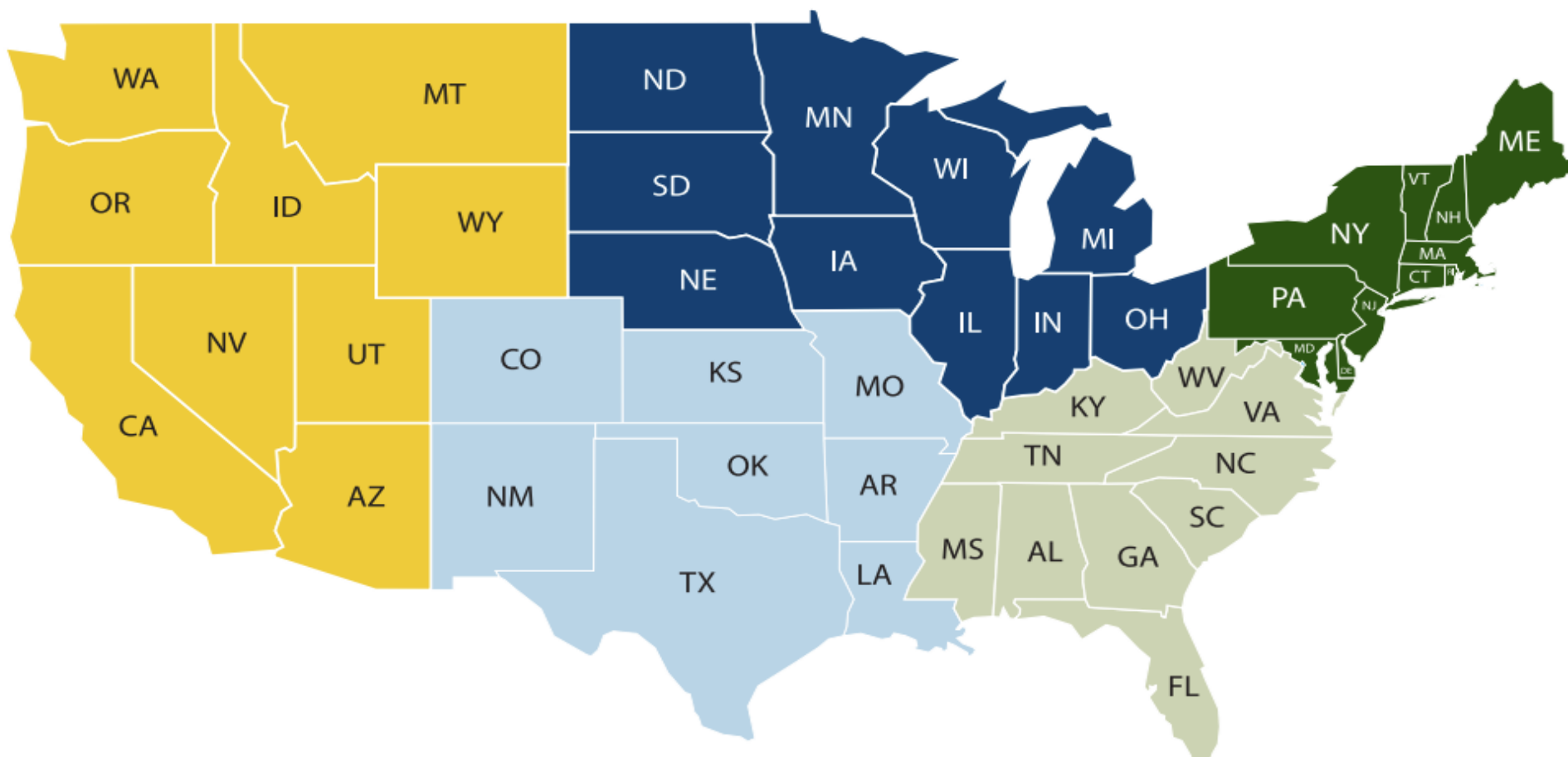
NATION REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

To increase opportunity and competitiveness, the 5 Nation Regionals will include two distinct advancement pathways built into each of the five events:

1. State Team
2. Nation Qualifiers



B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Map



WESTERN

NORTHERN

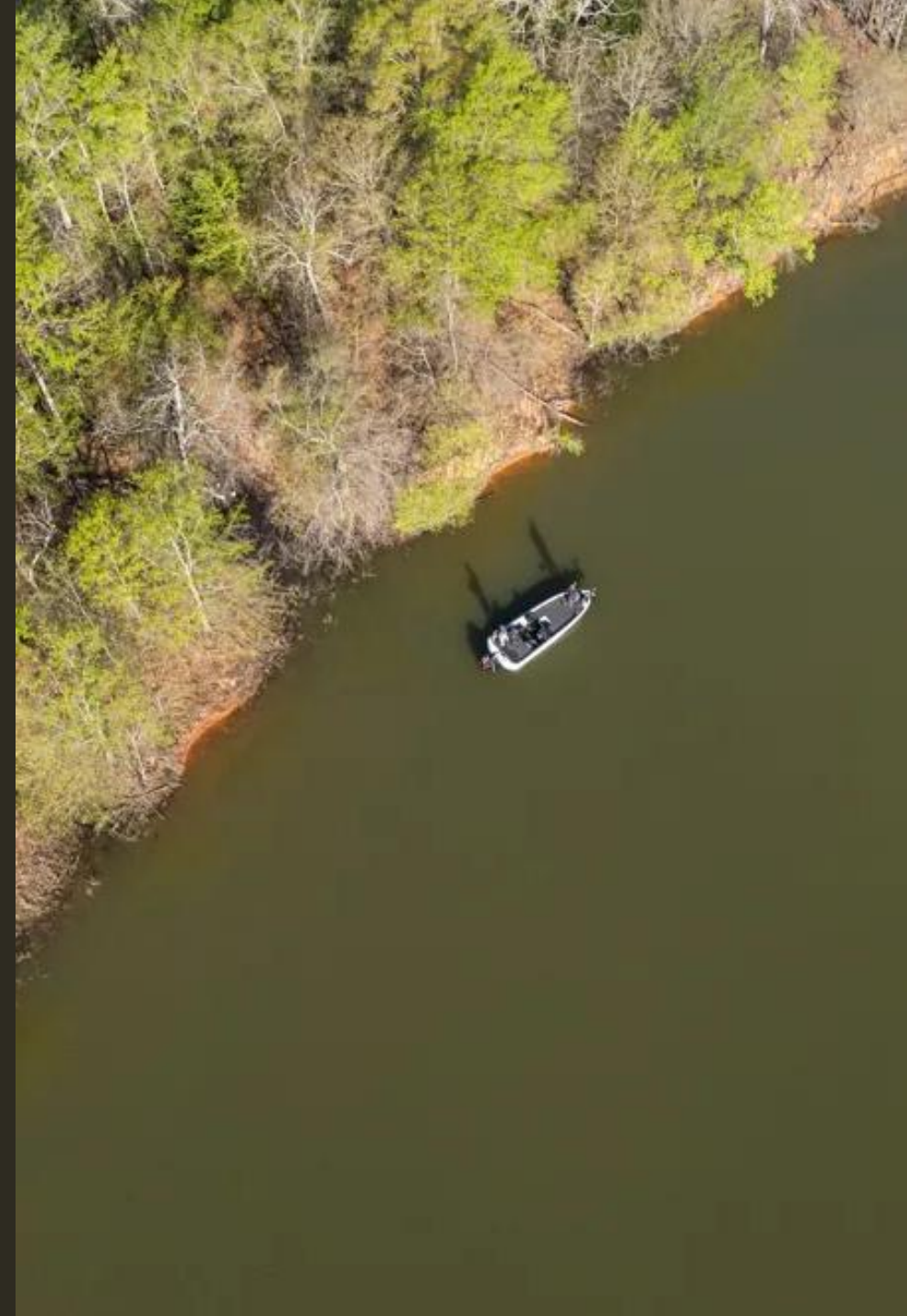
CENTRAL

NORTHEASTERN

SOUTHEASTERN

NATION REGIONALS

- The Top 10 anglers will advance from each regional to the Nation Championship.
- No working down the standings unless a state team member is double qualified.
- This rewards overall excellence and adds incentive for entries beyond state-based competition.



STATE TEAM

- State Team must have a minimum of 5 boaters and 5 non-boaters but states may send up to 10 boaters and 10 non-boaters.
- The top boater and non-boater from each state team will qualify for the National Championship.
 - This ensures equal representation and a clear path forward for every state regardless of size.
- The State Team is also eligible to advance via the Top 10 raw standings.



STATE TEAM COMPETITION

- State Team competition will be based on the combined top 5 boater's/ top 5 non-boater's weight each day of competition.
 - Entry Fee = \$100 per (boater/non-boater) pair
 - 5 boater/5 non-boaters = \$500
 - 8 boaters/8 non-boaters = \$800
 - 10 boaters/ 10 non-boaters = \$1000
- Winning team takes all the money



ENTRY FEES AND PAYOUT

Individual Entries:

- Boater - \$400
- Non-boater - \$200

Team Entry Fee:

- State Team Cost - \$100 per boater/non-boater pair
- May send up to 10 boaters and 10 non-boaters
- Must send a minimum of 5 boaters and 5 non-boaters = \$500

Payouts based on 200 boaters/200 non-boaters:

- Individual Payouts
 - Boater - \$68,000
 - Non-boater - \$33,000
- Team
 - Based on 10 full state teams per event
 - \$5000 winner take all



TOTAL BOAT WEIGHT PAYOUT

- Each day of competition will feature a total boat weight prize to the boat with the heaviest combined weight of the boater and non-boater.
- Prize will be \$1000 per day.



NATION CHAMPIONSHIP



NATION CHAMPIONSHIP MAKE-UP

State Champions – 46 boats

State Team Winners – 48 boats

Nation Qualifier Winners – Max possible would be 50 boats

Foreign Nation Anglers – 12 boats

Total – Max Estimated Size = 156 boats

Total – 312 total competitors

NATION CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

Day 1–2: Full Field Competition

- All qualified anglers (boaters and non-boaters) will compete.
- Weights are cumulative over the first two days.
 - Cut is based on overall standings, regardless of region.

Day 2: Non-Boater Champion is crowned

- The top non-boater wins a significant cash prize and the Non-Boater National Champion title.
- After Day 2, the Top 25 boaters overall and the Top non-boater overall (based on 2-day cumulative weight) will be advance.
 - Any other non-boaters with enough weight to be inside the boater top 10 will also advance.

These anglers will advance to the final day with a chance to earn berths to the Bassmaster Classic, Elite Series, and significant payout.



NATION CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

Day 3: Final Championship Round

- Top 25 boaters and the Top non-boater compete for final placement and titles. All competitors compete as boaters on the final day.
- The angler with the highest three-day cumulative weight will be crowned the B.A.S.S. Nation Champion, earning:
 - B.A.S.S. Nation's Best Designation and logo rights
 - Bassmaster Classic qualification
 - A berth in the Bassmaster Elite Series
 - Ranger (or Nitro) Boat to use for 1 year plus a \$2500 stipend for expenses of Jersey and boat wrap
 - Or fully paid entries into the EQ Series or 1 Division of the Opens – if Elite invite is not accepted
- The anglers finishing 2nd and 3rd based on the final-day weight:
 - Bassmaster Classic qualification
 - And fully paid entries into the Bassmaster EQ series



BENEFITS

Reward for consistency: The multi-day cumulative cut format ensures only the most consistent and skilled anglers advance.

Showcases top performers: Ensures top anglers earn the sport's highest grassroots honors and a pathway to the professional level.

Top Non-Boater Recognition: Provides co-anglers with a meaningful opportunity to earn a prestigious berth in the Bassmaster Classic, highlighting the pathway available to non-boaters within the B.A.S.S. Nation structure. Would be the top path for non-boater's in the country.

Balanced Representation: Ensures each state retains a pathway to the Championship.

Merit-Based Advancement: Rewards high-performing anglers with spots.

Scalable Growth: Allows for expansion without dramatically increasing the championship field size.

Global Integration: Welcome added foreign partners into the national platform, growing the sport internationally.

Prestige & Opportunity: Maintains a meaningful qualification path that culminates in advancement toward the Bassmaster Classic and the Elite Series.

PROPOSED
B.A.S.S. NATION
ANGLER OF THE
YEAR PROGRAM



As part of continued efforts to enhance competition, recognize excellence, and drive participation across all Nation Qualifiers, we propose exploring the implementation of a B.A.S.S. Nation Angler of the Year (AOY) program beginning as early as 2026.

Concept Overview:

The Nation AOY title would be awarded to the top-performing angler across all Nation Regionals within a single calendar year. This would mirror traditional AOY structures in other B.A.S.S. series and add a new layer of competitive prestige to the grassroots level.

Program Goals:

- Incentivize multi-event participation by offering a reward system for anglers fishing multiple regionals.
- Recognize consistent excellence across different fisheries, conditions, and regions.
- Strengthen the competitive brand of the Nation by aligning with the AOY standards used in higher-level B.A.S.S. trails.
- Drive membership and event participation by offering an aspirational benchmark beyond just qualifying for the Nation Championship.

Eligibility & Structure (Initial Concept):

- Open to any angler competing as a boater or non-boater in the B.A.S.S. Nation Regionals.
- Cumulative point system based on placement in best 3 events out of 5 regionals.
- Angler with the highest cumulative 3 event points total across the five events earns the title.
- Potential for separate AOY titles for boater and non-boater divisions.



Potential Rewards:

- Automatic berth into the Nation Championship (if not already qualified).
- Fully Paid Entry into Bassmaster EQ
- Recognition across B.A.S.S. platforms — including web, print, and social.
- AOY Trophy + Title to be awarded during the Nation Championship.

Considerations:

- Requires clear communication at the start of the season for anglers to plan participation.
- Needs sponsor and internal buy-in to secure meaningful prizing or support.
- Must ensure fair and balanced point structure that reflects diverse fisheries and field sizes.
- Can serve as a pilot program with a review after Year 1 for expansion or refinement.
- AOY Trophy or trophies cost — potential cash awards or promotional awards added.





THANK YOU |