

Husker Bass Club Tournament Rules

1. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:

Each year's tournament schedule will be voted on and finalized no later than the November club meeting. No changes will be made to the schedule except by a unanimous vote of the Tournament Committee.

2. TOURNAMENT POINT STANDINGS:

The top five (5) tournaments will be counted to determine Mr. Bass and the Top Three anglers for the year, using the point scoring system.

3. POINT SCORING SYSTEM:

- a. Measuring System: Points will be assigned according to fish length as described on Club Score Cards. Measurement of the fish caught will be done by the angler in full view of his partner. The fish's closed mouth will be placed against the base of the measuring board. The tail may be opened or closed in order to obtain the maximum length. Measurement recorded will be the next smallest one-quarter inch (e.g., a 13 1/8th-inch fish is recorded as a 13-inch fish) unless Big Bass is possible then the measurement will be to the closest 1/8th inch. Approved Husker Bass measuring boards must be used.
- b. Score Cards: Score cards will be set up in compliance with these tournament rules and then distributed by the tournament committee to each participant. An individual's score card will be kept by his partner who will record fish length and points scored immediately following the release of the fish. Each angler will be responsible for submitting his own score card immediately at the designated closing time of each day's fishing to the designated tournament committee member.
- c. Tournament Standings: Two daily limits of five (5) fish each will be used to determine the winner of a two-day tournament. Standings

for each tournament will be computed by the total of five (5) fish “raw score” for each day as provided in Rule 3(a). When a tie in the total “raw score” points arise, the tie will be broken by the largest fish caught. In the event that the largest fish caught does not break the tie, duplicate awards will be presented.

- d. Annual Standings: For purposes of determining Mr. Bass and the top three (3) anglers for the year, points will be totaled for the best five (5) tournaments finishes for each angler with points allotted for each tournament as follows: First place equals 100 points, Second 95, Third 90, Fourth 85, Fifth 80, etc. All members participating in a tournament will receive a minimum of 10 “tournament” points for that tournament. In the event a tie occurs in a tournament as provided in Rule 3(c) the points shall be split (e.g., 1st and 2nd places = 100 points plus 95 points divided by 2 or 97 ½ points awarded to each). In the event there exists a tie in the standing at the end of the year, the tie shall be broken by totaling the number of “raw score” point total for the best five (5) tournaments with the highest “raw score” point total determining the winner.
- e. Late Penalties: Contestant or his score card must be present at the designated closing time. A penalty of twenty-five (25) points for each full minute late will be deducted from the day’s raw score. Penalty points will not exceed total points scored on that day. Big Bass trophy is not affected by this penalty. Penalty applies to both contestants in the late boat.
- f. Release of Fish: Fish will be released immediately upon measuring, except where special arrangements are with the Tournament Committee. Each member may keep one (1) fish of each species per year plus any fish caught over twenty-two (22) inches in length.
- g. Big Bass: Big Bass will be scored to the closest one-eighth (1/8) inch. Trophies will be awarded on that basis. In the event of a tie, the highest “raw score” for the tournament will be awarded for Big Bass

trophy. In the event of a tie for Big Bass for the year, duplicate trophies will be given to all members catching a fish of the winning size.

4. PAIRING OF PARTNERS:

- a. At present time all tournaments shall be Buddy Tournaments.
- b. Tournaments are designed for fishing by two (2) club members in each boat. Any deviation requires special advance approval by the Tournament Committee. Any circumstances resulting in one (1) member fishing alone require verification of fish length and scoring by another club member, unless prior approval is given by the Tournament Committee. All fish fifteen (15) inches and above must be witnessed by another club member.
- c. Once there has been a pairing of members for any tournament, the members are obligated to fish that tournament unless notice is given by one member of the partnership to the other member of the partnership that said member will not be able to fish in that tournament. This notice shall be given no later than ten (10) days prior to the scheduled departure date of the partnership. In the event a member fails to give notice as set forth above and his partner is unable to secure another partner, the canceling member shall be responsible for paying for one half of the fuel expenses for his partner's vehicle and boat together with one half of the lodging expenses incurred by his partner.
- d. Guests fishing club members may measure all scoring fish. The Tournament Committee shall fully explain the proper methods of measurement to the guest prior to the beginning of the tournament. To bring a guest, approval must be given by the Tournament Director or the President within two (2) weeks of the tournament. No member wanting to fish should be left behind and replaced by a guest.

5. START AND FINISH TIMES:

- a. The start and finish time of each tournament will be determined by the Tournament Director. All participants at a tournament must be present for the finish, either in the water or on land, unless an exception is granted by the Tournament Committee. (See Rule 5(c) for rules if not present at the finish.)
- b. No trailering is allowed under any circumstances, unless previously approved by the Tournament Committee.
- c. The site of the launch is considered to be the designated closing site for purposes of determining any late penalty as provided for in Rule 3(e) above. The late penalty will only be excused when a law enforcement or water patrol official stops the participant's boat **on its way to the designated closing site** and the late members offer evidence satisfactory to the Tournament Committee that such delay was the cause of the late return.

6. NO WAKE RULES:

No wake rules will be strictly observed. Boats will not create visible white water in no wake areas. No passing is allowed in no wake waters.

7. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:

- a. Fishing will be permitted anywhere except:
 - i. Within fifty (50) yards of another competing boat;
 - ii. Within fifty (50) yards of the gas pumps at the designated launch site; or
 - iii. Within other lake areas restricted against fishing.
- b. As common courtesy, the second boat arriving in an area is restricted to begin fishing at least fifty (50) yards behind (not in front of) the first boat. In the case of elongated cover or shoreline, the second boat is permitted to begin fishing one hundred (100) yards ahead of the first boat.

8. ELIGIBILITY AND FEES:

Each tournament participant must be a paid-up Husker Bass Club member unless specifically authorized to fish in the tournament **as a guest**. There will be a \$30.00 fee to be an eligible club member. The entry fee for each tournament is \$4.00.

9. TOURNAMENT EXPENSES:

All tournament expenses will be shared equally by boat partners.

10. GUESTS:

A guest is not eligible to win a trophy, nor will his points count toward standings, except in the determination of the trophy for Guide Boat of the Year.

11. PROHIBITED PRACTICES DURING TOURNAMENTS:

Trolling, use of live bait, and drinking alcoholic beverages while participating in any tournament is prohibited.

12. FILING OF OBJECTIONS:

All objections must be voiced to the Tournament Committee immediately after check-in. The Committee will rule on objections within **seven (7) days** of the tournament.

13. GENERAL SAFETY:

- a. Lifejackets must be worn by all participants during ease-off and at any time the gas motor is operated. Any boat considered unsafe by the Tournament Committee may be barred from participation in tournaments.

- b. Club members will observe all laws set forth by the State Game and Parks Commission, Water Safety Patrol, or Conservation Commission of the lake being fished.
- c. All boats used in any tournament will comply with all Coast Guard safety regulations and must have a fully functional bilge pump and kill switch.
- d. Violations of any of these rules could result in disqualification from the tournament by the Tournament Committee.