



DENTON COUNTY BASS CLUB TOURNAMENT RULES

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Section 1 – Entry fees and Pay Outs

Entry fee for each tournament is \$60.00 with an 80% payback and \$10 going to the no entry fee Club Championship. Twenty percent of the entry fee will go back to the club to fund the Top 6 Team. The entry fee includes a Big Bass pot of \$5 with a 100% payback. The remaining 80% payback will be to participants based upon the number fishing. One spot per seven paid anglers. In the case of a tie, place prize amounts will be combined and divided equally. Any unclaimed prize money shall be equally divided among place finishers. In the event of no winners, prize money will rollover to the next DCBC Tournament.

Reimbursement of Entry Fees – Entry fee reimbursements will be allowed if the tournament angler notifies the Tournament Director of their withdrawal prior to safe light takeoff. No paid tournament entry fees will be reimbursed after tournament take off.

Section 2 – Registration and Take Off

The Tournament Director will designate the launch ramp/weigh in site, and keep the official time. Deadline for club member registration is 15 minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Late entries must verify payment procedure with Tournament Director and pay their entry fee prior to start of weigh in. Tournament start time will be “safe light” as determined by the club Tournament Director. *“Trailing”* is permitted, provided the contestant departs from the designated launch site no earlier than the official start time and take off. The Tournament Director will direct take off procedures for each Tournament. Tournament entry and take off procedures made by the club Tournament Director are final.

Tournament registration as a boater is not allowed the morning of a club tournament without meeting club membership requirements stated in **BY Law Article II, Section 2 and 3 – Membership.**

Section 3- Check In and Weigh In Procedure

Contestants must check in with the Tournament Director or appointed member of the tournament committee by 3 PM or be disqualified and catch forfeited. All fish weighed become the property of DCBC for live release. Each member may keep one trophy fish per year.

All contestants must weigh their own catch and maintain their fish in condition for live release. Mesh weigh bags will be made available to tournament participants. Fish will be weighed on scales approved by the Tournament Director.

Contestant will declare a Big Bass and weigh that fish first for the Big Bass Pot, then add remaining fish to be weighed for a total stringer weight. A dead fish presented at weigh in will not be eligible for Big Bass Pot.

There will be a ½ pound penalty assessed on each dead fish presented at weigh in. Fish that do not meet the length requirement will be culled, and the contestant will receive a ½ pound penalty for each short fish. Any unnatural weights found in any fish presented for weigh in shall be cause for disqualification and no points will be awarded.

Section 4 – General Tournament Rules

1. All State and Federal Fish & Game Laws will apply
2. All fish must be caught in a sportsman like manner and hooked in the mouth if a bedding fish.
3. There is a 4 hour dead water, off limits period prior to the beginning of each club tournament.
4. Contestants leaving before official start time or returning after official check in time will be disqualified.
5. All entries will fish from a boat with functioning live wells. When 2 contestants are fishing together, provisions must be made for identifying and separating each contestants fish.
6. The use of live bait is prohibited and is grounds for disqualification.
7. Trolling with the use of the combustion engine is prohibited.
8. Quantity limit will be 5 fish. Legal length of each fish shall be 14” minimum for all species or the legal minimum for the tournament lake, unless otherwise specified by the Tournament Director.
9. Protests, discrepancies, violations and questions must be presented to the Tournament Director within 15 minutes of the completion of weigh in for a ruling. The Tournament Director may consult with appointed Club Members in the final decision process. The Tournament Director will have final authority on all decisions related to disputes or protests, and the decision will be final.

Section 5 – Scoring, Points and Penalties

Contestants will score points for fishing each club tournament. 100 points awarded for 1st place, 99 points for 2nd, 98 points for 3rd and continuing to the last contestant weighing fish. Tied contestants will receive points for that place, and the next place points will be skipped.

Each contestant entered but not weighing fish will receive **10** points less than the last placing contestant. Any contestant who is disqualified will receive no points.

Meeting Points – Members will receive 30 points per monthly meeting attended with 3 meeting drops for a maximum of 270 meeting points.

Members who must miss tournaments, may Buy-In up to (2) tournaments per year by paying the \$60 entry fee before the tournament. That member will receive points as if having fished the tournament and caught no fish. 30 points less than the last placing contestant.

A member who resides 50 or more miles from the Club meeting site and fails to make meeting(s) will receive meeting points provided that member fishes the tournament(s) following the missed meeting(s).

Anyone who becomes a member when entering a club tournament will receive meeting points for the meeting prior to that tournament

Nine monthly meetings will count toward an annual score with a maximum of 270 points. Members best 7 tournament scores of the 9 scheduled club tournaments (excluding the Club Classic) will count toward an annual score for a maximum of 700 points

Section 6 – Safety & Sportsmanship

Contestants failing to register properly, or leaving the lake prior to official weigh in without contacting the Tournament Director or other Club Officer will be disqualified and no points awarded. This is a safety issue. We don't want to leave anyone stranded on the lake.

Life jackets will be worn and fastened when the combustion engine is running and the boat is under way.

Kill switches must be attached to the driver when combustion engine is running and boat is under way.

No alcoholic beverages will be consumed during tournament hours.

During competition, a 25 yard (75 feet) distance will be maintained between tournament boats while fishing. The first boat in a location has the right of way. Mutual consent and rendering aid are exceptions to this rule.

In the event of inclement weather or other factors which could affect angler safety, the Tournament Director will decide whether or not to proceed with the tournament. The Tournament Director may modify take off and weigh in procedures due to inclement weather and safety.

Violation of any items in Section 6 will result in disqualification. All tournament decisions made by the Tournament Director are final.

Section 7 – Tournament Lake Selection Procedure

Tournament lake selection is decided by club members each year by using a written ballot during a scheduled club meeting.

The Club Lake Committee will consist of the Angler of the Year, Club President, Treasurer, Tournament Director, and Club Classic Champion. The Club Lake Committee will meet and submit 3 possible Tournament Trails for the members to vote on, excluding the end of year no entry fee Club Classic Championship.

At a meeting preceding the monthly tournament schedule, paid members will sign and complete their lake selection ballot for counting. No absentee or proxy votes will be accepted. Tournament Trail with the most votes will be selected.

No lake may be fished back to back or more than twice in one year.

Section 8 – Special Events

Night tournaments will start at 8PM and weigh in at 8AM

Two day tournaments will have standard start and weigh in times, and the lake selections shall be chosen by Club member voting

Special event tournaments will comply with applicable Club tournament rules stated in Sections 1-6 above. Tournament entry, take off, and weigh in procedure made by the Tournament Director are final.