

## ORLANDO BASS CLUB 2021 TOURNAMENT RULES

1. At our scheduled meeting on the first of the month, a drawing will be held matching boaters and non-boaters. After all the non-boaters have been paired, the remaining boaters have the option of fishing alone or with another single boater. Some lakes may require pairing due to parking availability which may affect the draw process. If possible, no two anglers will fish together on consecutive months or more than twice in a calendar year. Guests are encouraged to fish so long as all members have been paired.
2. It is the responsibility of the non-boater to contact the boater no later than Thursday evening prior to the tournament to make arrangements with the boater. The non-boater will pay the boater \$35 per day plus any applicable ramp fees.
3. All "special case" pairings must be approved prior to the draw by the Tournament Director. The definition of special case pairing is any request to fish with someone not involved in the draw.
4. Boaters should be sufficiently large to accommodate two fishermen and safely navigate tournament waters. Minimum power requirement is 60 horsepower.
5. Boaters must maintain liability insurance on their vessels.
6. Livewells must be large enough to handle ten fish and must contain a pump and/or a recirculation devise. It is strongly advised that boaters add a "bubbler" system and utilize an additive to keep fish alive. Frozen water bottles are suggested during warm water periods.
7. Life jackets must be worn at any time the "big" motor is propelling the boat. All other rules and laws apply. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
8. Departure is in order of draw. On two-day tournaments, departure is based on order of previous day's finish.
9. Common courtesy is expected at all times. Turn head lights off while launching. Do not block the ramp. Use a minimum of space when mooring boats. Idle away from other boats before accelerating.
10. Fish size limits will conform to state regulations unless permits are available. Permits will be provided prior to each tournament. Fish will be brought to the scales in water-filled bags; not "hand-carried". Fish will be released immediately after they are weighed.
11. Contestants will weigh in the order of draw. Bring fish to the scales when called by the coordinator.
12. A violation of size limit (12" minimum unless otherwise directed) will result in the greater of a three pound penalty or weight of competitor's heaviest fish plus the weight of the illegal fish. This penalty will be assessed against yearly total if the competitor's aggregate weight for the tournament is less than three pounds.
13. Any bass weighing five pounds or greater will be weighed and released immediately after the catch when the following conditions are met:
  - The bass is weighed on a digital scale. (Calibration of the scale is subject to verification by Tournament Director at weigh-in.
  - Weight must be stated as "pounds and ounces" or decimal weight.
  - Weight is viewed and verified by another club member.
  - If no club member is available at time of catch, the fish will be weighed and released boatside at weigh-in.
14. Dead fish will be assessed a four ounce penalty. A fish that does not "swim off" immediately is considered dead. You are responsible for reporting dead fish to the Tournament Director. You are permitted to cull dead fish during tournament hours.

15. Fishermen who are late for weigh-in will be penalized one pound per minute up to fifteen minutes. Fishermen late by more than fifteen minutes are subject to disqualification. Non-boaters are generally treated the same as the boater unless the cause was beyond control of the non-boater; i.e., motor won't start, etc.
16. Competitors may not encroach upon the area another competitor is fishing. Common courtesy and good sportsmanship should be observed. Cases of extreme encroachment should be reported to the Tournament Director. Penalties, if any, will be determined by a committee consisting of the Tournament Director and two previous Tournament directors. Tournament Directors involved in the alleged violation shall be excluded from such committee.
17. Non-boaters may have half day control of where to fish during a tournament. However, long and dangerous runs and times should be considered.
18. Landing nets are permitted during tournaments.
19. Trolling with the big motor is not permitted at any time during the tournament.
20. Only one rod and reel can be used at any time during the tournament.
21. Competitors who leave the tournament site prior to weigh-in must advise the Tournament Director in person or by phone. If unable to contact the Tournament Director, such a competitor must notify at least two other boaters. WE DO NOT WANT TO BE SEARCHING FOR A COMPETITOR WHO MAY HAVE LEFT WITHOUT NOTIFYING ANYONE. Members should remain at the weigh-in until ALL boats have returned safely.
22. Anyone showing up at the tournament that was not in the draw, or did not make previous arrangements with the Tournament Director may fish with another boater or use their own boat. However, the weight of that competitor will not count for the tournament or be included in yearly weights. "Making previous arrangements with the Tournament Director" should be done no later than Thursday evening, prior to the tournament.

#### **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

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***NOTE: My cell phone is synched to my hearing aids. I will not hear the phone if I am not wearing the hearing aids. There may also be a slight pause if I put the hearing aids in after I answer the phone. I would STRONGLY advise you to leave a message if I do not answer. Do not count on me to call back an unidentified number.***