



## **2025 Team Information**



## **2025 Fee Schedule**

### **\$75.00 - Team Membership**



### **\$12.00 - Paid directly to BASS for Federation Membership**



*Please register with BASS prior to team registration to provide your BASS number on your registration.*

### **\$50-\$75 Boat Captain Support**

\$50-\$75 will be collected from each Angler at the meeting prior to the tournament in that month to help supplement the costs for the boat captains. This helps pay for fuel on the vehicle and boat. The captain fee will depend on the distance traveled from Cedar Rapids. Captain fee will be announced the month prior. The captain fee will be paid to the club director, prior to the tournament. If the captain refuses the payment, the funds will return to the club account. Please remember, the captain fee does not cover our volunteers expenses. This is simply a token of appreciation for their time and commitment to our club.

**Each non-boater must pay this fee to the club director prior to the tournament, in order to fish.**

### **\$60.00 - Team Jersey**

A team jersey must be worn at our tournaments. The jersey may be from years past if a new jersey is not purchased. You may not wear a jersey from another team, or your personal jersey.



## **Team Expectations**

- **Meeting attendance**
  - You must attend 4 regular meetings, but encourage you to attend as many as you can. Meetings will not be streamed via Zoom or otherwise.
- **Tournament attendance**
  - You must attend a minimum of three regular season tournaments to participate in the state tournament with Eastern Iowa Bassmasters.
  - After the first four tournaments, high school and junior anglers may pair up for the remaining tournaments in preparation for the State tournament. You must attend a minimum of two of the first four tournaments in order to select your partner for the rest of the season.
- **Volunteer opportunity attendance**
  - You must attend 2 volunteer opportunities but encourage you to attend more.
- **Sponsorships**
  - As a non-profit, we operate entirely on sponsorships. We ask that each angler reach out to friends, family, or businesses for support. There is no specific expectation, but we do ask for your help. If you have a connection for a potential sponsorship but would like the club director to make that contact, please let us know. We encourage you to draft a letter or an email to send to friends and family. Your club director can also provide a letter for you to use to help you get started. We do not do club fundraisers, as of yet.

*We understand that there are many other life events. We do our very best to communicate all up and coming events to plan well in advance.*

## **Award Opportunities**

In November of each year we will award an Angler of the Year for both the Junior and High School division. Member of the Year is also awarded for both divisions. Additionally, a Big Bass award is given for the largest bass of the season as well. Both the Angler of the Year and Member of the Year award is determined on a points system. These points not only come from your tournament performance, but also club attendance. There may be other opportunities throughout the season to earn additional points as well, which will be determined by the club director. For a full explanation of the points system, please speak with one of our board members, Jake Gondek and review the provided documentation on award eligibility.



## **Boats**

Not everyone has a boat. We do everything we can to find volunteers to accommodate those that do not have a boat. If we do not have enough boats we will draw names for those that need a spot. Those that did not have a spot for the current tournament will be 1st to have a spot at the next tournament. All anglers without a boat are still welcome to fish from the banks at the event. We will not fish three from a boat. The third angler will fish from the shore line. We are always looking for volunteers for boats and captains.

All high school members must provide their own boat captain for each tournament. Please speak with your club director for ideas on finding a captain if you need assistance. Additionally, once you have been in the club for two years at the Junior level, you also will be asked to provide your own captain.

### **Boaters Certification**

If you are 18 or over operating as your own captain, and participating as an angler, you *must* complete an approved Boaters Safety Course and submit proof to the director.

### **Boat Requirements**

- 16 foot or longer
- Steering wheel (No stick steering)
- Working livewell with aerator/re-circulators
- Operable kill switch and lanyard

*There are no exceptions to the boat requirements*

## **Tournament Rules**

We follow all Bassmaster High School Rules. The tournament director holds the final decision on rules.





## **2025 Team Leadership**

### **Club Presidents**

High School- Mac Lillis

Juniors-Avery Schmitt

### **Team Director**

Katie Schmitz

### **Board Members**

Kyle Nekvinda, Jake Gondek, Brent Schmitz, Adam Schmitt, and Amanda Schmitt

### **Cedar Rapids Bassmasters President and Advisor to Eastern Iowa Bassmasters**

Dan Bliss

### **Iowa B.A.S.S. State Youth Directors**

Aaron Robinson and Dave Wilson

### **Iowa B.A.S.S State Director**

Mike Blaesi



## Meetings

There will be a club meeting monthly. Please watch TeamSnap for all team communication with date, time, and location for each meeting. *Meetings subject to change.*

- **March 2-** Pizza compliments of the North Linn Fish and Game Club! Welcome our new members, and informational meeting. We will cover boating safety, boating etiquette, and club expectations. Special guests from the North Linn Fish and Game Club will be in attendance for a special announcement!
- **April 12-** North Linn Fish and Game Club. This organization supports us because we volunteer for them. We have two opportunities in both the spring and fall to clean up on their grounds. *Attendance is required if at all possible.* April is a busy month. Rather than adding another team meeting in addition to our volunteer opportunities, this will count as both our team meeting and volunteer opportunity. You will receive points for both volunteering and a meeting with your attendance. A brief team meeting covering the upcoming tournament to follow clean up.
- **May 15-** Ron Graves- DNR Officer. Ron will cover Iowa laws and regulations, conservation efforts and invasive species prevention. Potluck meeting to welcome Officer Ron. Please feel free to invite friends and family for a great turn out for him. Robins City Hall.
- **June-** *Tentative-* Bjornsen Pond Management. Bring your fishing poles and get ready to land a monster bass! Prior to fishing, Kevin Bjornsen will talk about the differences in pond and lake management. This would be a great one to bring a family member that loves fishing!
- **July 15-** Pizza, compliments of the Cedar Rapids Bassmasters! Special guest, Dan Bliss with Bliss Custom Rods. Also one of our sponsors, Dan is a long time supporter of the Eastern Iowa Bassmasters and an expert in high quality custom rod making. Dan is also the President of the Cedar Rapids Bassmasters. Enjoy chances to win some great door prizes for those in attendance! Robins Community Center.
- **August 17-** State tournament information and preparation. Chance to win some great door prizes for those in attendance! Robins City Hall.
- **September-** Fisheries Biologist guest speaker. Talk on management, reproduction/spawn, vegetation, and structure. This will likely be on-site, possibly Lake MacBride. More details to come on date and location.
- **October 5-** Pinicon Ridge Park- Central City. Bring a lawn chair and your pole for some riverbank fishing. Conservation Officer, Nick Haight, will join us to talk about their conservation efforts along the Wapsipinicon River. S'mores and drinks provided, compliments of our sponsor, the Cedar Rapids Bassmasters.



- **November 16**-Annual Awards Dinner. Please invite your family and supporters to join as we recap the season and name our Anglers of the Year, Members of the Year, and Big Bass Award! Robins City Hall.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

As a club member, we ask that you participate in a minimum of two volunteer opportunities but would love to see you at more. Additional points towards Member of the Year will be given for volunteer participation!

- **April 12**- North Linn Fish and Game Club. This organization supports us because we volunteer for them. We have two opportunities in both the spring and fall to clean up on their grounds. *Attendance is required if at all possible.* April is a busy month. Rather than adding another team meeting in addition to our volunteer opportunities, this will count as both our team meeting and volunteer opportunity. You will receive points for both volunteering and a meeting with your attendance. A brief team meeting to follow the clean up.
- **April 28**- As part of their sponsorship, the North Linn Fish and Game Club requests that we stop by a board meeting and have our kids request their support. I (Katie) will attend and need at least a couple of kids to attend with me. This is really important to this sponsor that the kids do their part in requesting. Let me know if you're willing to come along! Parents, you're more than welcome as well.
- **May 10**- Non-profit, Flourish Families, will be hosting a Mother's Day event with single mothers and their children. This event will include assisting young, inexperienced anglers. You will be fishing from shore helping bait hooks, take fish off of the hook, etc. You will be provided lunch. Casual event, this non-profit is operated by Katie Schmitz' (Director) parents and is based out of the Waterloo area. This is a really fun time and a great way to give back. Please wear your jerseys. Location TBD. Carpooling with the Schmitz' from Center Point is available.
- **June 1**- Pigman Triathlon. We are compensated for this event based on the number of volunteers we have. This one is really close to home, super fun, and would love to have you and your family if they'd like to volunteer as well! *Attendance is strongly encouraged.*
- **August 2**- Boys and Girls Club Fish-O-Rama! We will be volunteering in the Kids Zone from 10:00am to 2:00pm. We've been asked to really amp this area of the event up for the kids this year. Please wear your jerseys, and come ready to volunteer for a great cause. *Attendance is strongly encouraged.*
- **November 8**- North Linn Fish and Game Club. This organization supports us because we volunteer for them. We have two opportunities in both the spring and fall to clean up on their grounds. *Attendance is required if at all possible.*





### Tournament Schedule

April 19 – Lake Delhi, 7am-3pm *Sponsored by Viking Maintenance*

May 24 – Lake Geode, 7am-3pm *Sponsored by Huber Fencing*

June 21 – Lake Darling, 6am-2pm *Sponsored by North Linn Fish and Game*

July 19 – Mississippi River Pool 9, Lansing, 6am-2pm *Sponsored by Scheels*

August 23 – Mississippi River Pool 10, Harpers Ferry, 6am-2pm *Sponsored by  
Clarks Outfitters*

September 27 – Lake Macbride, 7am-3pm *Sponsored by Prosperity Planners*

October 18 – Big Hollow, 7am-3pm *Sponsored by Cedar Rapids Bassmasters*

State Tournament date and location, *subject to change*:

September 28th, 2025 Clinton, IA

**We would love for any family or friends to join us at our meetings, events,  
tournaments, and volunteer opportunities!**

FYI: 2025 Bassmaster Elite at Mississippi River

La Crosse, WI

This tournament runs August 21-25. A great opportunity to see some of the pros close  
to home!





## ***Eastern Iowa Bassmasters***

### ***Points system***

Eastern Iowa Bassmasters presents two major awards in each division every year: **Angler of the Year** and **Member of the Year**. Each award has specific criteria, which will be outlined below.

Our organization is divided into two divisions: **High School** and **Juniors**. At the end of the year, we will recognize one **Angler of the Year** and one **Member of the Year** from each division. It is also possible for an individual to earn both awards in the same year

### **Angler of the Year:**

To earn **Angler of the Year** in your division, you must achieve the highest total bag weight by the end of the season. Bag weights will be recorded across our seven scheduled tournaments throughout the year. However, weights from fishing trails, state, and national tournaments will not be included in the final total. In the event of a tie, the angler with the highest Big Bass weight will be declared the winner.

Updated bag weights will be posted on our website the Sunday following each tournament. These totals will remain visible until the final two tournaments, at which point they will be removed to maintain the suspense until the end-of-year banquet.

### **Member of the Year:**

To earn **Member of the Year**, you must accumulate the **highest number of points** in your division. Maximizing your points requires active participation in monthly club meetings, volunteer events, and fishing tournaments. While tournament performance contributes to your score, the point system prioritizes overall involvement. This means you can achieve Member of the Year without being Angler of the Year. There are 3 ways to earn points in the club.

- 1. Participating in fishing tournaments (max of 100)**
- 2. Participating in monthly meetings (100)**
- 3. Participating in club volunteer events (200)**
- 4. Big Bass (20 first time)**



### 1. Fishing tournament points system (100):

Fishing tournaments have a maximum of **100 points**. Your ranking is determined by total bag weight, with first place earning **100 points**, second place receiving **99 points**, and so on. If you participate in a tournament but don't bring in any fish, you'll tie for last place and receive the same number of points as others in the same situation. Similarly, if multiple anglers have **identical bag weights**, they will tie for that placement and receive the **same number of points**. See the example below for clarification.

#### Example fishing tournament points:

- First place (4.5lbs) - 100 points
- Second place (3.5lbs, tied)- 99 point
- Second place (3.5lbs, tied) - 99 points
- 3rd place (3.2lbs) - 97 points\*
- 4th place (3.0lbs) - 96 points
- No fish caught - 95 points
- No fish caught - 95 points

\* The position for “**98 points**” is skipped because of the tie. If there were three 2nd place ties then the position for “98 and 97 points” would be skipped. 3rd place would receive 96 points.

### 2. Monthly meeting points system (100):

Attending a monthly club meeting is just as valuable as winning a tournament, as both are worth the same number of points. This system encourages anglers to participate in both **club meetings** and **tournaments**. In a tournament, only **one angler per division** will earn **100 points** for placing first. However, **everyone** who attends a club meeting will receive **100 points**, encouraging active participation in both aspects of the club.

### 3. Club volunteer event points system (200):

Community volunteer events are a vital part of our club. Without the support of sponsors and the community, we wouldn't have the funding needed to operate. To emphasize their importance, each volunteer event is worth **200 points**—making it the **best opportunity** to earn points throughout the year.

### 4. Big Bass (20 first time):

The Big Bass award goes to the angler who catches the largest bass, regardless of division. **Your first Big Bass** win of the season earns you **20 points**. If you win again in the same season, it's worth **10 points**. For a third win and beyond, each additional Big Bass earns you **5 points**.

- First Big Bass - **20 Points**
- Second Big Bass win - **10 Points**
- 3rd or more Big Bass - **5 Points** each