



## **Eligible Waters Defined (NVKBA/KBF)**

**Professional Fishing Guides** may register and compete in Events providing they do not guide-for-pay on Eligible Water within 30 days prior to the Event's start-of-competition date.

**Pre-fishing** — Practice in Eligible Water is permitted until the time specified in the KBF Event Rules Addendum on the day prior to Competition. **If no pre-fishing deadline is stated in the Addendum, then practice may continue up until six hours prior to competition start time.** There are no restrictions regarding areas, type of watercraft, or types of bait used in pre-fishing. Fishing on the event's eligible water after the specified pre-fishing deadline will result in disqualification from the Event. (Refer to Rule 6 regarding pre-fishing with a professional fishing guide.)

Rule 6: Up until the end of the established pre-fishing period, competitors may fish with and receive direct assistance from other anglers and professional guides on the Eligible Water, except as restricted in Rule 6.B., below.

Rule 6.B: **Within 30 days prior to the Event, a Competitor may not fish on Eligible Water with, nor receive expert advice from, a professional fishing guide who accepts payment for such services.** Violation will result in Competitor's disqualification from the Event.

### **Competition Area**

- A. Competitive fishing is allowed only on publicly-accessible waters within the geographic area designated by NVKBA and the *KBF Event Rules Addendum* as "Eligible Water." Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.
- B. Competitors may launch from any **public-access** shore directly onto Eligible Water or may launch and then paddle or portage to Eligible Water. Crossing restricted property to reach Eligible Water is not permitted. **Tributaries, canals, sloughs or estuaries separated from the rest of eligible water by temporary obstructions (e.g., fallen trees, log jams, beaver dams) that, if removed, could be entered by floating/paddling are considered eligible waters in which competition is permitted, and competitors are permitted to drag or portage watercraft over or around such obstructions. Those separated by obstructions of a permanent nature (e.g., levees, earthen or concrete dams, berms, roadbeds, spillways, waterfalls) are ineligible water, and competition in such areas is prohibited.** Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.
- C. Competitors are not restricted to fishing where they start out each day but **are permitted to relocate to other Eligible Water during tournament hours.**
- D. Watercraft must not be anchored in such a position as to prevent or block access for other watercraft or powerboats. Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.
- E. Wade fishing is permitted provided the Competitor **uses his watercraft to access the fishing location.** Bass caught while wading or walking the shoreline **ARE** eligible for submission; however, each Competitor must be **within sight of his watercraft while fishing, and the watercraft must appear in every bass photo submitted.** Competitors may depart the watercraft to catch and land fish. If a Competitor must go out of sight of his watercraft for any reason (e.g., for a restroom break or to contact a tournament official by phone or other means, or to report an emergency), he must cease fishing until he returns to his watercraft, at which time he may resume fishing. Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.

**\*If EXIF data (digital photo information) and other evidence substantiates photo was taken outside of Eligible Water boundaries – Deny Catch**

Competitors are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, integrity, safety and conservation in support of the sport of kayak bass fishing, especially when in the vicinity of non-Competitors who may be on or beside Eligible Water. Any Competitor who violates these principles or behaves in ways that reflect unfavorably upon NVKBA and KBF efforts to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters and courtesy, may forfeit tournament winnings, face suspension from future NVKBA and KBF sanctioned events, be permanently banned from competition, or any combination thereof deemed appropriate by NVKBA and KBF.