



2026 Side Pot Fishing Official Rules

-In order to win the Side Pot, you must be entered in the Side Pot. You must also register for and compete in a Side Pot sanctioned tournament (BASS, MLF, NPFL, etc).

-There are no memberships, commitments, or hidden fees. Entry is on an individual tournament basis, not for an entire division or circuit. (We pay the credit card fees so you don't have to.)

-Side Pot winners will be determined by final official tournament results. The highest placing registered competitor will win the first place Side Pot.

-In the event of an exact tie in total net weight between qualified anglers, the prize will be split evenly. The Side Pot will not default to tiebreakers. All dead fish penalties, late penalties, and other weight deductions will apply.

-Payout will be made in the form of a check, Venmo, or Paypal and will be processed within two business days of tournament conclusion. Winners and the amount of will also be publicly published within three business days of tournament conclusion.

-Prize winners of over \$2,000 must submit a W-9 before they can collect. Winners of over \$2,000 will be issued a 1099 at the end of tax year.

-Overall payback percentage will always be a minimum of 90%. Standard distribution will be:

1-5 entries - 1 angler paid (100%)

6-10 entries - 2 anglers paid (70%, 30%)

11-15 entries - 3 anglers paid (55%, 30%, 15%)

16-20 entries - 4 anglers paid (50%, 25%, 15%, 10%)

21-50 entries - 5 anglers paid (45%, 25%, 15%, 10%, 5%)

51-60 entries - 6 anglers paid (44%, 22%, 14%, 10%, 6%, 4%)

61-70 entries - 7 anglers paid (42%, 21%, 13%, 9%, 6%, 5%, 4%)

71-80 entries - 8 anglers paid (40%, 20%, 10%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%)

81-90 entries - 9 anglers paid (40%, 18%, 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%)

91+ entries - 10 anglers paid (39%, 17%, 9%, 8%, 7%, 6%, 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%)

-Separate boater and co-angler payouts.

-If you are the only angler to enter the Side Pot, you will be issued a full refund or credit towards any future event. If zero qualifying anglers weigh a fish, a 100% refund or credit will be issued to all registered anglers.

-If a tournament is postponed due to weather, your Side Pot entry will automatically be applied to the make-up date. If you are unable to compete on the new date, you will be issued a full refund upon request.

-Other refunds will only be offered at the discretion of Side Pot. You will not be issued a refund if you still compete in the associated tournament.

-Any official appeals must be filed within (10) days on tournament conclusion. After 10 days, all payments are final.

-Please contact Side Pot Fishing at sidepotfishing@gmail.com or by call/text (609) 220-0075 with any questions, comments, or concerns.