



Angler Code of Conduct – CISA Open Bass Tournaments

Purpose

This Code of Conduct establishes the ethical, environmental, and safety standards expected of all participants in this event. Every angler, volunteer, and official represents not only the tournament but also the broader angling community and the natural ecosystems of Canada.

1. Respect for Laws and Regulations

- All participants must comply with federal, provincial, and local fishing regulations, including but not limited to licensing, catch limits, size restrictions, and seasonal closures.
 - All fish must be handled, measured, and released or retained in accordance with Provincial Ministry of Natural Resources regulations.
 - Any form of poaching, illegal harvesting, or habitat destruction will result in immediate disqualification and may lead to legal action.
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2. Sportsmanship and Ethical Behavior

- Anglers are required to demonstrate courtesy, honesty, and respect toward all participants, officials, volunteers, and the public.
 - Unsportsmanlike behavior, including harassment, intimidation, or aggressive conduct — verbal or physical — is prohibited.
 - Alcohol or illegal substances are not permitted during tournament hours or while operating a boat.
 - All disputes or rule concerns must be directed to tournament officials in a calm and professional manner.
 - The tournament director's decision on disciplinary matters is final.
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3. Environmental Stewardship

- Practise “Catch and Release” during practice periods, using gentle handling to minimize stress or injury.
 - Prevent pollution: do not discard fishing line, bait containers, or waste into water or on land.
 - Avoid damaging vegetation, disturbing spawning areas, or introducing non-native species. Clean boats, gear, and footwear to prevent aquatic invasive species transfer.
 - Follow the principle of “Leave No Trace.”
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4. Safety and Boating Conduct

- All boat drivers must comply with Transport Canada boating safety laws, obtain a valid Pleasure Craft Operators Card, carry approved life jackets, and operate vessels responsibly.
 - Weather and water conditions must be respected. Tournament officials may delay, shorten, or cancel the event to ensure safety.
 - Report immediately any accident, injury, or unsafe behavior to a tournament official.
 - Maintain safe distance from other boats and shoreline users at all times.
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5. Fair Competition

- Anglers must fish only in permitted waters and within designated tournament hours.
 - The use of live bait is prohibited unless explicitly allowed by tournament rules.
 - No information gathering (e.g., soliciting fishing spots or electronic data) is permitted during the event.
 - Tampering with equipment, fish, or weigh-ins constitutes fraud and will result in immediate disqualification.
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6. Social Media and Public Conduct

- Participants must represent the event and its sponsors with integrity and respect in all public communications and on social media.
 - Posting harassing, defamatory, or false content about officials, sponsors, or other anglers is a Code violation.
 - Use of photographs and videos should be appropriate and respectful of individuals' privacy.
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7. Reporting and Enforcement

- Any participant may report misconduct or a rules infraction to tournament officials.
 - Officials reserve the right to issue warnings, disqualifications, or bans from future events for Code violations.
 - All decisions regarding disciplinary action are final and not subject to appeal.
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8. Commitment

By registering for the tournament, each angler acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. The goal is to promote ethical fishing, environmental conservation, and mutual respect — ensuring the sustainability and enjoyment of Canada's fisheries for generations to come.

6. Minor Participant Consent (Under 18)

Minor Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



7. Angler Agreement

Angler Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Province/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____