Bassmaster College Series
Effective January 1, 2026

2026 Bassmaster College Series
ANGLER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

P1. COMPLIANCE

This Angler Participation Agreement and the 2026 College Series Tournament Rules, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference, (the Participation Agreement and Official Rules collectively referred to herein as the "Agreement") sets forth the terms and conditions upon which I will be permitted to participate in any or all Bassmaster College Series Tournament Events (the "Tournament Series") during the 2026 calendar year. By signing this Agreement, the undersigned (referred to as "I", "Angler" or "Competitor"), hereby agree to be bound by and comply with the provisions thereof. I also agree to abide by and comply with the B.A.S.S. Angler Code of Conduct, and all other guidelines, regulations, payment schedules and instructions communicated to me in writing by B.A.S.S. I affirm that I am a member in good standing with B.A.S.S. and that I am physically fit and that there are no health- related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in the Tournament Series.

P2. RELEASE OF LIABILITY; INDEMNIFICATION

2.1. I expressly assume all risks associated with my participation in the Tournament Series and for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns, I hereby waive, release and discharge B.A.S.S., LLC, its agents, employees, owners, its affiliates and subsidiaries (collectively "B.A.S.S."), the hosts, sponsors, and Tournament Series officials (collectively "Released Parties") from any and all losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses (including without limitation, attorney's fees and related costs), of any kind (hereinafter "Claims") arising out of or in connection with my participation in the Tournament Series, including but not limited to Claims involving, death, disability, personal injury and/or property damage. I hereby INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the Released Parties for any and all Claims arising as a result of my participation in this Tournament, whether brought by me or my agents/legal representatives or by third parties, relating to my participation in this Tournament. I acknowledge that this Tournament may carry with it the potential for death, serious injury, illness and/or possible exposure to COVID-19 or other communicable diseases and personal loss. The risks may include, but are not limited to, those caused by water conditions, temperature, weather, equipment, actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, and spectators. This release of liability shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

2.2. I shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Released Parties against all Claims, whether or not a lawsuit or other proceeding is filed, to the extent that they arise out of : (1) my breach of the terms of this Agreement, (2) gross negligence, or willful misconduct by me, my agents or those acting on my behalf; (3) my violation of any applicable law, ordinance, rule, or regulation, including but not limited to all rules and guidelines applicable to Tournament Series events; (4) breach of any warranty provided by me to Released Parties hereunder. I shall provide B.A.S.S. with prompt notice of any claim and give complete control of its defense and settlement to B.A.S.S. I shall also cooperate in all reasonable respects with B.A.S.S. its insurance company, the Released Parties (as applicable) and their legal counsel in the defense of such claim. If I fail to promptly indemnify and defend a covered claim, the Released Parties shall have the right to defend themselves, and in such case, I shall promptly reimburse the Released Parties, for all of their associated costs and expenses.

P3. GRANT OF RIGHTS

3.1. For good and valuable consideration, including but not limited to B.A.S.S. allowing the angler participation in the Tournament, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby irrevocably grant permission to B.A.S.S. the successors and assigns of each of the foregoing, and each of their respective agents, licensees, designees, and assigns and those other parties acting under such parties' permission or upon their authority (collectively, with B.A.S.S., the "Licensees"), in perpetuity, a worldwide, non- exclusive, royalty-free, fully paid up license and non-revocable right to reproduce, display, exhibit, publish, broadcast, distribute, and otherwise use, and permit others to use, my name, image, nickname, initials, symbols, likeness, signature, photograph, voice, statements, performances, actions, biographical material, and any and all attributes of my personality and appearance (collectively, my "Identity") in materials created in connection with my participation in the Tournament Series and related events and activities of B.A.S.S. (collectively, the "Materials"), alone or in combination with any other materials, in connection with any B.A.S.S. authorized production, collectibles, merchandise or publication, including, but not limited to, in connection with the promotion of B.A.S.S., the Tournament Series and any other events or programs staged by B.A.S.S. in any and all manner and media now known or hereafter devised, including without limitation, in print, within television programs, motion pictures, websites, social media channels, including without limitation, physical or digital trading cards or other collectible merchandise, public relations materials and for any other lawful purpose in B.A.S.S.'s sole discretion. For clarity, the foregoing shall also include the right to use my Identity in connection with the publicity, advertising, promotion, exhibition or other exploitation of the Materials, including, but not limited to, my appearance at and / or performance during the Tournament Series I agree to promptly and fully comply with all filming, camera location and other rules, guidelines and instructions of B.A.S.S during each Tournament Series.

3.2. I hereby represent and warrant that I have the right to grant these rights and that my granting these rights will not infringe upon the rights of any third party. I represent and warrant that I have or shall obtain all necessary rights and permissions from all applicable

third parties (i.e., those sponsoring or affiliated with me or my team and boat) to effectuate the grant of rights set forth in this paragraph 3.1 (collectively, the "Third Party Rights"). I will ensure that these Third Party Rights grant (or otherwise authorize or permit) B.A.S.S. and the other Licensees the right to utilize such third-party logos, insignia, trade dress or other intellectual property (collectively "Third Party IP") shown in any Materials featuring me, or otherwise in connection with B.A.S.S.'s use of my Identity as set forth in paragraph 3.1(for example, on apparel worn by me or on items used by me), and neither B.A.S.S. nor any other Licensee shall be required to seek approvals from such Third Parties for such uses of the Third-Party IP. I agree to defend, hold harmless and indemnify B.A.S.S. and each of the Licensees from and against, any and all third-party claims, damages, costs (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of claims alleging that I do not have the right to grant the foregoing license and permission with respect to Third Party IP.

3.3. I acknowledge that the Licensees have no obligation to use any or all of the Materials or my Identity. I hereby waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve any finished product or the use to which it is applied and I agree no further approval is required for the Licensees to use any Materials or my Identity and that the Licensees will not be liable to me for any distortion or illusionary effect resulting from the exhibition, publication or broadcast of the Materials or my Identity. I acknowledge and agree that no further payment or consideration will be due to me for and of the Licensees' use of the Materials or my Identity as authorized herein.

3.4. I acknowledge that all right, title, and interest in and to the Materials, including without limitation all copyrights and trademark rights, shall be the sole and exclusive property of B.A.S.S. and that B.A.S.S. has the unlimited right in perpetuity and throughout the universe to edit, modify, distribute, and otherwise use such Materials. With regard to the Licensees' exploitation of the rights granted hereunder, I, on behalf of myself and my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, hereby irrevocably **(a)** release, discharge and waive all claims, demands, losses and liabilities of any nature against the Licensees that I, my personal representatives, agents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns had, now have, or hereafter may have, including, but not limited to, claims in the nature of copyright or other intellectual property infringement, defamation, disparagement, slander, false light, violation of the right of privacy or publicity, or the like, and **(b)** covenant not to make any claims against any of the Licensees with respect to the rights granted hereunder.

3.5. During the Tournament Series, and subject to compliance with B.A.S.S. guidelines, B.A.S.S. hereby grants to the undersigned Angler, the right to create, use and publish Angler created materials ("Angler Materials") such as still photos and video shot by Angler, solely on Angler's website and social media channels. Angler may not livestream during the tournament competition.

P4. INSURANCE

I represent and warrant that I now have or will obtain prior to the Tournament Series, boat owners liability insurance (including coverage for third party property damage and bodily injury) with no "tournament exclusion," having a minimum limit of $300,000 per occurrence. The insurance will be primary and noncontributory to any insurance procured by B.A.S.S. Additionally, the insurance must be issued by a reputable insurer rated A or better by A.M. Best and Company.

Policy must include international waters, or a separate policy for international waters must be obtained if I choose to fish international waters during applicable B.A.S.S. events. I shall provide B.A.S.S. with a certificate of insurance covering the term of the Tournament series prior to my participation in any Tournament Series event or at any time requested by B.A.S.S.

P5. MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 Contingency Programs. Contingency programs are sponsor-funded programs developed to reward Anglers based on a predefined set of criteria. Participation in contingency programs is at the Angler's discretion.

5.2 Other Events. If Angler elects to participate in other B.A.S.S. sanctioned tournaments, Angler will be required to execute a Participation Agreement containing the applicable rules and regulations, code of conduct and Tournament Series specific content such as wrapped boat and jersey guidelines. Failure to comply with guidelines may result in a $250.00 fine. For College Series events a B.A.S.S. shield on the upper chest of a jersey is required. For the College Bracket, there can be no competing logos on the jersey.

5.3 Additional Requirements. Angler agrees to participate in programs recommended or developed by B.A.S.S. that promote the growth of the sport and to fully support programs intended to raise awareness of my individual angler brand and identity.

P6. LEGAL

6.1 Credibility Assessment administered via Polygraph. By registering and signing the Participation Agreement, Angler agrees to submit to a credibility assessment, at any time during or after the Tournament series and abide by its conclusion and hereby waives any expectation of privacy relation to his participation in the Tournament series.

6.2 Communication. Angler must provide B.A.S.S. with a current e-mail address. Angler agrees that delivery of any notice, communication, guideline or instruction to Angler via email shall constitute notice to Angler and shall comply with any notice requirements set forth herein. Angler must also provide a United States provider personal cell number capable of receiving text messages from B.A.S.S.

6.3. Governing Law, Venue, and Jurisdiction. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in all respects in accordance with the substantive laws of the state of Alabama, without regard to its choice of law and/or conflicts of law principles.

6.4. Miscellaneous. If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision herein. This Agreement along with the Code of Conduct, Official Rules, etc. sets forth the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous oral and/or written representations, discussions, negotiations, understandings, and/or agreements relating to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may not be modified except by an instrument in writing signed by both parties. In signing this document, I am not relying on any promises, representations or other statements that are not contained in this Agreement.

6.5. Electronic Signature. The execution of this document by electronic mail or by any other electronic or digital means shall be deemed to constitute effective execution of this document. Any signature transmitted by facsimile, email or other electronic or digital means shall be deemed an original signature for all purposes.

6.6. Arbitration. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or the breach, invalidity, enforceability, arbitrability, or interpretation thereof, shall be settled by arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its Commercial Arbitration Rules, and judgment on the award, which shall be rendered by a single arbitrator, may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. B.A.S.S. and the Angler agree that no arbitrator shall have authority to conduct a class or collective proceeding, or to join or consolidate any claim with the claim of another person. To the extent permitted by applicable law, all claims must be brought solely in B.A.S.S.'s or the Angler's individual capacity, and not as a plaintiff or class member in any purported class or collective proceeding. All mediations arising under this provision shall take place in Birmingham, Alabama, and the Angler consents to that forum and waives all objections to the propriety or convenience of that arbitration forum.

6.7. Requirement for Consent of Parent or Guardian. If I am under the age of majority in the state in which I reside, I understand that I must have the consent of my parent or guardian to participate in the tournament series. I agree to provide accurate and complete information to B.A.S.S. to facilitate B.A.S.S.'s efforts to secure such consent. I acknowledge that my failure to provide accurate information or secure consent from my parent or guardian may result in my disqualification from the Tournament Series.

I UNDERSTAND I MUST SIGN AND DATE THIS AGREEMENT PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT, AND THAT IF I AM UNDER THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN THE STATE IN WHICH I RESIDE, I MUST OBTAIN THE CONSENT OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT. MY REGISTRATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL B.A.S.S. ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT, RECEIVES THE CONSENT OF MY PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF APPLICABLE), AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DENY MY PARTICIPATION IN THE TOURNAMENT SERIES OR ANY COMPONENT THEREOF FOR ANY REASON AND, UPON SUCH DENIAL, TO REFUND THE DEPOSIT OR ENTRY FEE.

I ATTEST HAVE READ AND HAVE UNDERSTOOD THIS THE PROVISIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THE TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL RULES. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, WHICH CONTAINS LIABILITY AND OTHER RELEASE LANGUAGE, I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS. I HAVE VOLUNTARILY SIGNED THIS AGREEMENT.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Date: _____

BASSMASTER COLLEGE SERIES
OFFICIAL RULES
Effective January 1, 2026

1. RULES AND PENALTIES:
The following rules shall apply to all B.A.S.S. College Series tournaments, with the following exceptions: (i) rules for special tournaments may differ from those contained herein and (ii)these rules may be changed by B.A.S.S. immediately upon notice by B.A.S.S. to its members, which notice may be published on the B.A.S.S. internet site at www.bassmaster.com. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director or his/her designee at a tournament. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director or a rules committee may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate by them, including without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes, entry fee, and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. Subject to

the appeal process set forth in Paragraph 22 of these Official Rules, the decision of the Tournament Director, his/her designee, or the rules committee, shall be final in all matters.

Except for very serious rules violations, as determined by B.A.S.S., such as the no-information and off-limits rules and any rules that might lead to disqualification of an angler from participation in the College Series tournaments or other B.A.S.S. circuits, rules violations must be reported to tournament officials within 24 hours of the final flight check-in on the day of the alleged violation.

Penalties for rules violations may include the following:

(a) reduction of practice hours or competition hours for current and/or future events as determined by the Tournament Director

(b) loss of one or more fish in question. All such fish must be marked verified by either your partner/observer/camera operator. If not verified the entire catch may be disqualified.

(c) loss of catch for the day of the violation

(d) disqualification from the tournament in question

(e) disqualification from future B.A.S.S. events, which may be from a specific number of events, a specific period of time, or may be a lifetime disqualification

(f) any different or additional penalties determined by the Tournament Director, including but not limited to monetary fines and/or reduction of Angler of Year points.

2. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:

A. Participation in this tournament is by invitation only. This tournament is open only to current registered College Series clubs and individuals. Each club must be an official organization on campus with a minimum of two (2) members. Only one club from an institution is allowed. Students must be a member of the institution where enrolled. You are not allowed to join a college fishing team at an institution where not enrolled.

B. Each member must be currently enrolled and maintain a full-time status for the academic year. Each member must also be in good academic standing, and an active member of their fishing club. If a student has graduated the previous December or requires less than a full-time schedule to graduate, may be granted eligibility as long as they have not exceeded their five (5) years of eligibility. A letter requesting eligibility must be provided before tournament registration deadline to be considered. B.A.S.S. reserves the right to accept or deny any request.

C. Each angler must be a member of B.A.S.S. and the B.A.S.S. Nation. Each College Series club must be in good standing with B.A.S.S. and their school as well as have an active faculty advisor. This advisor will submit all membership paperwork. If an active advisor is not required by your institution, then all paperwork must be submitted by an official faculty member from your institution. Each club must complete eight (8) hours of community service.

D. Each member is eligible for five (5) years of competition. To qualify for the National Championship, each member must compete in a tour event and finish inside the top 10% of the select field size. Additionally, if not previously qualified from one of the (6) tour events, teams inside the top 20 of the Team of the Year standings will earn a berth to the National Championship. Additionally, teams can compete in officially sanctioned B.A.S.S. Nation State-run events where they can qualify. Should a team qualify at a Tour event or via TOY points, states will be allowed to work down their list.

E. The defending national champions from the previous year will be extended automatic berths as **a team** to the National Championship pending they participate as **a team** and remain "active members".

F. Championship qualifying spots at each Trail Event will be top 10% of the field. Example:

250 boats = 25 berths
200 boats = 20 berths
150 boats = 15 berths

G. Employees, officers, and directors of B.A.S.S. or its parent, subsidiary, and affiliated companies and members of their immediate families (spouse, parents, children, and sibling, regardless of where they live) are ineligible. Proof of age, to the satisfaction of tournament officials, is the responsibility of potential competitors. Any candidate for competition who, in the judgment of the Tournament Director, is disabled in such a manner as to unfairly hinder his/her partner or endanger the safety and well-being of his/her partner or themselves shall not be eligible.

H. **DURING THE OFFICIAL PRACTICE AND COMPETITION DAYS OF ANY B.A.S.S. TOURNAMENT, NO COMPETITOR MAY OPERATE A BOAT UNLESS THAT COMPETITOR HAS DOCUMENTED PROOF OF INSURANCE MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS AS STIPULATED IN "P4. INSURANCE" SECTION OF THE ANGLER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT. PROOF OF INSURANCE MUST BE WITH THE BOAT BEING USED AND MUST COVER ALL PASSENGERS IN THAT BOAT. RANDOM CHECKS WILL BE CONDUCTED AND ANY COMPETITOR WHO DOES NOT HAVE PROOF OF IN-FORCE INSURANCE MEETING ALL REQUIREMENTS MAY BE DISQUALIFIED. EACH POLICY MUST SHOW AN EFFECTIVE START AND EXPIRATION DATE. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS HAVE SOLE AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE IF INSURANCE POLICIES MEET B.A.S.S., LLC REQUIREMENTS.**

I. **A PROPERLY COMPLETED AND ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED TOURNAMENT RULES AND WAVIER MUST BE SUBMITTED TO B.A.S.S. TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM BEFORE THE REGISTRATION ENTRY DUE DATE FOR THE EVENT(S) IN WHICH YOU ARE COMPETING. YOU ARE ONLY REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ONE TOURNAMENT RULES AND WAVIER PER YEAR FOR THE COLLEGE SERIES. THE TOURNAMENT RULES AND WAVIER FORM CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT: WWW.BASSMASTER.COM/COLLEGE**.

All competitors/institutions must complete a W-9, and when required, a Form 590, or W-8 BEN provided by B.A.S.S. (one time). Any new entries received after the entry due date will be subject to a $50 late fee per team. The Tournament Director reserves the right to discontinue acceptance of applications prior to the deadline and also the right to extend the acceptance date.

ENTRY FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AND NONTRANSFERABLE REGARDLESS OF DATE OF CANCELLATION ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED IN A COLLEGE SERIES TOURNAMENT. Anglers (Teams) on the waiting list will be refunded their entry fees if the team has not been confirmed for the tournaments for which they registered after the tournament has started.

3. ANGLER CODE OF CONDUCT

A. Anglers participating in any B.A.S.S. sanctioned event shall observe this code of conduct and the applicable rules for the specific event in which they are participating. Anglers shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a professional manner that will not reflect unfavorably on B.A.S.S., its members, officers or representatives, tournaments, or sponsors. To this end, anglers, coaches, advisors, parents, and family members shall use their best efforts to demonstrate professionalism and integrity in support of the sport of professional fishing. Any anglers, coaches, advisors, parents or family m e m b e r s who violate any of the provisions of the Angler Code of Conduct may be result in Angler fines, reduction of points, forfeiture of tournament winnings, suspension from competing in individual B.A.S.S. sanctioned events, permanent ban from competition, or any combination thereof deemed appropriate by B.A.S.S.

B. Anglers are frequently in the public eye and are considered role models; therefore, it is imperative that tournament competitors demonstrate good sportsmanship in fishing. Sportsmanship is defined as fair play, respect for opponents, and polite behavior while competing in the sport.

C. Following are examples of unacceptable behavior by competitors or on behalf of competitors in B.A.S.S. events that will be cause for penalties as outlined in this document.

- Heated public disagreements with B.A.S.S. officials, other competitors, fans, and volunteers during an event.

- Public attacks through media, including social media, upon the integrity of B.A.S.S. rules or officials.

- Public comments that an angler knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of B.A.S.S., B.A.S.S. officials, or its sponsors

- Displays of anger and displeasure for reasons related to fishing competitions where members of the public, including other anglers, spectators, and the media, are present.

- Publicly questioning or criticizing a tournament official or official decision, ruling, or penalty except through the proper channels.

- Any sharing of non-public information or communications with B.A.S.S.

- Abuse (physical, verbal, threatening, or slanderous) of tournament officials, volunteers, fellow competitors, or others connected with a B.A.S.S. event including comments on social media.

- Offensive or slanderous comments with racial, cultural, or sexual overtones regarding event officials, event personnel, or fellow anglers.

- Intentionally interfering with an angler's ability to compete.

D. Any disqualification, suspension, or other disciplinary action imposed by any tournament or fishing organization may result in disqualification from competition and from participation in a B.A.S.S. tournament.

Angler Code of Conduct Penalty Guidelines
When a Bassmaster College Series angler is found to have violated the Angler Code of Conduct, the following escalating scale of fines will be imposed at B.A.S.S.'s sole discretion, in addition to any other penalties that may be deemed appropriate by B.A.S.S. Code of conduct violations are not appealable.

- Level 1 offense Not less than $100 nor more than $150
- Level 2 offense Not less than $250 nor more than $500
- Level 3 offense Possible suspension or ban from the Bassmaster College Series and other levels of B.A.S.S. competition.

4. MEDIA COMMENTS, PUBLIC ATTACKS: The favorable public reputation of B.A.S.S. as a sanctioning organization in the sport of fishing, the integrity of its officials, and the reputation of its media properties are valuable assets and tangible benefits for B.A.S.S. Accordingly, it is an obligation of competitors to refrain from comments to the news media that unreasonably attack or disparage the integrity of tournaments, tournament officials, sponsors, fellow members, fellow anglers or the B.A.S.S. organization. Competitors are encouraged to express themselves and have the right to question the rules officials. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with B.A.S.S. policies are encouraged as opposed to attacks upon the integrity of the rules or officials. However, public comments that an angler knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of B.A.S.S., B.A.S.S. officials, or sponsors shall be considered conduct unbecoming a professional and may result in disciplinary action.

5. PRACTICE AND COMPETITION:

A. There will be one (1) week off-limits period prior to the start of official practice for any tournament unless specified by the Tournament Director. The Off-limits Period, Official Practice, and Official Tournament Waters will be posted on the Official Information Sheets listed at http://www.bassmaster.com. Special off-limits and practice periods for the National Championship and Bassmaster Classic will be announced by B.A.S.S.

B. Official practice days will begin at 12:01 a.m. (3) days prior to the start of the competition. No competitors will be allowed on Tournament waters after registration until the first day of competition, except under paragraph 5.D below. Unless otherwise specified, all official times are time zone-specific to the local host community. The competitor must know and observe these dates. During practice and competition, anglers cannot solicit, gather or intentionally receive any information from anyone other than another competitor in the tournament. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Competitors may only fish with other competitors during official practice and competition.** Flying over tournament waters, other than a ticketed commercial airline, is prohibited during official practice and competition unless approved by the tournament director. **The use of drones for the purposes of locating or catching fish or to gain a competitive advantage is prohibited in both official practice and competition**. During the official practice competitors are not allowed to live well or keep any bass unless they have permission from tournament officials.

C. **During Official Practice, no practicing at night, is defined as beginning 30 minutes after local sunset and ending 30 minutes before local sunrise, including running to and from a fishing location. In practice and competition, when running in low light conditions, running lights should be in operation. Competitors recognize that operating conditions (weather, etc.) are not monitored during Official Practice and are the sole responsibility of Competitor or Faculty Advisor.**

D. Anglers renting boat slips may launch boats and proceed immediately to slip location. Testing of engines after the weigh-in is only allowed with permission from the Tournament Director. NO EXCEPTIONS. During the official practice and during the tournament, a competitor may not “SKIN DIVE” OR “SCUBA DIVE” in the tournament waters.

E. No competitor may buy or barter a fishing location from any other competitor for use during any competition day. Once daily cuts are announced at the post-weigh-in rules meeting, competitors not making the cut are no longer considered in the tournament. Competitors making a cut may not receive information under Paragraph 5.B. above.

F. During the official competition days of the tournament a competitor may not make cell calls for the purpose of locating or catching fish on tournament waters. This includes professional guides, wildlife agency employees, or any individuals deemed “experts” on the

water. Cell phones may be used for emergencies. Competitors are allowed to call lockmasters for locking purposes only. Competitors are allowed to use smartphones for global maps, weather, notes, Bassmaster.com updates, etc., however using smartphones during competition to log into daily tournament blogs or participate in social media is not permitted, including but not limited to Bassmaster.com.

G. A designated tournament official must be granted access to the competitor's boat at any time during the official practice or competition days. Failure to grant such access may result in immediate disqualification.

H. During off-limits, official practice, and competition, competitors may not place brush, or other physical attractors, including chum of any kind, in tournament waters nor can another person do so on their behalf.

I. **Each competitor agrees to report to the Tournament Director immediately any violation or infraction of any tournament rules. Failure to report violations, suggestions to another competitor that they violate these rules or false verification of weigh-in forms may be cause for disqualification. Official protests must be filed in accordance with Paragraph 1 ("Rules and Penalties"). All parties of interest will be provided a copy.**

J. **By his/her signature on the official tournament entry form, each competitor agrees to submit to a truth verification test and abide by its conclusion should he/she be accused of any rule violation.** The B.A.S.S. Tournament Director, rules committee, or such person designated by the Tournament Director, shall have the discretion to determine the need for a truth verification test. The B.A.S.S. Tournament Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for selecting an independent expert to administer and interpret the results and establishing, in consultation with the expert administrator, the scope of the questions that may be asked during the test. The B.A.S.S. Tournament Director or his/her designee shall have sole responsibility for selecting the location, date, and time of the test nearest B.A.S.S. headquarters with respect to all concerned parties schedule and travel costs. The competitor shall make himself/herself available at the location selected by the Tournament Director and shall cooperate in all respects with such test. Anglers taking a truth verification test may be responsible for any and all costs incurred. Random truth verification tests may be administered on-site during the course of a College Series Event.

6. REGISTRATION/Check-In: Each competitor must register/check in in person with official B.A.S.S. staff at the time and place designated in the schedule of events. Failure to register/check-in in person during the prescribed hours may result in a $100 fine or other penalties. Any competitor who has not contacted the B.A.S.S. Tournament Staff 15 minutes after the closing of the posted on-site registration period, may be disqualified from participating in the tournament. It shall be each competitor's responsibility to either check the schedule of events for registration/check-in time and location or obtain times from the B.A.S.S. Tournament Department.

7. SAFETY:

A. Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. During the official practice and competition, each competitor must wear a Coast Guard-approved chest-type life preserver anytime the combustion engine is running. This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely, worn outside the outermost layer of clothing, and maintained in that condition until the combustion engine is out of gear or shut off. Inflatable life vest indicators should be checked daily. Violation of this rule may be the reason for disqualification. PFDs are allowed as long as U.S. Coast Guard regulations are met. The Coast Guard requires that Inflatable PFDs be worn at all times unless there is an equal number of non-inflatable Coast Guard-approved PFDs on board. Anglers must carry two Coast Guard-approved chest-type life preservers per boat.

B. When boating in low visibility situations i.e. fog, or heavy rain, during both official practice and competition, competitors must operate their boats at a safe speed and in a safe manner.

C. Radar units permanently mounted in the boat, subject to approval by B.A.S.S., may be approved for competition.

D. It is suggested the Boater have a safety check with their partner each day prior to launch to familiarize the location of all safety equipment.

E. **It is required that each contestant prior to official practice successfully complete a boating safety course, boating safety certification or possess a USCG Captains License. Boating safety courses are available online and should carry an endorsement by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators or NASBLA.**

F. Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten, or cancel the start of an official tournament day, because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters during competition may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather. Weather delays on full field days, resulting in half of the tournament day being lost (first flight take-off and check-in), shall result in cancellation. Full fields may be carried over to cut days. In the event of a canceled day(s), any College Series event will be extended no more than one day after the scheduled conclusion date.

G. B.A.S.S. reserves the right to impose boat speed limits during any or all tournaments. Whether or not to impose a speed limit, the area covered by the speed limit, and/or the actual speed limit imposed, shall be left exclusively to the discretion of the tournament director. This will never result in speed limits in excess of those posted on local waters. Additionally, a safe operating speed is impacted by a number of factors and should be maintained at all times and is the sole responsibility of the Competitor.

H. IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, COMPETITORS SHOULD CALL 911 FIRST AND ONCE SAFE NOTIFY TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I. COMPETITORS ARE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE BOAT AND SEEK SAFE SHELTER IN BAD WEATHER WHERE DANGER MAY BE IMMINENT. COMPETITORS SHOULD ALWAYS USE THEIR BEST JUDGMENT IN THESE SITUATIONS.

8. SPORTSMANSHIP:

A. Competitors in B.A.S.S. tournaments are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.

B. Use of alcohol or the use of drugs (other than those purchased over-the-counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any competitor, during the official practice or during the tournament, will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this and all future B.A.S.S. tournaments. No alcoholic beverages, other non-prescription stimulants, or depressants shall be allowed in the boats during the official practice or competition days, or when in the weigh-in area.

C. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling on tournament waters. Any act of a competitor, which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters and courtesy, may be reason for disqualification.

D. All competitors are bound by the prevailing statutes and regulations of the various states in which they fish. Some regulations may differ from these rules resulting in fines, citations or other penalties at the discretion of law enforcement and may or may not result in tournament penalties. Competitors are responsible for research of fishing and boating regulations. In both official practice and competition, competitors are required to have all licenses and permits on the tournament waters in which they fish.

E. Chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or other crimes involving moral turpitude, or other conduct reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules, shall be grounds for rejecting any application for participation and/or for disqualification after circumstances are reviewed by the Tournament Director. Any disqualification, suspension from, or other disciplinary action regarding any tournament or fishing organization, shall be grounds for rejecting any application for participation in a B.A.S.S. tournament, and/or disqualification from a B.A.S.S. tournament after circumstances are reviewed by the Tournament Director. Code of Conduct violations will expire 5 years from the violation date.

9. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:

A. Use of grippers for landing bass is prohibited during tournament competition.

B. During practice and competition no more than one artificial or biodegradable artificial lure may be attached to a line at one time. One lure is defined as a single manmade device designed to attract and/or catch one fish at a time. Adding trailer hooks, plastic trailers, blades, etc., to a single lure is acceptable. The use of braid or other lines to attach one stringer hook (single or treble) is allowed but cannot be over 2 inches in length. If multiple fish are caught on a single manmade lure, on a single cast, all fish are considered legal and may be added to the daily catch subject to Paragraph 17 ("Scoring")

C. No "live bait," "dead bait," or "prepared bait" will be permitted during official practice and competition, with the exception of pork strips or rinds.

D. Any umbrella-type rigging, harness, or other device designed to hold more than one lure at a time – with or without hooks – is not allowed. Such rigging, harness, or device cannot be added to a single lure as described above.

E. Twin arm spinnerbaits, twin arm underspins, and twin buzz baits are allowed. Trailer hooks and plastic trailers of twin arm baits must be on the main hook of the bait; only spinner blades can be affixed to the arms. The head on the main stem may be hinged. On twin arm spinnerbaits, underspins, and buzz baits, no more than two wires, with a maximum length of 6 inches, may extend off the main arm or body of the lure at the head or the line tie point. The bend of the main hook must be even with or trail behind where blades attach to the wires. B.A.S.S. officials have the sole authority to determine whether a lure is considered a single lure as defined above.

F. Only ONE casting, spin casting, or spinning rod (10-foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reel may be used at any one time. A hung or snagged lure that is not in or on the water is not considered in use and may be set aside while another is in use. Other rigs as specified above may be in the boat ready for use; however, only ONE is permitted in use at any given time. If a competitor breaks their line while setting the hook or retrieving a fish, they are allowed to make an attempt with the rod being used or with their hands to secure the visible line and land the fish for it to be counted as legal. You may NOT hook the line with another lure, rod, reel, or other device. If a fish in your possession exits the boat, you are allowed to attempt to grab it with your hands. Once you resume fishing, that fish must be caught in a legal and sporting manner.

G. No competitor may intentionally snag or foul-hook a bass to be counted in their daily catch. Anyone guilty of intentionally snatching or snagging visible fish will have their catch disqualified. When knowingly fishing for bedding bass using any means (whether visually, blind-casting, using forward facing live sonar or any other method), to be counted as a legal fish, each bass must be hooked inside the mouth. With the fish's mouth closed naturally, you must not be able to see where the hook point enters the fish for it to be considered hooked inside the mouth. Anglers must verify the fish is hooked in the mouth with another person in the boat or their POV camera. Otherwise in such type events

credibility assessment exams may ask this question. Any fish hooked in the mouth where the hook did not enter through the mouth, but entered through the gills must be released.

H. Competitors, including those who have been "cut" from competition in an event, are allowed to share baits and tackle with one another at any time.

10. HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS: Maximum horsepower for all outboard motorboats used in official tournament practice and in tournament competition will be 250 HP. Horsepower cannot exceed the limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard. When required, each boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard horsepower-rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer. The horsepower of the outboard engine must NOT exceed the rating specified on this plate nor the horsepower maximum set by B.A.S.S. Each competitor agrees to submit, by their signature on the official entry form, the boat and outboard motor used in the tournament, to an inspection by factory-trained personnel, if there is reason to suspect the horsepower is in excess of the rating. Normal maintenance of engines is allowed. Changing or altering standard factory parts of a competitor's engine to increase the horsepower over the factory horsepower rating, is forbidden and will result in disqualification. Falsifying information on entry forms, or altering the horsepower-rating numbers on the engine, is also cause for immediate disqualification from B.A.S.S. tournaments. Posted speed limits and those imposed by B.A.S.S. must be observed and all boats must be operated in a safe manner. Violations of speed limits shall result in loss of competition hours and not limited to disqualification.

11. BOAT AND MOTOR: These restrictions apply during official practice and competition. For the safety of all competitors, all boats must be equipped with an approved type of operable ignition kill switch and lanyard. Only one manufacturer's lanyard may be used and must be attached to the driver's body any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear. Any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear there must be a driver in the driver's seat in full control of the boat, and all competitors must be seated with their feet on the floor of the vessel. Fishing boats that are 16 feet or more in length may be used and must be equipped with wheel steering. No other steering device will be permitted. Any raised platforms or decks cannot be higher than the gunnels of the boat. Standing on the outboard engine or seats while fishing is not allowed. Trolling motor brackets and electronics are not considered "raised platforms". Each competitor's oat shall be restricted to one (1) motor to be mounted at the bow of the boat. Electric motor(s) mounted at the stern of the boat are prohibited. Each competitor may keep a spare trolling motor in the boat in case one malfunctions. An electric trolling motor may be used for slow maneuvering. **However, trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. The "Long-Lining" or "Strolling" technique is NOT allowed in either practice or competition and defined as intentionally using a trolling motor or outboard to mechanically extend a cast.** No exceptions. All bladder tanks and any other type of auxiliary gas tanks that are not installed by the boat manufacturer are prohibited. Additional gas tanks that are factory options and installed by a manufacturer's authorized dealer are permitted. Boats that do not have factory-installed gas tanks are restricted to a maximum of 18 gallons of gasoline in tanks

that meet U.S. Coast Guard regulations. Gas tanks must be properly secured or strapped in a boat. No portable gas tanks or containers capable of holding gasoline can be placed anywhere on the tournament waters or shoreline for use by any tournament competitor. No "barges" or similar craft will be permitted. No boat equipped with "stick steering" shall be permitted. "Stick steering" shall be as defined by the Tournament Director. Jet drive engines, surface drive engines and tunnel hull boats are not allowed during both official practice and competition. Any boat/hull designs other than standard mass produced units are only allowed at the discretion of tournament officials.

12. BASIC BOAT EQUIPMENT: During official practice and competition, every boat must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment and a functional bilge pump. During official competition, every boat must have live-well space, properly aerated, to adequately maintain alive, a limit catch of bass by both competitors using the boat. B.A.S.S. recommends live wells be maintained at full level and aerators/re-circulators on manual. Tournament officials shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is proper and adequate.

13. MARINE ELECTRONICS: All electronics must be mounted in a way not to obstruct the competitor's line of sight while piloting the boat on plane. It is recommended that console electronics be mounted in a manner where the tops of graphs are no higher than 26 inches from the steering column where it exits the console, and bow electronics be mounted in a manner where the tops of graphs are no higher than 18 inches from the front deck.

Competitors will be required to allow B.A.S.S. to access their electronics for media purposes. Failure to allow access may result in a penalty. If B.A.S.S. is unable to access the unit in the bow of the boat, the angler will be required to mirror through console electronics with an unobstructed view.

14. BOAT IDENTIFICATION: Prior to each day's start, each boat **must** be given an inspection check by a tournament official. Each day, each boat may be given a number, which **must** remain with the boat. This number must be displayed upon the request of tournament officials, and at each check-in.

15. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:

A. Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director for each tournament. Each competitor must obtain this information from the B.A.S.S. Tournament Department. Any water within these boundaries that are legally and obviously posted "Off-Limits", "No Fishing", "no boats", "restricted", or "no trespassing", as well as the live-bass-release area established by the Tournament Director, will be off- limits to tournament competitors and will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. Only that water open to all public fishing will be considered tournament waters. Waters deemed off-limits by authorities or tournament officials should be treated like a wall. No boats or casting behind that boundary while fishing. All angling must be done from the boat. In states where

landowners have the legal authority to claim private property, these areas must be posted or they will be considered tournament waters unless instructed otherwise by tournament officials at any time during the event. If forced to leave, a competitor must report the incident to tournament officials as soon as possible. Any water to which a competitor is barred access becomes off-limits to all competitors.

B. Any questionable areas or areas with language or markings intended to restrict public access must be brought to the attention of the tournament director 24 hours prior to the start of the competition. the day before the tournament is scheduled to begin, any questionable areas must be brought to the attention of tournament officials to be considered tournament waters. Questionable areas will be off-limits until a determination can be made with authorities and may be announced in the briefing or via text for all to know unless determined otherwise by tournament officials.

C. Tournament officials reserve the right to restrict or enhance tournament waters based on conversations with local authorities. Competitors are not allowed to cut, remove, displace, or engage in any type of structure removal from private property (dry land) during off-limits, official practice, or competition. The removal of official commercial, local state, or federal barricades at any time to make an area more accessible by boat or gain access for fishing is prohibited. Moving structures to include sawing of logs or other obstructions in the water is only allowed if laws permit. No competitor may place any object that may impede or cause danger to boaters.

16. COMPETITORS MUST REMAIN IN BOAT: During the competition days, competitors must not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. You are not allowed to use a winch, pulley, come along, cable, rope, or similar device/ tools to gain access to tournament waters. Competitors may not shift a majority of their weight outside the boat and onto a dock or other object outside the boat for the purpose of landing a bass or accessing a fishing spot. While keeping the majority of weight in the boat anglers are allowed for boat protection to push off or shove off objects while landing a fish to counted as legal. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament hours. Competitors must leave from and return to official checkpoints by boat. Both competitors must remain in the boat at all times, except in case of dire emergency, or with permission from the Tournament Director. Exceptions spelled out in this Paragraph and Paragraphs 5 (“Safety”), and 16 (“Catch and Release”). In such an emergency, or with permission of the Tournament Director, competitors may be removed from their boat, either to a boat operated by other competitors, or a

rescue boat designated by the Tournament Director. Partners must remain together at all times, in sight of each other and each other’s catch, under the conditions cited above, in order for their catch of that day to be scored in the tournament. In breakdown situations and with a tournament official’s permission, Co-anglers may transfer their boat’s (Pro’s and Co-angler’s) fish to another competitor’s boat and ride to check in, and they may leave their Pro with the disabled boat. In such cases, the co-angler must stay with their catches

at all times and assisting boat's partners should verify the catch. Any college team whose boat is disabled and rides with another competitor or rescue boat to weigh in is not allowed to fish. In the event of a needed restroom break or refueling situation at a marina gas pump, partners are allowed to leave the boat. If a competitor violates any of the above conditions (to contact a tournament official by phone or other means, or to report an emergency or breakdown), both competitors must cease fishing at this point and their catch must be verified by a tournament official in order to be counted in the tournament. If, after the emergency situation is resolved by tournament officials, and enough time is left for the competitors to resume fishing, a **restart** will be allowed, the competitors will continue, and their catch will be counted. This applies only to dire emergency situations as determined by the Tournament Director or his/her designee. Towing boats on trailers during tournament hours is prohibited, except by the direction of tournament officials. Competitors are allowed to leave the boat to retrieve a lure. All fishing by that competitor must cease until back in the boat before making another cast.

17. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINTS: There shall be only one official checkpoint for check-out in the morning, and one official check-in point in the afternoon, which points shall be designated at the tournament briefing. Failure to go through boat check and check-out in the morning or failure to check in at the check-in point in the afternoon may result in disqualification. At the time of check-out, all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformity with all rules set forth by the Tournament Director. At check-in, all boats shall identify themselves by means of the numbers described in Paragraph 13 ("Boat Identification") and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area.

18. SCORING: Tournament standings, contingency awards and final winners shall be determined by the pound-and-ounce weight of each competitor's catch during the competition days of the tournament. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted, Redeye or Shoal bass will be weighed. The limit shall be 5, of the above species and varieties per day, unless otherwise specified by tournament officials (example – hot weather/fish care concerns). At no time shall a competitor have in his or her possession more than the tournament limit. If a competitor determines they have over the limit they must immediately reduce his catch to the tournament limit with a live bass of their choice from their catch. Each returned bass will result in a 2 pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. In this case, competitors must attempt to notify tournament officials and if unsuccessful must notify officials at check-in. Once a competitor checks in they must present all legal bass to tournament officials at the verification table. If competitors at the verification table have more than the tournament limit, the competitor will reduce with live bass to the tournament limit and each returned bass will result in a 2-pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. If a competitor has his fish verified, and weighed, and upon returning to the boat discovers additional fish over the tournament limit that were not presented to officials; he then must notify tournament officials within one hour of final flight check-in to receive a 2 lb. penalty for each bass discovered. Anglers who do not remove fin clips prior to fish check will be assessed a 4 ounce penalty per clip. Failure to notify officials after one hour of final flight check-in time will result in loss of day's catch.

Anglers who present fish at the verification table with fin clips attached will be assessed a 4 ounce penalty per clip. Manmade or foreign object(s) connected to a bass, outside of natural causes will not be weighed and shall be removed by tournament officials. Competitors are not allowed to replace anything attached to a bass or regurgitated by a bass to be included as a part of their catch.

The official length for bass shall be determined by the Tournament Director and announced at the Tournament Briefing. In most cases, it will be the longest state limit covering the tournament waters. Only bass as described above which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line, shall be weighed. Bass presented for weigh-in, which fail to measure the official length, shall result in a penalty of 1 pound for each such bass, which penalty shall be deducted from the total score of the competitor. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited only at the discretion of tournament officials. After competitors check in at the official checkpoint they MUST present all LEGAL fish in their possession to a tournament official to be counted, measured and weighed. Once a competitor's catch is measured, counted and verified by a tournament official, that competitor may not return to the boat until their catch has been weighed and recorded. Bass must not be placed on a stringer at any time during the tournament. Culling tags or clips are allowed. Specially designed bags which increase survival rate will be furnished by the Tournament Director and must be used for the weigh-in.

19. CATCH AND RELEASE: CULLING OF DEAD BASS IS PROHIBITED. For each legal dead bass presented to weigh-in officials, the competitor shall be penalized 4 oz. to be deducted from their daily score The Tournament Director, or his/her designees, shall have sole authority for assessing penalty points. In addition, the Tournament Director, or his/her designees, may reduce tournament hours or tournament limits for fish care purposes. It is suggested in warm weather tournaments anglers keep extra ice for fish care. Competitors are allowed to purchase ice on the water. Competitors are allowed to obtain ice and other items for fish care from other competitors and/or non-competitors. The verification table will open one hour prior to the check-in time of the first flight. Anglers may be allowed to weigh- in early with permission from the Tournament Director. SMALL DIP NETS FOR CULLING PURPOSES ARE ENCOURAGED. It is recommended competitors keep all bass in live wells during the culling process. Placing bass on the boat carpet during culling is not an advised practice. Only non-penetrating culling clips and culling beams are allowed for use. Any clip or device that penetrates or is designed to penetrate the skin or mouth of a fish is not allowed. Any clip of device that penetrates or is designed to penetrate the skin or mouth of a fish is not allowed. Proper fizzing technique is suggested when needed. For instructions on acceptable fizzing practices please contact B.A.S.S. officials.

20. LATE PENALTY: Competitors who are not at the official check-in point, as described in Paragraph 16 ("Official Checkpoints") at the appointed time, shall be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute late; to be deducted from the total weight of his/her catch that day, including any weight to be counted toward a "big bass award". Any competitor

more than 15 minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness, and in no case, shall a competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." After proper recognition at the check-in point, competitors will be allowed ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site; however, all fishing must cease upon check-in. After the tournament begins, fishing the tournament waters is prohibited except during tournament hours. Exact starting and check-in times will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. It is each competitor's responsibility to confirm check-in times each day on the daily pairings.

21. TEAM OF YEAR POINT SYSTEM:

A. College Series Tour events will award points to a "team" or "boat" competing based on the field size of that tournament. 250 points will be awarded to first place and each place below will decrease at a rate 1 point per place.

Example:

1st Place 250 Points
2nd Place 249 Points
3rd Place 248 Points

B. Should Angler add or replace a partner during the year, Angler's points will be vacated and Angler must start over.

C. Teams must weigh a legal bass during competition to receive points. In the case where one or more teams do not weigh a legal bass, points will end at the place of teams weighing a legal bass.

D. Year-end points/TOY tiebreakers will be broken by total weight from full field days for the college tour. In the event these tiebreakers do not determine the TOY Champion, the tie will be broken by the highest-finishing team at the College Series National Championship. Should a tie remain after the College Series National Championship, tournament officials will schedule a sudden death fish-off.

22. TIES:

A. In case of a tie for first place weight at the end of the tournament, there will be a sudden-death fish-off between the tied competitors, under the direction and special rules established by tournament officials.

B. All other ties will be resolved in the following order: (1) the team with a heaviest single-day catch during competition; (2) if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the individual with the second heaviest single-day catch during competition; (3) if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the team with the largest number of legal fish weighed during competition; (4) if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the team with the largest number of legal live fish weighed during competition. If the tie is not broken by applying the foregoing procedures, the tie will remain a tie, and monetary prizes for each competitor will be awarded in an equal amount between the tied competitors. Angler of the Year points will be awarded for the place of the tied position and each competitor will be

awarded equal points. In the instance where merchandise is involved, it will be awarded as determined by tournament officials. Ties for any cut will be resolved in the same order explained above and if the tie is not broken, will be awarded as determined by tournament officials.

23. RULES VIOLATIONS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE:

A. An appeals committee will be established by B.A.S.S., which shall be comprised of one B.A.S.S. employee not affiliated with the Tournament Department, and two anglers who are not competitors in the event in question. Appeals for penalties assessed under Paragraph 1.C. ("Penalties), sections (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi) must be presented in writing 48 hours from the time and date of ruling to the Tournament Director. Appeals hearings shall take place within seven (7) business days, if possible from the date of receipt of the written appeal and all parties must make themselves available at prescribed time of hearing. If competitors admit to a rules violation, they may not file an appeal of either the finding that they have violated the rules or the penalty imposed for the violation. Decisions of the appeals committee shall be final.

B. Competitors are allowed to compete under appeal for penalties assessed under Paragraph 1.C. "Penalties", sections (v) & (vi) until a final ruling by Appeals Committee.

C. Competitors are allowed to compete while under appeal. Field sizes after cuts would include any appealing angler making the cut for the next round of competition for that event. Final standings will not be official until all appeals hearings are final and ruled upon. However, all standings above that of any appealing angler, as well as any adjusted final standings may be declared official. Standings, including points and monetary awards, may be adjusted after appeals final ruling and all affected anglers shall comply with all details of the final ruling.

D. To protect the integrity of the appeals process, the names of the ruling committee members, witnesses, and/or other involved parties are to remain confidential and must not be disclosed to the public through the appeals process.

24. PATCHES AND/OR SIGNAGE: Anglers are encouraged to wear their own clothing which may bear patches, logos and other signage promoting the angler's sponsors. BASS may, however, restrict the use of patches, logos, signage, etc. that promote or advertise products which are, in B.A.S.S.' sole judgment, in competition with the products or services of official BASS sponsors, or which are, in B.A.S.S.' sole judgment, in poor taste. B.A.S.S. will provide as much advance notice as possible to the competitors in such instances. By signing this document, each angler agrees to wear an official B.A.S.S. shield (2 ¼" X 2 ¾") on either left/right chest, with the top of the patch hitting the left/right collarbone during competition, including the weigh- in. This patch may be embroidered. In addition, if B.A.S.S. provides any ancillary clothing or products (such as life vests) bearing the logos of B.A.S.S. or the official sponsors of B.A.S.S., each competitor shall wear such clothing or utilize such products in a manner requested by B.A.S.S.

25. B.A.S.S. SPONSOR BOATS: When using B.A.S.S. sponsor boats, anglers are responsible for the physical care of the boat. Damage incurred, determined to be excessive or wanton by the Tournament Director, shall result in the angler being responsible for all costs of repair.

26. TAXES: Where and when state laws require income taxes be paid on cash awards to non-residents, the taxes will be automatically deducted prior to the awards being presented to the winners. Anglers/Observers are responsible for all applicable taxes on both cash and merchandise awards. Various States require withholding tax on merchandise be paid upon the awarding of certificates and anglers awarded merchandise certificates in these States are responsible for remitting their tax to B.A.S.S. Failure to meet those obligations may result in reduction of Angler of Year Points, fines, and/or disqualification from all future BASS events.

27. WAIVER AND RELEASE: As a condition of participation in each tournament, each competitor must execute a waiver and release of liability, and a name and likeness release and consent to the use of an electronic or digital signature in the execution thereof.

I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE COLLEGE SERIES AND AGREE TO THE TERMS SET FORTH THEREIN.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

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B.A.S.S. Events Department
877-BASS USA