

## Lone Star Bass Series Rules and Regulations

**Yearly Membership Dues** – \$80 for Every Angler Who Fishes (Must be paid before entering event)

**Event Entry Fees:** \$80 Per Boat. 90% Payout. 10% back to series for End of Year Events and operating costs. (Entry must be paid before registration closes the morning of the event. \*Usually 15 min before launch)

**Entry Breakdown:** \$70 Entry Pays 1 in 5 / \$10 Big Bass Pays 1 / \*\$20 Side Pot (Optional) Pays 1

**Series Open Registration will last until Registration ends on the morning of event (2).**

If you plan on registering to fish Lone Star Bass Series AFTER this time, you will need to pay the Registration fee (\$80 per angler) **PLUS** entry fee for (2) events. (\$80 each event \$160 total)

\*Extra entry fee will be held and go towards the next series event. (You're paying for 1 prepaying for 1)

**Event Points** – 1<sup>st</sup> place will receive 100 pts. Point increment drops by 2 pts. all the way through the last team to weigh in a qualifying bag. IE: 1<sup>st</sup> 100 / 2<sup>nd</sup> 98 / 3<sup>rd</sup> 96 / 4<sup>th</sup> 94 / 5<sup>th</sup> 92 etc.

Any team that fishes who finishes with a 0 weight will receive 40 pts. In the event of a DQ, 0 pts.

**Angler of The Year – Awarded to the team with the most points at the end of the regular season.**

\*In the event of a tie, there will be a 4hr fish off. Lake/Date determined by draw.

**Subs** – Each boat is a team. Whichever 2 anglers are in the boat get the points.

If you have a regular partner who cannot fish, you may fish solo and register with their name and the team will earn the points.

If you fish with a Sub, you and that sub create a new team and that team will get the points.

\* SUB will be required to pay yearly membership dues before they fish.

If you enter the season as a Solo, you must fish the season as a solo. Adding a partner to your boat during the season will create a new team. Your solo points will not transfer.

IN THE EVENT OF A BREAK DOWN: If during the course of an event, you experience a boat break down, you must contact a director. We will approve for your team to fish with another team who is already registered. That team will earn their points with 5 fish your team will be allowed to earn points with 5 fish. (you must find another boater on your own).

**Team Exception:** Each team will be allowed **(1)** Exception throughout the season.

A Team Exception is used in the event an angler finds himself in a position where they are without a boat. (Example, other team member has the boat and cannot fish). We will allow that angler to register as their regular team and fish with the other team. In this instance, one livewell will need to be designated to one team, another livewell designated to the other.

Each team will be responsible for maintaining no more than 5 fish at any given time.

Directors **MUST** be involved in this process should it come about.

**Championship** – To qualify for the Championship, the team must fish **(5)** regular season events.

\*You will be able to "Pay to Skip" during the season. Entry fee must be paid before the start of the event.

You may fish any event solo if needed, registering with your partner absent. This will qualify as team points. You cannot use a sub in the Championship.

**Big Bass of The Year** – To be awarded to THE ANGLER, NOT THE TEAM who by the end of the Championship caught the highest weighing bass throughout the entire season.

**Event Payouts** – We will pay places based on every (5) boats paid entry.

1-5 boats 1<sup>st</sup> place only / 1-10 boats 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place / 1-15 boats 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> etc.

Big Bass pot is included in \$80 entry: \$70 for event / \$10 for BB. 90% entry pay back.

10% of entries go back to the series and will go towards end of year events and costs.

Side Pot, if entered: \$20, pays 1 place and pays out 100%

**Fish and Game Regulations** – All State / Local laws are to be adhered to at all times.

There is to never be more than 5 Bass in a boats livewell at ANY time.

All fish in livewell must meet State regulations.

All fish in livewell will be subject to length verification at anytime by one of the series Directors. (Even during Tournament time. If we feel a need to inspect a livewell or any fish during Tournament times, we will. Refusal to allow this will result in immediate DQ.)

**Any Bass brought to weigh-in that is outside of State regulations will result in DQ of ENTIRE BAG.**

Each fish deceased at weigh will be penalized 1/2lb. (**Each Fish**).

Lone Star will be using a Check-It stick for official length certification. Your

measuring device may or may not vary from the

Check-It stick. The Lone Star measurement is final.

Measurement will be taken from tip of closed mouth to tip of pinched tail.

Bass are to be caught on Artificial Lure ONLY. Live or Organic bait of any kind is prohibited.

Each Angler may have only (1) active fishing line in the water at a time.

Trolling is prohibited.

You may not at any time step off your boat to aid in casting or landing catch.

**Failure to follow Local, State & Federal Law, and regulations will result in DQ.**

**ANY DISQUALIFICATION FORFEITS ANY DUES/FEES PAID**

**(2) Disqualifications in a season will result in suspension for the remainder of season.**

**All Decisions Made by Lone Star Bass Series Board of Directors Is Final.**

**Boat Requirements** – All entered boats must have all safety elements required by the US Coast Guard.

A permanently mounted and functioning aeration system.

No extended or raised fishing deck above the gunnel.

Motor cannot exceed manufacturers recommendation.

All navigation lights must be functioning and appropriately used.

All boats entered must have current valid registration.

Failure to meet ANY of these requirements will result in DQ of bag.

**Safety** – All teams must have a US Coast Guard approved life vest for each angler on board.

Waist belts are not acceptable.

Life vest must be ON AND BUCKLED anytime big motor is in gear.

Driver must have kill switch attached to their person anytime big motor is powered on.

There is to be **NO** consumption of alcohol or federally prohibited drugs during the tournament.

In the event a Tournament Director feels you are impaired, you will not be allowed to enter.

At no time during an event is an Angler to leave the deck of his boat and enter prohibited or private property.

Follow ALL posted buoys at all times. All Bridges are to be considered No Wake (Even if unposted)

**Off-Limits Areas** – At no time are you to enter or cast into any marked off-limits area.

**It is the responsibility of each Angler to familiarize themselves with the body of water in which they are fishing. Rules, regulations, hazards, no-wake zones, off-limits areas etc.**

**Know the lake, Know the rules, Know the laws, and abide by them.**

Fish care is very important to our sport. Each angler must be prepared with every resource available to protect their catch so we can return your fish back to the water alive as often as possible.

We reserve the right to adjust bag limits prior to an event due to extreme weather conditions if needed. (3 fish limit instead of 5 in extreme heat for example)

Angler Care is also very important to us as well. Instances of weather, lake conditions etc. will be evaluated by Lone Star Board of Directors and proper safety protocol will be followed.

**Angler Safety Is Most Important!!!**

**Off-Limits Period:** The lake being fished during tournament week will go **off-limits** at 11:59pm on the Tuesday before the Tournament. Anyone who fishes the Tournament may not enter within 100yds of the water body during the off-limits period. This includes potential Subs.

**Give Way Zone:** You are to give way to any angler who is established in an area with their trolling motor in the water. You may not navigate within or fish/cast within a radius of (**50 Yards**) of another angler. (Unless established angler gives verbal agreement)

Violation will result in Disqualification.

**Lastly we must add:** You may not alter your fish in any way to aid your catch in meeting fish and game regulations.

You also may not add any foreign materials to your fish in hopes of adding to their weight.

Your fish must be weighed naturally exactly as they were when they came out of the water.

**We will immediately notify authorities in the event cheating of any kind is suspected.**

**All Decisions Made by Lonestar Bass Series Board of Directors Is Final.**

**Aside from Official Rules and Regulations: We ask that all Members of Lone Star Bass Series follow common fishing etiquette and sportsmanship.**

**You are participating at your own free will and you assume all risks and liability. Lone Star Bass Series, it's sponsors, it's Directors and other Members are not responsible for any accidents, injuries or other mishaps that may result from your participation.**

## Event Registration / Launch / Weigh-In

We will be using a numbered launch system.

When your team registers before an event, you will be assigned a random boat number generated by The Weigh Fish App we use.

This number will be the position in which your boat will leave from the launch area.

Once you are on the water, please maneuver your boat safely into draw order. Once we reach launch time, we will begin announcing boat numbers.

You will idle by the dock in line with your livewell open, director will inspect and launch you. (This will be a fast call, so we ask that you be ready and in line. We want to get everyone underway as quickly but as safely as possible)

**ANY BOAT LEAVING THE LAUNCH AREA OUT OF TURN OR BEFORE LAUNCH WILL BE DISQUALIFIED**

**Weigh In:** Line will open as soon as last cast is called. Weigh In Will Close EXACTLY 30 mins after last cast. (For example: Last Cast is 3pm. Weigh in line will open at 3pm. Weigh In line will close at 3:30pm) We will be using a Cull-Tag weigh in system. When you arrive to weigh in your fish, you are to keep your bass in the livewell. At the weigh in desk, there will be 6 cull tags. Retrieve one of the cull tags then go and get your fish and bring them to weigh in. If there are no cull tags, you will wait until one is available. The reasoning behind this is to keep your fish in the livewell as long as possible and avoid the possibility of losing any fish due to waiting in a long weigh in line.

Weigh In line will close the second the clock hits weigh-in close time. (we will be using the Director's cell phone time).

### Reminders:

- There is a 1/2lb penalty for EACH dead fish weighed.
- Teams may never have more than 5 bass in their livewell at any time.
- Any fish brought to weigh-in that is outside of State regulations will result in ENTIRE BAG DQ. (Lone Star Bass Series uses a Check-It stick for measurements. This measurement is FINAL)
- There is a difference between a Largemouth Bass a Spotted Bass and a Small Mouth. Please be aware. Misidentification of species/size limits could easily result in a DQ.
- Fish are in no way to be altered. If we suspect any form of cheating, your team will be disqualified, banned from future events and Directors will notify State Officials.

**Weather Precautions:** Angler safety is our highest concern. We will monitor weather before each event and make adjustments accordingly.

We will make every effort to make the call to Cancel by 7:00pm the night before an event. (Weather at times can be unpredictable and a shorter notice may be required. Again, we will always side with Angler Safety)

### **Cancellation/Delay Requirements**

**Wind:** Sustained Wind 25mph or greater / Forecasted gusts 40mph or greater

**Lightning:** Lightning in the area

**Severe Weather:** Any Warnings or Alerts in the area

**Temperature:** BELOW 15 degrees

\*\*If we have to cancel an event, we will do everything we can to reschedule it. We understand that with so many trails running, it will be hard to schedule around them with a make-up tournament. We will do our best, but once that make up day is set, it is final.

We may also look into the possibility of Launch Delay or Earlier Weigh in time if that is suitable. Again, this will all be determined as the weather presents itself.

### **Trailing**

Anytime the forecast calls for sustained wind approaching 20mph

We will call for a Trailed Event.

However, should you choose, your team may trailer at any event.

- You must come by the registration area to sign up before registration window ends
- We will do a livewell check at that time
- You may NOT leave the ramp area until your boat number is called. Early departure will be DQ
- Weigh In will still be at the designated registration site. You must be in line BEFORE weigh in closes. There will be no exceptions made for any bag that is late to weigh in.

Remember, YOUR safety is our highest concern. However, it is UP TO YOU to decide if you choose to participate. If for any reason you feel uncomfortable, please follow your own intuition.

**Filing a Protest:** A Lone Star Bass Series Director must be notified immediately in the event you wish to file a protest.

- **Protest an On-Water event:** Clear video evidence must be available. Word of mouth will not be an acceptable form of evidence.
- **Protest at weigh-in:** You have the right at anytime to request a re-weigh or re-measure at weigh-in. This protest must be done obviously before the fish are released back into the water.
- Once the tournament closes, weights are final and prizes awarded, the event is over. There will be no protest accepted after that point.
- Lone Star Bass Series Directors Decision Is Final.