

CONROEBASS

COWBOYS FOR KIDS

ANNUAL BENEFIT TOURNAMENT

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES | ANNUAL EDITION

Event-specific details: The current year's official announcement and entry form establish the event date, registration deadlines, host location, takeoff time, and other event logistics. These rules apply to the annual benefit unless ConroeBass publishes an updated version.

01 RULES & DIRECTOR AUTHORITY

Interpretation and enforcement of ConroeBass rules are the exclusive responsibility of the Tournament Director. Sanctions may include disqualification, weight penalties, forfeiture of prizes or entry fees, and prohibition from subsequent tournaments. The Tournament Director's decisions are final. All applicable federal, state, local, and water-body regulations must be followed.

02 PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY

This is a team tournament. A team may consist of two anglers, or one angler may compete alone. Entry is open to anglers in good standing. Anyone previously disqualified from a fishing tournament for cheating is ineligible. Participants must be at least 18 years old unless a parent or legal guardian signs the required waiver.

03 LIABILITY WAIVER

By entering, contestants acknowledge the risks of tournament fishing and agree to the liability provisions in the current year's Cowboys for Kids Tournament Waiver & Entry Form. Contestants are responsible for reading these rules and completing the required waiver before participating.

04 REGISTRATION

Registration and electronic payment arrangements will be announced for each year's event. Cash in-person entry and registration, if offered, will occur during the official period announced by ConroeBass. Boat identification numbers are assigned in registration order, subject to event announcements.

05 OFFICIAL TAKEOFF & BOAT CHECK

Each boat will receive an identification number at registration and must complete the official takeoff/boat-check procedure. Boats will depart in numerical order at the announced takeoff time, after the pre-tournament prayer and national anthem when scheduled. Anglers must pass the designated official boat-check point in boat-number order, with livewell lids open, kill switch secured, and navigation lights operating when required. Follow the announced idle/no-wake route and all director instructions. Failure to complete the required takeoff/boat check may result in disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees and prizes.

06 ENTRY FEES & BENEFIT CONTRIBUTION

Team entry fee is \$160 with an optional \$40 Big Bass side pot. \$80 of each \$160 team entry is designated for Cowboys for Kids. Any changes to these amounts must be announced by ConroeBass before registration opens.

07 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & DRUGS

No alcoholic beverages or narcotic drugs may be consumed on the water during tournament hours, except lawfully prescribed medication used as directed.

08 FIREARMS

Any possession or carrying of firearms aboard boats or at weigh-in must comply with all applicable laws and venue restrictions.

09 BOATS & MOTORS

All boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard and Texas boating requirements. Boats must have a functioning emergency engine kill switch. See Rule 11 for the required use of personal flotation devices and the kill-switch lanyard.

10 LIVEWELLS & BOAT INSPECTION

All boats must have an aerated livewell. All fishing must be done from a boat that has completed the official pre-tournament inspection. Fish caught from an uninspected boat will not be accepted for weigh-in.

11 SAFETY

Safe boating practices are required at all times. All occupants must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD), properly secured with all zippers and fasteners closed, whenever the combustion engine is running and engaged in gear, regardless of boat speed. The operator must have the engine's emergency kill-switch lanyard securely attached to their person whenever the engine is running and engaged in gear.

12 TACKLE & EQUIPMENT

Fish retained for weigh-in must be hooked inside the mouth. Intentional snagging is prohibited. Any fish hooked outside the mouth, whether intentionally or accidentally, must be immediately released in accordance with TPWD regulations. Trolling with a combustion motor is prohibited. Only artificial lures may be used. Only one rod per angler may be used at any one time.

13 PROTESTS

Protests must be submitted in writing before the official closing of the scales. The conduct of both the protested and protesting teams may be examined. Anglers are encouraged to resolve disputes respectfully on the water when possible. The Tournament Director's decision is final. Verbal protests are not accepted.

14 POLYGRAPH

Entrants may be required to submit to a polygraph examination. Refusal or failure to pass will result in disqualification. Contestants with prior polygraph issues at bass fishing tournaments must receive director approval before entering.

15 SCORING FISH

Each team may weigh in five (5) bass, each at least 16 inches long, measured on a flat board with mouth closed and tail compressed. The Tournament Director's measuring board is official. A short fish results in a one-pound penalty per fish and removal of that fish. Presenting more than five fish at the scales results in disqualification. Each dead fish incurs a one-half-pound penalty. Big Bass must be alive to qualify. Only Largemouth, Spotted, Guadalupe, or Kentucky bass are eligible. Tied cash awards are combined and split equally. A team's weight does not count unless the team checks in by the designated deadline.

16 CULLING FISH

No more than five (5) fish may be held in a livewell at any time. Culling dead fish is prohibited.

17 PERMITTED FISHING WATERS

No fishing within 25 yards of another tournament boat without mutual consent. Team partners must fish from the same boat; only contestants may be aboard during tournament hours. Hole sitting by a non-contestant is prohibited. Fishing is restricted to navigable waters accessible without leaving the boat. Contestants may not leave the boat to land fish or gain access to fishing waters; bank fishing is prohibited. Restricting natural fish movement using nets, tanks, dams or similar means, or obstructing access to normally accessible waters, results in disqualification. All bass weighed in become ConroeBass property for release at the host weigh-in site.

18 INSURANCE

Liability insurance is required.

19 TOURNAMENT HOURS & CHECKPOINTS

Official tournament hours, start location, takeoff sequence, and check-in procedures will be announced for the current year's event. Any permitted boat ramp may be used if allowed by the event instructions; all boats must complete the designated official takeoff and check-in procedures. Contestants must check in with tournament officials by the specified end of competition—not merely be in line.

20 BREAKDOWNS & EMERGENCIES

In an emergency or major equipment failure, a tow may be accepted from any boat. A team may transport its fish to weigh-in only in its own boat or another tournament contestant's boat.

21 PAYBACK & CHARITABLE PROCEEDS

Of each \$160 team entry, \$80 is designated for Cowboys for Kids and the remaining \$80 is paid back to winning teams. The optional \$40 Big Bass side pot is paid back at 100%, with one Big Bass place for every ten entries. ConroeBass staff operate the benefit on a volunteer basis. Any event-specific payout schedule will be announced before competition.

22 AWARDS

Anyone not in attendance for the conclusion of weigh-in and the awards presentation forfeits any claim to merchandise earned in competition.

Annual-use note: Confirm the current year's published entry form, venue procedures, and any announced rule amendments before the event. Revision: October 2026.