

# Northern Bass Supply Team Tournament

**1: RULES:** These rules will remain unchanged. Interpretation of these rules shall be left to the tournament officials. The decision of the tournament officials shall be final in all matters

**2: PARTICIPANTS and ELIGIBILITY:** This is a team tournament. Teams will consist of two (2) anglers of either sex. Partners will enter and fish as a team. Participants under the age of eighteen (18) must be paired with an angler of legal age who will assume responsibility in all matters

**3: REGISTRATION:** 1 Team member must appear at the pre-tournament sign-in and briefing at the time and place shown on the official announcement.

**4: SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and consideration. Violation of this policy shall be reason for disqualification. Drunkenness shall be cause for automatic disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or drugs are allowed in the boats. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors. If one team member is disqualified, the team is disqualified.

**5: SAFETY:** Safe boating must be observed at all times. **Each contestant is required to wear a chest type personal flotation device(PFD) anytime the combustion engine is operating. The PFD must be fastened securely until the combustion engine is shut off. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification.** It is mandatory that all boats be equipped with a functional ignition kill switch that is attached to the **drivers person** anytime the combustion engine is operating.

**6: TACKLE and EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures may be used. No live or prepared bait will be permitted with exception of pork strips, rinds, etc. Only one rod and reel is permitted in use at any given time: however, other rigs as specified may be in the boat ready for use. Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. Biosonic sound systems that equate to "fish attractant noise or light emitting devices", and underwater video cameras are not allowed.

**7: BOAT and MOTOR:** Horsepower of the outboard motor must not exceed the **US Coast Guard horsepower rating plate**, installed by the manufacturer. Stick steering will not be allowed on any boat having more than **50 horsepower**. A small motor, gas or electric, may be used for slow maneuvering. **Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited.** No "barges" or similar cumbersome craft will be permitted.

**8: BASIC BOAT EQUIPMENT:** Every boat must have all the required **Coast Guard equipment**. **In addition, each must have a functional bilge pump and live-well space, properly aerated, to adequately maintain a live limit of bass.** Tournament officials shall have sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity are proper and adequate.

**9: BOAT IDENTIFICATION:** Each boat must be given, prior to the day's start an inspection check by a Tournament Official. Each boat will be assigned an identifying number by way of a random draw. Numbers will be provided by officials. These numbers must be retained until after the final weigh-in. **Officials shall have the right to approach and board a competitors boat, to insure compliance with the rules, at any time during the tournament and weigh-in.**

**10: PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Contestants may fish anywhere on the announced tournament water, **except within 50 YARDS of another competitors anchored boat.** (An anchored boat is defined as one that is held in a stable position by weighted line or attached to a fixed object **WITH TROLLING MOTOR UP**. Any specific areas that may be off limits will be announced by the tournament officials. All angling must be done from the boat. **A contestant may not leave the boat to land a fish. There will be no fishing after the contestants boat passes the official check-in point at the end of the tournament day.** Trailering of boats is not permitted during tournament hours or prior to weigh-in.

**11: EMERGENCIES:** Contestants must remain in the boat at all times except in the case of an emergency. In such an emergency partners may enter another competitors boat or rescue boat. In the case of an emergency, both partners must return with their catch.

**Fish must be clearly marked and separated by the anglers.** Returning anglers must return by the official check-in time. In the case of male-female partners sharing a boat, the momentary condition of being out of each others sight to use the restroom is permitted. If any competitor must violate these conditions due to an emergency or any other reason, their catch for that day shall not be counted in the tournament.

**11A: RADIOS/CAMERAS:** During tournament hours, a competitor may not use a CB radio, a VHF marine band radio, a cellular phone, or any other type of communication device for the purpose of locating or catching fish. Contestants are permitted to transmit by radio or telephone only in the case of emergency or for business or personal reason not related to fishing. If so equipped, contestants may listen to the marine band weather information. Cameras are not allowed for use during official tournament hours.

**12: OFFICIAL CHECK POINT:** There will be only one official check-in point for the check-in in the afternoon. This point shall be designated at the tournament briefing. At the time for check-out all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformance with the rules set forth by the Tournament Committee. At the check-in all boats shall identify themselves by means of the numbered tags and proceed to the designated weigh-in area. Teams must remain together and tags turned in at the weigh-in.

**13: SCORING:** Tournament scores will be based on the total weight of bass caught by each team. Daily limits and sizes will be established at each tournament and announced at the pre-tournament briefing. Only Largemouth and Smallmouth bass will be weighed. **Contestants possessing more than the tournament limit will have their catch disqualified.** If in the judgment of the tournament officials any bass presented for weigh-in has been mashed, mauled, or mangled that bass will not be counted in the teams score. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure the established length shall accrue penalties at the rate of one pound for each undersized bass. Fish will be measured on a flat board with the mouth closed. Only tournament officials will handle the fish during measurement and weighing.

**14: DON'T KILL YOUR CATCH:** **Each competitor is expected to keep their bass alive if at all possible. Eight (8) ounces will be deducted from the team score for each dead fish and for any lead or plastics left in the fish at weigh-in. All lunkers must be alive.**

**15: LATE PENALTY:** Start and stop times will be announced at the pre tournament briefing. Any team that is not in the official check-in area at the appointed time shall be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute late, to be deducted from the total team weight for that day, including any weight to be counted toward the lunger award. Any team more than 15 minutes late shall lose all credit for that days catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness and in no case shall a competitor be allowed to make up lost time. **All fishing must cease upon check-in.** After proper recognition at the check-in point competitors will have ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site at a slow idle. Remain in your boat until your number is called, then place your fish in the weigh-in bag provided ensuring there is enough water to cover the fish and proceed to the weigh-in area, **once presented to the weigh master the fish are the property of the tournament officials.**

**16: TIES:** The following methods will be used, in the order shown, to break ties. (1) The team with the greatest number of fish; (2) The team with the greatest number of live fish; (3) The team with the single biggest fish, if known; (4) If the tie remains unbroken a toss of the coin will be resolved the issue. The next place will go to the team eliminated by the tie breaker.

**17: PROTESTS:** Protests must be made in writing within 30 minutes the official check-in time for the final flight of the tournament.

**18: LIABILITY INSURANCE VERIFICATION:** Any boat used in the tournament must be covered by a minimum of \$100,000.00 of liability insurance. By participating in this tournament contestants verify that this coverage will be in force for the date of the tournament.

**19: TRUTH VERIFICATION TEST:** A polygraph or other approved procedure may be given to at least (1) one member of the winning team. At the discretion of the tournament officials other contestants may be required to test Any contestant failing the test will result in disqualification of that team. Any person taking a prescribed medication must notify officials prior to testing. Any contestant using drugs or alcohol to try and alter the results of the test will be disqualified.