



Ohio Bass Federation

Youth Program Tournament Rules

1. USCG Type III Approved Life vest must be worn at all times while Motor running.
2. Anglers: Are not allowed to idle back to the ramp area to fish.
3. 2 Anglers per boat are a team. There will be no single angler teams.
4. All teams must furnish their own boat and boat captain.
5. Anglers may not fish within 50 yards of another anchored club member with a trolling motor down.
6. Anglers must be in a seated position when the boat motor is running.
7. During the tournament blast off, a boat will be on plane before the next boat is allowed to start.
8. Equipment: Up to Five (5) rod and reel combinations with one 370-tackle bag will be allowed per tournament for each angler. Only one rod and reel combination may be used at a time.
9. Baits: Only Artificial bait / lures are permitted. No Live Bait. Pork trailers are permitted.
10. Scoring: There will be a 5 fish limit per team in each tournament. Approved fish lengths will be determined based on the body of water being fished. All fish caught must be measured by Golden Ruler.
11. Sight Fishing: A sight or bedding fish is defined as one that can be seen and is watched as it approaches the lure. Fish being caught under these conditions must be caught by hook and line and by the fish ingesting the lure. Any bass that is caught that is either a "sight" or "bed" fish must be caught "hook in mouth with the hook point entering from inside the mouth". This catch must be verified as a legal catch by the angler's in-boat partner. Any "sight" or "bed" fish caught by snagging or with the hook starting outside the mouth shall be deemed an illegally caught fish and must be released. This same fish may be caught again by legal method – with the hook starting from inside the mouth.
12. Dead Fish: A ¼ pound (4 ounce) penalty will be assessed for each dead fish weighed in.
13. Short Fish: Any Team bringing a fish to the scales which is shorter than the approved length will have an 8-ounce penalty and the short fish will not be weighed.
14. Ties: Any ties will be broken as follows: (1) Largest Single Bass Caught (Big Bass) (2) Total Number of live fish caught (3) Flip of the coin.
15. Each Team must be at the launch ramp at the designed quitting time. A 1 pound penalty will be assessed for each minute late. (The State Director will determine the emergency situation.)
16. All Anglers: Required to offer boat captain \$40.00 for gas funds at the beginning of the state event.
17. When restroom breaks are needed, anglers must use park restroom facilities.
18. Anglers: are expected to show good sportsmanship and respect at all times to other anglers, sponsors, parents and the organization at all times!
19. Anglers are expected to respect Boat Captains requests regarding safety while on the boat. Including, keeping fishing equipment in an orderly and neat fashion, showing respect for co-anglers ability to fish and adhering to safety requests.
20. No cell phones may be used by anglers while the tournament is in process. Anglers may not notify or communicate fishing information to other competitors via cell phone during tournaments. Parents are allowed to contact boat captain(s) only if needed for safety reasons.

Any Angler failing to follow the tournament rules may be disqualified.

Emergency Contact: State Youth Director, Jeremy Reese -

740-816-4035