



**Congratulations to the Bass Champs Anglers
Who have qualified for the Bass Champs Team Championship for 2021!**

Official Reminders

- **5 fish limits** - No team may retain more than two (2) largemouth or spotted bass (in any combination) less than 18 inches long, all additional largemouth or spotted bass must be 18 inches or greater. All smallmouth bass must be 14 inches or greater.
- **No information rule** - During official practice and competition days, contestants may not receive fishing information from non-competitors. Other than using publicly-available information (e.g. newspaper reports and internet reports) no fishing information may be purchased, bartered, solicited or received from any person who entered official tournament waters during the established off-limits period for the 2021 Bass Champs Championship.
- **Off-Limits** -It is the responsibility of the anglers to be familiar with the off-limits. (A picture of the off-limits is posted at the registration table.)
- **Take-Off & Boat #** - Take-off will begin at safe light; approximately 7:10am. 4 AOY Teams will be #'s 1-4 with remaining teams randomly drawing boat numbers. Teams will keep the same boat numbers both days, please remember your assigned boat #. The take-off order will be reversed Sunday.
- **Fishing License** - A Texas license is required by all anglers participating in the 2021 Championship.
- **In case of Emergency** - Please contact 911 then call Tournament Director @ 817-439-3274.

Thank you to all of our 2021 Sponsors and Location Partners!



To protect the integrity of Bass Champs and our anglers, all winners will be subject to a polygraph exam before the prizes are distributed at each event. Contestants must pass the polygraph exam at the tournament site to receive prize money, awards, and points for the event. The Tournament Director reserves the rights to waive any violation of these rules that are disclosed to him before the polygraph exam, in his sole and absolute discretion.

Official 2021 Bass Champs Championship Rules: Decisions of the Tournament Director are final and are not subject to appeal. Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to the Tournament Director in his sole and absolute discretion. Each competitor agrees to report any rule violation to the Tournament Director immediately upon discovery of the violation. The violation of a tournament rule may result in weight loss, the loss of weight up to a specific time during the tournament day, total loss of weight for that particular day, the ineligibility to participate in future Bass Champs events, or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the Tournament Director in his sole discretion. Protests must be made in writing within 10 minutes of the official closing of the scales at each tournament.

1. Participation and Eligibility: Participation is open to current members of Bass Champs who meet the qualification requirements to fish the 2021 Bass Champs Team Championship. Participants must be 18 years old and older; provided that a team may consist of one participant who is 18 years old or older and one participant under the age of 18 including junior teams as addressed in rule #2 below. Any person entering a Bass Champs Tournament under the age of 18 years must also have the signature of their parent or legal guardian in the provided space on the official entry form and written consent from parent or legal guardian specifically permitting such contestant under the age of 18 to participate in the event with the contestant who is 18 years old or older.

- Bass Champs Tournaments are open to all anglers except professional anglers. A professional angler is defined as:
 - Any angler that has entered more than one bass tournament that required an entry fee greater than \$2,500 or any angler competing in the Major League Fishing BPT/MLF series in the immediately preceding six months prior to the date of the Bass Champs Tournament being entered.
- **All Contestants must have a valid TEXAS fishing license.**

2a. Teams: The 2021 Bass Champs Championship is a team event. A team shall consist of no more than two anglers; although a Contestant (and official observer, if required by Bass Champs) may fish alone as a single person team (in such event Bass Champs reserves the right to place an observer in Contestant's boat for the tournament day). Only registered Contestants may be in the boat during official practice and tournament days. If either partner enters tournament waters during the official off-limits period (September 20th, 2021 through October 5th, 2021) such partner shall be ineligible for the 2021 Bass Champs Championship.

2b. Registration Times: All contestants must register between 4:00pm to 6:00pm Friday evening at Concho Park. Dinner will be served so anglers may register, eat then leave; there is no mandatory meeting.

3. Information: Other than using publicly-available information (e.g. newspaper reports and internet reports) no fishing information may be purchased, bartered, solicited or received from any person who entered official tournament waters during the established off-limits period for the 2021 Bass Champs Championship, specifically including, but not limited to, an ineligible partner as described in rules 1 & 2 above.

4. Tournament Waters: Off-Limits: No Contestant may be on designated tournament waters for any reason during the official off-limits period which runs consecutively from September 20th, 2021 through October 5th, 2021.

Official Practice Days: Official practice days are Wednesday, October 6th, 2021 through Friday, October 8th, 2021.

5. Safety: Safe boating must always be observed. Each Contestant is required to wear a fastened (fully zipped and/or all clips fastened), U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is in operation from boat check until weigh-in. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device, which must be securely attached to the driver's body any time the combustion engine is in operation. The driver must be seated in the driver's seat anytime the combustion engine is engaged in gear. Tournament days may be shortened or canceled due to unsafe weather or any conditions that would endanger the safety of the competitors at the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion. Competitors are allowed to leave the boat and seek shelter in bad weather, at which time no fishing may occur.

6. Permitted Fishing Methods: Only artificial lures may be used. Only one fishing rod per angler may be used at any one time. Additional rods may be in the boat and ready for use; however, each cast and retrieve must be completed before another cast is attempted or rod is used. Trolling with the combustion engine as a method of fishing is prohibited. Switching or sharing fish with other teams or individuals is a violation of these rules and will result in immediate disqualification. All bass must be caught alive, in a conventional, sporting manner. When sight fishing for bass, all fish must be hooked inside the mouth to be counted as a legal fish. All angling must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a Contestant leave the boat to land a fish, make the boat more accessible to fishing waters, or locate bass.

7. Sportsmanship and Conduct: All Contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Examples of conduct not complying with those standards include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any mind-altering substance during tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure;
- Any previous conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation for a felony, a crime involving moral turpitude, or a crime related to, arising out of, or involving any fishing tournament or event, except with full, prior written disclosure to the Tournament Director under oath and by affidavit of all facts and circumstances surrounding such conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation at least ten (10) days before the Bass Champs event being entered, and thereafter subject to the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion that such conviction, charge, arrest, or investigation does not result in the Contestant's honesty, integrity, character or qualifications to enter the event being unreasonably questionable.
- Actions or words which reflect unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, and fair competition.
- Chemical substance abuse or addiction.
- Disqualification from Bass Champs tournaments or other fishing organizations that resulted from unexplained rule violations that result in a Contestant's honesty, integrity, character, and qualifications for entry into a Bass Champs event being questionable in the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion.

Upon review of the circumstances by Bass Champs and the Tournament Director, the Tournament Director shall have the right to refuse any application, or to deny a confirmed application, by returning the entry fee of a previously accepted application, or disqualifying a Contestant. Bass Champs reserves the right to place an official observer in a Contestant's boat at any time during competition hours.

9. Assistance: During official practice and competition days, contestants may not receive fishing information from non-competitors or participate in the practice of "hole sitting." The use of mobile communication devices such as cellular phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., to communicate fishing information during tournament hours is strictly prohibited. In the event of an emergency situation, competitors should call 911 first and then notify the Tournament Director at 817-439-3274.

10. Boat and Horsepower Regulation: Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. Boats must contain a properly aerated live well space to maintain alive a limit catch of Bass. Maximum horsepower for all outboards used in tournament competition may not exceed the horsepower limitations as set by the U. S. Coast Guard in such vessel. Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower numbers on the motor or rating plate to conceal such limitations will be cause for disqualification from the tournament. No Contestant may have a platform, raised deck, or ladder which is higher than the gunnel of the boat. Standing on the fishing seats or outboard motor will not be allowed in Bass Champs events. All boats must be propeller driven and must be equipped with wheel steering, no other steering device will be permitted. No air, jet drive, or surface drive boats will be permitted during official practice or competition days.

11. Permitted Fishing Locations: Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters accessible by boat and available to the public, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by state or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a competitor's boat which was first anchored (an anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight with the trolling motor in the up position), or within 25 yards of a non-anchored competitor's boat unless otherwise agreed upon by the other tournament angler. The act of moving bass from one area of the lake to another confined area of the same lake at any time, whether or not during official practice days or competition days, is not permitted.

12. Off-limits areas: Such areas will be established and announced at the registration for the 2021 Bass Champs Championship. Contestants may not fish inside the established “off-limits” area. Violation of the rule will result in immediately disqualification. Contestants' boats must remain in the tournament waters during the event

13. Trailering is not allowed: All boats must leave the official check point by boat in the order designated at registration. Contestants may launch their boat at a ramp other than the designated take-off location, but all Contestants must come through the official check point location before leaving to fish. In the event of severe weather alternate take-off instructions will be given at the registration site, at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director

14. Official Checkpoints: There will be only one official checkpoint for boat inspection in the morning and one official check-in point in the afternoon. Failure to go through boat check-out in the morning or failure to officially check-in at the check-in point will result in disqualification from such event. During morning check-out, all teams are required to idle a minimum of 100 yards before putting the boat on plane. It is the sole responsibility of each Contestant to arrive at the designated check-in location on time. Regardless of what you are told or understand, it is the angler's responsibility to verify their provided flight card time. All fishing must cease upon check-in, or upon such other time as may be designated by the Tournament Director.

15. Scoring: Will be determined by the pounds and ounces of each angler's catch during the tournament. Only Largemouth, Spotted, or Smallmouth Bass are accepted species. The limit will be five bass per team. Any team who possesses more than the tournament limit at any time will have their catch for that day disqualified. **No team may retain more than two largemouth or spotted bass (in any combination) less than 18 inches long, all additional largemouth or spotted bass must be 18 inches or greater. All Smallmouth bass must be 14 inches or greater.** Largemouth or Spotted Bass presented for weigh-in, which fail to measure the prescribed length limit, will result in loss of the smallest Largemouth or Spotted Bass and a one (1) pound penalty to the weight of the remaining fish. Smallmouth presented for weigh-in, which fail to measure the prescribed length limit, will result in the loss of that particular Smallmouth Bass and a one (1) pound penalty to the weight of the remaining fish. Each contestant's catch must be presented in an official weigh-in bag and verified by the signature of at least one team member. The Pro-Rule Measuring Board is the official measuring board of Bass

16. Live Fish: Every effort must be made to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live well. The use of chemical live well additives made by Sure-Life, which promote the healthy return of bass to their natural habitat, are recommended. A ONE (1) pound penalty will be deducted for each dead bass presented for weigh-in. Any team that weighs in a dead fish for the Big Bass Award will receive a ONE (1) pound penalty from the total Big Bass Award weight. **Culling of dead bass is prohibited.**

17. Late Penalty: Contestants who are not at the official check-in point at the appointed time will be assessed a ONE (1) pound per minute penalty from their total weight including any weight to be counted toward a Big Bass Award. Any Contestant more than 15 minutes late will forfeit that day's catch. In the event of a mechanical break down, a Contestant may return to the check-in location with their catch by receiving a ride from another registered Contestant or tournament official only. The Contestants must return to the official check-in location by the methods set forth above by their assigned check-in time to avoid late penalty.

18. Closing of the Scales: Scales will close 30 minutes after the last flight is due in. Due to certain weigh-in locations this time may be lengthened or shortened at the Tournament Director's sole and absolute discretion. Any change to the above stated official scale closing time will be announced during registration, during boat check-out or during weigh-in. **It is the angler's responsibility to verify the official scale closing time and to be in the weigh-in line by such time.**

19. Ties: A tie for 1st and 2nd place in the 2021 Bass Champs Championship will be broken by a One Hour Fish Off. All other ties will be resolved by splitting that place and the next place's money.