



OFFICIAL RULES

Effective: March 29, 2024

P1. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES

By signing this agreement, I (also referred to as “Angler”) hereby agree to be bound by and comply with all Tournament Rules, Sportsmanship, and all other guidelines and regulations in the 2024 Badger Childhood Cancer (BCCN) Fishing for Families Bass Classic rules. I also certify I am physically fit and that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in the tournament.

P2. RELEASE OF LIABILITY; INDEMNIFICATION

(i) I expressly assume all risks associated with my participation in the tournament series and for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors and assigns, I hereby waive, release and discharge Badger Childhood Cancer Network (BCCN), its affiliates and subsidiaries, the hosts, sponsors and tournament series officials (“Released Parties”) from any and all losses, liabilities, claims, damages and expenses (including without limitation, attorneys fees and related costs), of any kind (hereinafter “Claims”) arising out of or in connection with my participation in the tournament series, including but not limited to Claims involving, death, disability, personal injury and/or property damage. I hereby indemnify, hold harmless, and promise not to sue the Released Parties for any and all Claims arising as a result of my participation in this Tournament. I acknowledge that this Tournament may carry with it the potential for death, serious injury, and personal loss. The risks may include, but are not limited to, those caused by water conditions, temperature, weather, equipment, actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, and spectators. This release of liability shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

(ii) I shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Released Parties against all Claims, whether or not a lawsuit or other proceeding is filed, to the extent that they arise out of : (1) my breach of the terms of this Agreement, (2) gross negligence, or willful misconduct by me, my agents or those acting on my behalf; (3) my violation of any applicable law, ordinance, rule, or regulation, including but not limited to all rules and guidelines applicable to tournament events; (4) breach of any warranty provided by me to Released Parties hereunder. I shall provide BCCN with prompt notice of any claim and give complete control of its defense and settlement to BCCN. I shall also cooperate in all reasonable respects with BCCN, its insurance company, the Released Parties (as applicable) and their legal counsel in the defense of such claim. If I fail to promptly indemnify and defend a covered claim, the Released Parties shall have the right to defend

themselves, and in such case, I shall promptly reimburse the Released Parties, for all of their associated costs and expenses.

P3. INSURANCE

I represent and warrant that I now have or will obtain prior to the tournament, boat owners liability insurance (including coverage for third party property damage and bodily injury). The insurance must be issued by a reputable insurer rated A or better by A.M. Best and Company. I shall provide BCCN with satisfactory evidence of that insurance prior to my participation in any tournament event or at any time requested by BCCN.

1. RULES AND PENALTIES

The following rules shall apply to the BCCN Fishing for Families Bass Classic event. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director/Committee at the tournament. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director/Committee may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate by them, including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and entry fees.

Any rules violation which may lead to disqualification of a boat (two (2) member team), must be reported to the Tournament Director/Committee within 15-minutes of the scales closed announcement.

The penalty for any rules violations is disqualification from the tournament, with the exception of the Late Penalty, which is outlined in Rule 11.

2. COMPETITION RULES

- (a) Every boat participating must have a sponsor.
- (b) Every boat must have a working aerated livewell.
- (c) Live bait is not permitted.
- (d) Trolling is not permitted.
- (e) Each boat must catch and weigh their own fish.
- (f) Anglers must adhere to a "Slow No Wake" within 200 feet of the Merrimac railroad trestle.
- (g) Fishing is not allowed within 25 feet of a competitor's boat that has anchored and stowed the trolling motor.
- (h) Anglers must use weigh-in bags provided by event organizers.
- (i) A courtesy bump board will be provided and allowed prior to weigh-in.

(j) Each boat may have either one or two anglers, but no more than two. A third individual may be permitted for photography/videography purposes only. This member shall wear a vest, provided by the Tournament Committee, indicating their role as "Media Support".

(k) A designated tournament official must be granted access to the competitor's boat at any time during the official competition days. Failure to grant such access may result in immediate disqualification.

(l) During the official competition day, competitors may not share, trade or give fish to any other boat/competitor in the tournament.

(m) During official competition, there is a three (3) fish limit, per boat. Any additional fish (above the three (3) fish limit) must be released prior to returning to the check-in point as set forth in rule 10. Any boat that checks in with more than a three (3) fish limit will be disqualified.

(o) Both largemouth and smallmouth bass are permitted. Minimum length shall follow Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) regulations (14" minimum length).

(p) Each competitor agrees to immediately report to the Tournament Director any violation or infraction of any tournament rules. Failure to report violations, suggestions to another competitor that they violate these rules, or false verification of weigh-in forms may be cause for disqualification. Official protests must be filed in accordance with Rule 1.

3. SAFETY

(i) Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. During the official competition, each competitor must wear a Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver anytime the combustion engine is running. This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely, and maintained in that condition until the combustion engine is shut off. Drivers must have attached an engine "kill switch" to their life vest anytime the outboard is running/operating. Inflatable life vest indicators should be checked daily. Violation of this rule may be a reason for disqualification. Inflatable PFDs are allowed as long as U.S. Coast Guard regulations are met. The Coast Guard requires that inflatable PFDs must be worn at all times unless there is an equal number of non inflatable Coast Guard approved PFDs on board.

(ii) Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten or cancel any part of an official tournament because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather.

4. SPORTSMANSHIP

Competitors are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.

(i) Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those purchased over-the-counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any competitor, during the tournament, will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this and all future BCCN tournaments. No alcoholic beverages or prohibited drugs shall be allowed in the boats during the official competition.

(ii) Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling tournament waters. Any act of a competitor, which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters and courtesy, may be reason for disqualification.

5. TACKLE & EQUIPMENT

During official competition no more than one artificial or biodegradable artificial lure may be attached to a line at one time. One lure is defined as a single man-made device designed to attract and/or catch one fish at a time. Alabama rigs are permitted as defined per WDNR regulations. Adding trailer hooks, plastic trailers, blades, etc., to a single lure is acceptable. The use of braid or other line to attach one stinger hook (single or treble) is allowed but cannot be over two inches in length. If multiple fish are caught on a single man-made lure, on a single cast, all fish are considered legal and may be added to the daily catch subject to scoring rules. No "live bait," "dead bait," or "prepared bait" will be permitted during official competition, with the exception of pork strips or rinds.

Only ONE casting, spin casting or spinning rod (10-foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reel may be used at any one time. A hung or snagged lure that is not in or on the water is not considered in use and may be set aside while another is in use. Other rigs, as specified above, may be in the boat ready for use; however, only ONE rig is permitted in use at any given time. If a competitor breaks his line while setting the hook or retrieving a fish, they are allowed to make an attempt with the rod being used or with his hands to secure the visible line and land the fish for it to be counted as legal. They may NOT hook the line with another lure, rod and reel or other device.

No competitor may intentionally snag or foul-hook a bass to be counted in his daily catch. Anyone guilty of intentionally snatching or snagging visible fish will have his catch disqualified. When visually fishing for bass, to be counted as a legal fish, each bass must be hooked inside the mouth and must be verified by the assigned partner or other observer before being unhooked. With the fish's mouth closed naturally, you must not be able to see where the hook point enters the fish for it to be considered hooked inside the mouth. Any fish hooked in the mouth where the hook did not enter through the mouth, but entered through the gills must be released.

6. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director/Committee. Each competitor must obtain this information from the BCCN Tournament Director/Committee. Only that water open to all public fishing will be considered tournament waters. Waters deemed off-limits by authorities or tournament officials should be treated like a wall. No boats or casting behind that boundary while fishing. All angling must be done from the boat.

7. BOAT IDENTIFICATION

Prior to the competition start, each boat must be given an inspection check by a tournament official and provided a ribbon for placement on their trolling motor. Each boat will be given a number, which must remain with the boat. This number must be displayed upon the request of tournament officials and at check-in.

8. COMPETITORS MUST REMAIN IN BOAT

During the official competition day, competitors must not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. You are not allowed to use a winch, pulley, come along, cable, rope, or

similar device/tools to gain access to tournament waters. **Competitors may not shift a majority of their weight outside the boat and/or onto a dock or other object outside the boat for the purpose of landing a bass or accessing a fishing spot.** A bass that cannot be landed without the angler leaving the boat or shifting his weight outside the boat must be released immediately. While keeping the majority of weight in the boat anglers are allowed, for boat protection purposes, to push or shove off objects while landing a fish to be counted as legal. Competitors are allowed to leave the boat to retrieve a lure. All fishing by that competitor must cease until the competitor is back in the boat. Only then may another cast be made.

Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament days. Competitors must leave from and return to official checkpoints by boat. Towing boats on trailers during tournament hours is prohibited, except by the direction of tournament officials. Anglers must remain in the boat at all times except in case of dire emergency, to retrieve a lure (see above) or with permission from the Tournament Director. In such an emergency or with permission from the Tournament Director, competitors may be removed from their boat to either a boat operated by other competitors or a rescue boat designated by the tournament director. Partners must remain together at all times, in sight of their catch, under the conditions cited above, in order for their catch of that day to be scored in the tournament with the following exception. **In breakdown situations and with a tournament official's permission, anglers may transfer their boat's fish to another competitor's boat and ride to check-in. They may leave their Pro with the disabled boat. In such cases, the co-angler must stay with their catches at all times. The assisting boat's partners shall verify the catch. Any angler whose boat is disabled and rides with another competitor or rescue boat to weigh-in is not allowed to fish.** In the event of a needed restroom break or refueling situation at a marina gas pump, partners are allowed to leave the boat; however, in that event, all fishing must cease until partners are back together in the boat. If a competitor violates any of the above conditions (without contacting a tournament official by phone or other means or to report an emergency or breakdown), competitors must cease fishing at this point, and their catch must be verified by a tournament official in order to be counted in the tournament. If after the emergency situation is resolved by tournament officials and enough time is left for the competitor to resume fishing, a restart will be allowed, and the competitor will continue and their catch will be counted. This applies only to dire emergency situations as determined by the Tournament Director or his designee.

9. CATCH AND RELEASE

CULLING OF DEAD BASS IS PROHIBITED. For each legal dead bass presented to weigh-in officials, the competitor shall be penalized 4 ounces to be deducted from their daily score. Competitors are allowed to ice a dead fish that is part of their daily catch. The Tournament Director/Committee shall have sole authority for assessing penalty points. In addition, the Tournament Director/Committee, may reduce tournament hours or tournament limits for fish care purposes. It is suggested in warm weather tournaments that anglers keep extra ice for fish care. Contestants are allowed to obtain ice and other items for fish care from contestants and/or non-contestants. Anglers may be allowed to weigh-in early with permission from the Tournament Director. It is recommended competitors keep all bass in livewells during the culling process. Placing bass on the boat carpet during culling is not advised.

10. OFFICIAL CHECK-IN

There shall only be one official check point for check-out in the morning and check-in in the afternoon, which point shall be designated by the tournament director/committee and provided to anglers at the Tournament Briefing. Failure to go through boat check-in and check-out in the morning or failure to check-in at the check-in point in the afternoon may result in disqualification. At the time of check-out, all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformity with all rules set forth by the Tournament

Director/Committee. At check-in, all boats shall identify themselves by means of the numbers described in Rule 7 and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area.

11. LATE PENALTY

Competitors who are not at the official check-in point, as described in Rule 10, at the appointed time, shall be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute late; to be deducted from the total weight of his/her catch that day. Any competitor more than 15-minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness, and in no case, shall a competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." After proper recognition at the check-in point, competitors will be allowed ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site; however, all fishing must cease upon check-in. Exact starting and check-in times will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. It is each competitor's responsibility to confirm check-in times.

12. WAIVER AND RELEASE

As a condition of participation in the tournament, each competitor must execute a waiver and release of liability, and a name and likeness release at time of morning check-in at the BCCN registration table.

Badger Childhood Cancer Network (BCCN) - Fishing for Families
2215 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI 53704