

# *Del Norte Bass Anglers*

## **TOURNAMENT RULES**

### PURPOSE:

To further the purpose of the Del Norte Bass Anglers (DNBA), members will conduct and participate in periodic angling tournaments in keeping with the conservation, camaraderie and competition aspects of the AZ BASS Nation and the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.

Tournaments will be used to develop and further the angling skills of members and guests, develop and further friendships and shared interests, and encourage safety and conservation practices on and for our lakes and reservoirs through angling competition as well as fishing and boating etiquette.

### TOURNAMENTS:

A) Tournaments will generally be conducted monthly as developed by a committee established by the Board of DNBA for the subsequent calendar year. Tournaments may be “draw” one- or two-day tournaments except for the ones designated as night tournaments (usually during summer months). Club tournaments may be individual or team scored events.

B) Eleven club tournaments may be scheduled annually. Club tournaments may coincide with AZ BASS Nation qualifier tournaments during which AZ BASS Nation rules apply.

C) There will be no pre-fish restrictions for any club tournaments except as noted for AZ BASS Nation qualifiers, excepting any practices identified in REGULATIONS/PROCEDURES (M) below, which see.

#### D) Draw Tournaments:

- 1) Every effort should be made to ensure an equal number of boaters and non-boaters for draw tournaments.
- 2) For tournament fishing, boaters will be paired with non-boaters by way of a random draw conducted by the tournament director for each day of the tournament prior to the start time of the tournament. Draw partners for day one of a tournament may not be drawn together again for day two.

#### E) Team Tournaments:

Several tournaments throughout the year may be scored as team events. Team partners may be established by participants or may be drawn randomly as in D) 2). For team tournaments the entry fee shall be based on two persons regardless of a boater who chooses to fish alone. Teams will be allowed to bring a maximum of six (6) fish to the weigh-in for shared awards and club points.

#### F) Night Tournaments:

Several tournaments throughout the year may be scheduled as night tournaments. There will not be a random draw for club night tournaments; partners will be established by club members or guests as they agree to participate. Contestants may be fishing as two-person teams or individuals during night tournaments.

G) Tournaments will generally be conducted on Arizona lakes and reservoirs and target largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and other bass as available and in accordance with the rules and specifications of B.A.S.S.

#### METHODS, TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT

- A) Fishing is accomplished by hook and line, rod and reel, cast and retrieve fishing.
- B) Only artificial lures may be used. NO live bait or prepared bait is permitted with the exception of pork strips, rinds, etc.
- C) Trolling is not permitted.

#### BASIC BOAT EQUIPMENT

- A) Every boat must have a Coast Guard approved life jacket for each person in the boat.
- B) Law requires one (1) throw flotation aboard all boats over 16 feet in length.
- C) Each boat shall be equipped and operated according to the "laws of the waters" on which the tournament is held.
- D) All boats must be equipped with a livewell and electric trolling motor.
- E) All boats (regardless of size) must be equipped with a working kill switch.

#### TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES AND PAYOUT

- A) Total entry fee for a club monthly tournament is \$70.00 which must be submitted to the tournament director in cash in order to support payout awards at the end of the tournament.
- B) Payouts are made according to a simplified payout worksheet attached to these rules. Payout positions are 1 per 5 boaters/non-boaters based on the total number of entries.
- C) The pay scale is: 100% at one spot paid, 60/40% at two spots paid, 50/30/20% at three spots paid, 40/27/19/14% at four spots paid, and 35/25/18/13/9% at five spots paid.
- D) Boaters fish against boaters and non-boaters against non-boaters for basic awards; big fish award is for the one big fish of the tournament.
- E) Seven Pound Club 100% payback of existing funds. Only the current members of the club who have made past contribution to the seven pound club are entitled to this payout. The seven pound club lapses when this payback is awarded, and this paragraph can be deleted when the payout has been made.
- F) The breakout of the \$70 entry fee is \$50 payback to boaters/non-boaters, \$10 payback to the big fish, and \$10 to Del Norte Bass Anglers for club expenses and administration.

#### SIZE LIMITS / BAG LIMITS / CULLING

- A) There will be a maximum of (5) five bass meeting any legal minimum size for the waters being fished (length) limit per day weighed-in per contestant. In team fishing, there will be a limit of (6) six bass meeting the minimum size for the waters being fished (length) limit per team per

day, unless other tournament rules prevail. Night tournaments will be a limit of (3) three bass meeting the minimum size for the waters being fished (length) limit per day weighed-in per contestant.

B) It is the responsibility of the contestant to make sure their fish are legal before coming to the scales. The club will provide a measuring board upon request, but the Golden Rule Weighmaster Board is the official board.

C) It is the responsibility of the contestant to choose his/her biggest fish and have it weighed. In case of ties, for place or money, big fish will overrule all ties.

D) In the event of a tournament scale failure, the tournament director has discretion to use an alternate scale or Golden Rule as long as all tournament fish are accorded the same bias and weighed or measured by the same method.

E) For "Paper Tournaments" fish weight will be determined by the Golden Rule Weighmaster Board, except for Big Fish and tiebreakers which will be determined by actual weight.

F) Culling fish must be done before checking in and away from check-in area. Check-in area will be at the discretion of the tournament director.

G) Culling of dead fish is NOT allowed.

## PROTESTS

A) Any objections or disagreements regarding the weigh-in should be brought to the attention of the director during the tournament. If there is an objection to a weigh call, that objection should be made while the fish are being weighed. After the fish are off the scale, objections will not be allowed. Tournament director will assign an assistant to make a call if a contestant and director cannot agree.

B) Any objections regarding the tournament or any of its contestants or officials must be submitted in writing to any officer within 30 minutes after the end of weigh-in and will be ruled on by club board.

## PENALTIES

A) There will be a .50 pound penalty deducted from the daily total for each dead fish weighed in.

B) There will be a TWO POUND penalty for each fish weighed-in under the minimum (length) size limit and that fish will also be disqualified.

C) Contestants or teams weighing in more than the allowed fish limit, or three (3) fish limit for night tournaments, will be penalized all of their biggest fish over that limit and they will also be penalized the biggest of the remaining fish. By penalized it is meant that they will lose the fish.

D) Contestants must be inside the no-wake zone of the designated launch area at or before the official weigh-in time. Official time is determined by the tournament director, as is the start and end (weigh-in) times for tournament days. There will be a ten ounce (.63) penalty for each minute a contestant is late for the appointed weigh-in time. After fifteen (15) minutes those contestants will be disqualified for that day.

- E) A contestant cited by officers for violation of State or Federal fishing / boating regulations jeopardizes his daily catch and may be subject to disqualification.

## SCORING

### Tournament Points:

Tournament points are used to help establish the standing of anglers among tournament participants, and eventually the annual angler of the year and co-angler of the year. The club may establish an award system for club members who place in the standings. Club points may also be awarded to club members based on meeting attendance as well as participation in community service events sponsored or supported by the AZ BASS Nation and/or the club.

Tournament points will be based on the weight of fish weighed per contestant. Points will be used to determine the overall ranking and standings of tournament participants.

- A) Tournament points will be awarded to the angler weighing the heaviest fish with 1st place receiving 50 points and so forth to 1 point in descending order based on weight and considering any applicable penalties. Those after 50th place will receive 0 points. No points will be awarded for zero fish caught.
- B) One (1) point for every pound of fish weighed-in will be added to place points per contestant to establish their point total for the tournament.
- C) Five (5) points will be awarded for contestants participating in a tournament. These will be referred to as "show-up" points.

### Club Points:

Club points will be combined with tournament points and used to determine the overall standings of fishing club members and accumulated for the calendar year. These points will be used to determine angler of the year, co-angler of the year and any other awards to be made as established by the club.

- A) Two (2) points will be awarded for attendance at each monthly club meeting provided the member has signed the "sign-in" roster.
- B) Two (2) points will be awarded for participation in community service projects organized by the AZ BASS Nation or Del Norte Bass Anglers with a limit/maximum of (6) six points per calendar year.
- C) Point totals will consist of your best eight tournament finishes plus, meeting sign-in, tournament show-up and community service points. These points will be used to determine your club standing for the year.

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES/NARCOTICS

Alcohol, barbiturates, marijuana or any other controlled substance found in a contestant's boat will result in the immediate disqualification of the offending party. Misconduct as a result of drug or alcohol abuse may also result in disqualification.

## INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

It is the sole responsibility of the boat owner and tow vehicle owner to carry and have proof of adequate public liability insurance covering himself and passengers. All contestants are re-

quired to sign a waiver absolving Del Norte Bass Anglers, the tournament sponsors and co-sponsors from any responsibility for any damage or personal injury sustained as a result of their participation in the tournament or related activities.

#### REGULATIONS / PROCEDURES:

A) Unless prior arrangements have been made with the tournament director, all entries must be paid prior to the first day's blast-off or that contestant will be disqualified from the tournament.

B) Any person may fish two (2) "club" tournaments as a guest, provided that all entry fees are paid in full. A person fishing as a guest will have the option of fishing with a friend for the first day of the tournament. Guests are not eligible to fish BASS Nation Qualifiers.

C) Any member of a B.A.S.S. Nation Club can fish two (2) tournaments as a guest, per calendar year, provided that all fees are paid in full.

D) Any contestant that draws the same partner as the previous day will immediately notify the tournament director and allow themselves to be re-drawn so that contestant pairing will not be the same for both days of a tournament.

E) It is the responsibility of the non-boater to check all equipment and livewell in the boat. Any defects are to be reported to the tournament director by the non-boater prior to blast-off.

F) Personal Floatation Devices (PFD's) will be worn (zipped or buckled) and kill switches will be attached anytime the "BIG" motor is in operation and in gear.

G) If not enough fish are caught to pay (5) five places, all left over money will be put into the club treasury.

H) Tournament winners will be paid by cash or check at the conclusion of the tournament.

I) The tournament director reserves the right to assign any assistants when no volunteers are available, if needed.

J) All other rules not covered within, will refer to the latest Arizona BASS Nation tournament rules.

K) The practice of "salting" or "seeding" is not allowed at any time within two weeks of a club tournament. This prohibits the catching and relocating of qualifying fish to other areas of the lake or river in order to improve the potential for catching these same fish during a tournament.

L) Sight (Bed) Fishing fish must be caught with the hook (barb) inside the mouth of the bass as verified by the fishing partner in the boat. Fish hooked outside the mouth (snagged) must be returned to the water immediately.

M) For club level tournaments only, the following rigs may be used; the Alabama or Umbrella Rig, the jig and drop shot or two-hook drop shot rigs, and the double fluke rig as long as such rigs conform to Arizona Game and Fish rules and regulations.

#### RULE CHANGES

A) Permanent Changes to Tournament Rules: Proposed changes to the tournament rules may be made by any member in good standing and must be submitted in writing to any Board member. The Board shall consider the proposal and if the majority of board members supports

the change(s) they shall present them to the members present at the next monthly meeting where these Tournament Rules may then be amended by a simple majority vote.

B) Non-permanent changes to Tournament Rules: Any tournament rule may be changed for a specific tournament or its location by a simple majority vote of the board, but these changes will not affect any previous or future tournaments and must be announced or made known to tournament participants as soon as practical.

These Tournament Rules shall be effective as of October 2, 2018.