

ARTICLE I - TOURNAMENT RULES

SECTION 1: TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

- A. *South Houston Bass Club* tournaments will be held on the weekend following the regular monthly meeting, whenever possible.
 - 1. If at any time that a person cannot fish on a club weekend, due to a conflicting work schedule or a death in the immediate family, that person and his partner may fish at another time, but they must fish within anytime 7 days prior or 7 days after the regularly-scheduled club tournament. (WB-2012)
- B. Club tournaments shall be designated prior to tournament date. Lake, weigh-in, day or days, and start and finish times are to be determined by member majority.
- C. Option of yearly tournament schedule shall be available.
- D. Options of paper tournaments are available to membership.

SECTION 2: FISHING WITH A GUIDE

No member of the club may fish with any person that derives any part of his or her living from the lake for a period often (10) days before a club tournament on the same lake.

SECTION 3: RULES TO GOVERN TOURNAMENT

- A. Point System: One (1) ounce will equal one (1) point towards yearly total. Bonus points will be awarded for attendance at regular club meetings and regular tournaments. Ten (10) points will be awarded for meeting attendance and six (6) points will be awarded for tournament attendance. These attendance points will not be dropped in computing your total points. A person who is working at his livelihood or who is ill during regular meetings will be awarded the ten (10) points for that meeting if he notifies any club member prior to that meeting. Additional bonus points for placing in a monthly tournament will be awarded as follows:
 - First Place - fifteen (15) points;
 - Second Place - ten (10) points;
 - Third Place - five (5) points;
 - Big Bass - five (5) points.These points will never be taken away once they are awarded.
- B. Number of Tournaments That Will Count Toward Annual Points: The Club will fish ten (10) tournaments a year. The eight (8) best of these will count toward annual points.
- C. Guides: Any member who is a guide will not be eligible for awards from the lake that he holds his guide license on.
- D. Bag Limits: The number of fish or "bag limit" shall be a total of five (5) for both days. Species accepted are largemouth, Kentucky spotted, smallmouth and peacock bass.

- E. Minimum Length and Penalty: The minimum length per fish will be fourteen (14) inches long. Fish shall be measured by the current State approved method. Any member bringing an undersized fish to the club weigh-in will have that fish thrown out and not weighed. He will not be able to replace that fish with another after it has been measured.
- F. Fishing is only permitted with rod, reel and artificial baits, and with one rod and reel at a time.
- G. Placing fish on ice will be accepted, but no frozen fish will be weighed.
- H. Electric troll motors, depth finders, charts, temperature gauges and oxygen meters may be used.
- I. No trolling is allowed. Trolling is defined as trailering a lure by any other means of power, other than by the wind or electric troll motor.
- J. Approved life vest shall be properly fastened any time the combustible engine is on plane. The motor should also be equipped with an operable kill switch, to be used any time the combustible engine is on plane.
- K. Lake Penalties: Anyone getting in line to weigh-in after the cut off time will be ineligible to weigh-in his fish for that tournament. The Tournament Director shall make decisions on emergencies or other reasons for tardiness to weigh-in.
- L. No member may fish a regular club tournament with a non-member unless the tournament has been designated a "Buddy Tournament" or prior special approval has been granted by a majority of the Board of Directors.
- M. Check-In: All members must check-in after each tournament unless fish are weighed-in. Weighing-in is the same as checking-in. anyone failing to check-in loses his bonus tournament points for that month.
- N. Trailering will be allowed and members will be on their honor for the start and finish of a Club tournament.
- O. All tournaments shall also be governed by the Laws, Rules and Regulations of the *Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission*.
- P. No tournament points shall be counted if a member is more than two (2) months in arrears.
- Q. Any member, at his discretion, may choose to practice catch and release, and may paper any fish fourteen (14) inches or greater in length. The paper record of his catch may be turned in at weigh-in. In doing so, the member understands that he must accept the charted weight.
- R. Club Tournaments shall be designated prior to the tournament date. The lake, day or days of the tournament shall be determined by a member majority. Start and finish times shall be set by the Tournament Director.(12/2010)

- S. Members must let another member know when they intend to stay out late or leave early.(12/2011)

- T. These tournament rules will follow along the same guidelines, as do the By-Laws in that they may not be changed except by the same procedure that is followed by the By-Laws. The only exception to these rules will be those that are laws introduced the *Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*.

SECTION 4: TOP SIX

- A. Only the members of the Top 6 that are members of a supporting organization can vote on the participation of the Top 6 in the organization's tournaments.

- B. If the Top 6 chooses to not participate in a supporting organization's tournament, club members may enter themselves in the tournament at their expense. Any awards and prizes won by the team, is the property of the team.

SECTION 5: AWARDS

First, Second and Third place awards will be presented. They will be for the top three (3) heaviest stringers. There will also be awards for the single heaviest bass weighed-in. All fish must be taken during the designated dates, hours and lake that the Club has set.

SECTION 6: ANNUAL AWARDS

- A. Top "6" standings will be computed from January through December of any year.
 - 1. Angler of the Year gets a \$100.00 check.

- B. Club Champion: The member who has accumulated the most total points for the fiscal year and will receive an appropriate award.

- C. Ties for Awards: The Club will award two (2) prizes or awards in the event of a tie on the pounds of fish weighed-in during a Club tournament or competition in all categories.

- D. Big Bass: A Big Bass Award will be presented to the member catching the largest bass of the year during our tournaments.

- E. Heavy Stringer: An award will be presented to the member catching the heaviest stringer of the year during our tournaments.

- F. Most Lunkers: An award will be presented to the member who catches the most fish over five (5) pounds in any given year during our tournaments.

- G. Top Six: The top six (6) fishermen in the Club will be presented an award designating the year, his name and place in the club standings. This will also apply to the Top "6" alternate, if he should have to fish a Top "6" tournament.

SECTION 7: COMPENSATION

If a boat owner does not have a partner for an upcoming tournament and fishes the tournament the club will offset the fisherman's expenses by paying one nights accommodations if the fisherman stay two (2) nights plus fifty (\$50.00) dollars towards his gas expense.

SECTION 7: GRIEVANCES

A tournament grievance will be registered within fifteen (15) minutes of the tournament weigh-in. All others must be within one week of the tournament. All formal grievances must be in writing to be considered and must be presented to a Board Member. All grievances shall be decided before the next regular Club tournament.

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