



How to get clubs started with B.A.S.S. High School and Junior Bassmasters

Link to all information resources

1. [High School Resources - Bassmaster](#)
2. [Junior Resources - Bassmaster](#)

Anglers, How to begin:

1. Join BASS before you do anything else (\$12.00)
 - a. High School and Junior Bassmaster members
 - i. [Youth Membership Registration \(palmcoastd.com\)](http://palmcoastd.com)

High School Teams... **(Do not pay BASS Nation fees until after September 1st of each season)**

1. Have a faculty advisor or faculty member assigned to your club.
2. Choose who will be the club admin and have them complete the next three steps.
3. Have a meeting to get angler information so you can register them. Name, BASS number, phone number, address, email address, captains in.
4. Go to the Bassmaster website at the following link to register your team and enter your roster. (*you must have a minimum of two anglers to setup a club*)
 - a. Jr Bassmaster Clubs Registration
[Junior New Club Submission \(office.com\)](#)
 - b. High School Club Registration
[High School New Club Submission \(office.com\)](#)
 - c. Once the form is filled out, scroll to the bottom of the page and hit "Submit". You will be able to add members later.
 - d. This will trigger BASS to issue a Roster Portal account for the club.
 - e. Contact Tommy Abbott at (504) 722-6638 or e-mail him at louisianahsbn@gmail.com to let him know that you are starting a club, and that your roster has been submitted to BASS
 - f. B.A.S.S. will notify your club advisor for membership once your High School or Junior Bassmaster Club roster has been processed.

- g. Each angler must also have a B.A.S.S. Nation membership and the cost is \$30.00 each member. This will be paid after the club roster is established in the roster portal and club has been processed by B.A.S.S.
 - i. New members can be added through the Roster Portal and BASS Nation dues can be paid there.

Now... If your school will not allow a fishing team...

1. If your school will not allow you to form an official team, then click this link:
 - a. [Official-Denial-letter.pdf \(bassmaster.com\)](#)
 - b. This will direct you to the denial letter.
 - c. Have the principle sign this form and send a copy to Tommy Abbott.
2. You may start a "Community" Club as a last resort, in the event your high school does not allow a fishing team. The process is the same except you do not need a school advisor and you will need four anglers to start the club.
 - a. Jr Bassmaster Clubs Registration (Check "Community Club")
[Junior New Club Submission \(office.com\)](#)
 - b. High School Club Registration (Check "Community Club")
[High School New Club Submission \(office.com\)](#)
3. Contact Tommy Abbott or B.A.S.S. at the provided contact info above if you need help to get a community club started.

Other links:

- B.A.S.S. High School 2024 Rules: (These are the base rules for BASS High School.)
 - Rules documents are issued at the state level and supersede BASS rules, where stated otherwise.
[2024-High-School-Rules-and-Waiver-1.pdf \(bassmaster.com\)](#)
- How to start and run a high school club:
 - https://www.bassmaster.com/sites/default/files/bassmaster2011/imce/suggestions_for_a_hs_club_revised_3-1-13.pdf
- Club Roster Portal. Where admin updates your members and club info.:
[B.A.S.S. Nation \(bassmaster.com\)](#)
- Louisiana High School B.A.S.S. Nation website: **(Start here first. All information is there)**
 - <https://www.louisianahighschoolbassnation.com/>
- Louisiana High School B.A.S.S. Nation Facebook Page:
 - <https://www.facebook.com/Louisiana-High-School-Bass-Fishing-748903088453284>

Things to know:

- **Typical Rules Document (Vary for each tournament)**
 - https://www.louisianahighschoolbassnation.com/files/ugd/09d93b_4a83114384d641fe8e7da44513845109.pdf

1. **Captains Rules:** These events will allow boat captains the opportunity to educate young anglers about the many variables associated with fishing competition and camaraderie among their competitors. Below are the limitations on assistance that may be given to anglers:

- a. **Only captains can operate the outboard motor on official practice and tournament day except for trailering and launching boats.**
- b. **High School boat captains are not** allowed to operate the trolling motor unless there is imminent danger to the vessel or occupants. If this occurs, competitors must notify the tournament director immediately.
- c. **Junior captains** can run trolling motor, but we strongly recommend teaching anglers to run them themselves then let them troll in competition.
- d. Boat captains **are not** allowed to net fish nor hand nets to high school anglers.
- e. Any **Jr team** may request the assistance of the boat captain for netting fish, but it is recommended that junior teams net their own fish.
- f. Captains may not assist in casting or reeling in lures or fish.
- g. The boat captain should not assist with lure selection or fishing locations, but they may make suggestions on patterns or observations to help anglers make their own decisions.
- h. High school captains are not allowed to tie on lures during tournament hours, but we will allow Jr captains to assist with tying lures.
- i. Captains **may not** remove backlashes for high school anglers, but Jr captains may.
- j. Captains may help with culling fish and keeping fish alive in the live well.
- k. High school captains may not assist with any fishing activity other than navigating the boat with the outboard motor.
- l. **Captains can fish on practice days but not on tournament day.**

All other Bassmaster High School Series 2024 rules apply unless otherwise stated in this document. It is the responsibility of every competitor and captain to read and comprehend those rules.

1. Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. **During the official practice and competition, each competitor must wear a Coast Guard-approved chest-type life preserver any time the combustion engine is operating**, as well as observe and abide by all state(s) life preserver regulations that apply to his/her age, while in tournament waters. This PFD must be strapped, snapped, and/or zippered securely, and maintained in that condition at all times. **Inflatable life vests may only be worn if you are 16 years of age or older AND weigh more than 80 pounds. Inflatable life vest indicators should be checked daily. Violation of this rule may be reason for disqualification.**
2. All boats must meet U.S. Coast Guard standards. Jet-drive, air-cooled engines, or airboats **are not** allowed. **Outboard motors may not exceed boat manufacturers rating, or 250 HP maximum. All boats must have an emergency kill-switch that must be attached to the driver anytime the combustion engine is running (This is federal law and will be strictly enforced).**
3. Boats must have a factory installed live well **and an operating aeration system**. Teams may keep no more than 5 bass per TEAM in the live well. Cull on the 6th fish. **All fishing must stop until 6th fish is released.**

This is a base summary of some of the rules. Please refer to the official rules document for each tournament.

Email for any questions: louisianahsbn@gmail.com

Basic things that you must have completed to fish our qualifiers

1. Know where to find our website... www.lhsbn.com
2. Use it and know that most information can be found there

Things that you must do to **once a year**

1. Be a **BASS member** in good standing with current membership. (\$12/ year)
2. Be a member of a BASS affiliated school team/ club, or community club.
3. Be a member of **BASS Nation** (\$30/ Year paid through your club)
4. Sign up for a Fishing Chaos account. <https://app.fishingchaos.com/dashboard>

5. **Things to do for each tournament**

- a. **Everything above must be completed by 11:59pm, the Friday, a week before our official practice day**
- b. Fill out the online registration and make payment through the Fishing Chaos App before the deadline.
- c. **If you activate a backup captain, it must be approved by the director.**
- d. **If a captain changes from one tournament to the next and has not been previously approved, you must notify us via email and let us know.**

Note:

- Things change fast in this sport. **Follow the Facebook page** for info and unexpected updates. (we often do Facebook live sessions with information)
- Read all pre-tournament documents and rules. (found on the Fishing Chaos website)
- This link will take you to a search of articles on the Bassmaster website that our director wrote. This is good information for high school fishing teams
 - [Search for Tommy Abbott on Bassmaster.com](#)
- Louisiana High School B.A.S.S. Nation website: **(Start here first. All information is there)**
 - <https://www.louisianahighschoolbassnation.com/>
- Louisiana High School B.A.S.S. Nation Facebook Page:
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