

LYBN Rules changes and definitions for 2025

Current:

No fishing within 200 yards of the host landing. No fishing is allowed within 25 yards of another tournament boat without mutual consent.

Proposed:

No fishing within 200 yards of the host landing. No fishing is allowed within 50 yards of another tournament boat without mutual consent.

Current:

15. No more than Two (2) contestants per boat allowed during tournament and practice days. All persons in a boat must be a registered contestant / registered adult for "THAT BOAT" in THAT tournament. Only one adult is allowed in the boat with contestants on practice and tournament days. Adult must operate the large motor on practice and tournament day – no other type of assistance to contestants on tournament day besides coaching. During official practice day, anglers cannot solicit, gather, or intentionally receive any information from anyone other than another competitor in the tournament. NO EXCEPTIONS. Sharing of any information on tournament day is prohibited. The adult may fish on practice day but not on tournament day.

Proposed: *(This would allow a captain to take out another registered angler for practice day if their co-angler could not fish that day. This comes up many times and it often leaves an angler unable to fish because his/ her captain could not fish that day. It helps with families traveling together as well. The old rule went against our policy of trying to get anglers on the water more, therefore we felt a change was necessary.)*

15. No more than Two (2) contestants and (1) captain per boat allowed on official practice day and all persons in a boat must be a registered contestant / registered adult in this event. Only the team's registered captain is allowed in the boat with their registered anglers on tournament days. Captain must operate the large motor on practice and tournament day (except launching and trailering boat) – no other type of assistance to contestants on tournament day besides coaching. During official practice day, anglers cannot solicit, gather, or intentionally receive any information from anyone other than another registered

competitor **in this tournament**. NO EXCEPTIONS. Sharing of any information on tournament day is prohibited. The adult may fish on practice day but not on tournament day.

Current:

Scoring will be determined by the total weight of 5 bass PER TEAM meeting designated size requirements. The minimum length is (TBD) for spotted and largemouth bass. Fish will be measured on a **Gator Grip Pro Series** measuring board with the mouth closed and tail pinched. All other team ties, the following tie breakers will be used in the following order: (1) the heaviest single day catch during competition (2) if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the second heaviest single day catch during competition. (3) if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the largest number of legal live fish weighed during competition; (4) If the tie is not broken, the next tie breaker will be the biggest bass weighed. If the tie is not broken by applying the foregoing procedures,...

Proposed: (old format was leaning toward two-day tournaments which we only do one. Trying to simplify)

Scoring will be determined by the total weight of 5 bass PER TEAM meeting designated size requirements. The minimum length is (TBD) for spotted and largemouth bass. Fish will be measured on a **Gator Grip Pro Series** measuring board with the mouth closed and tail pinched. All other team ties, the following tie breakers will be used in the following order: (1) **the heaviest live Big Bass** (2) **if the tie is not broken, the next tiebreaker will be the largest number of legal live fish weighed during competition** (3) **if the tie is not broken, the next tie breaker will be the second heaviest single day catch during competition (2-day competition only)**. (4) **If the tie is not broken by applying the foregoing procedures, there will be a coin toss by tournament officials for placement.**

New for 2025...

We will be adding code of conduct verbiage, as well as waiver verbiage below to the rules document. This will meet our new system where when teams register and pay, it will confirm that teams are agreeing to all terms of the rules document.

Team Waiver

1. I have read and understand the description of this tournament series and the official rules of this organization. I will obey all rules set forth for individual tournaments and understand that any violation may result in immediate disqualification without refund of my entry fee. I also understand that tournament officials may reject my application for any reason, and in that event will refund my entry fee.

2. I understand and acknowledge that competitive fishing is a dangerous sport, the risks of which include, though not exclusively, drowning, collisions in the water, and injuries from hooks and other fishing paraphernalia. I voluntarily assume all responsibility for these risks, identified and not identified, and all risk of injury or death or damage to myself or my property or to others, including spectators and their property arising from my participation in the tournament.

3. I hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless and indemnify B.A.S.S., its shareholders, officers, directors, agents and employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials, and its partners, agents or employees, and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions or rights of action which are related to, arise out of, or are in any way connected with my participation in this tournament, including specifically, but not limited to the negligent acts or omissions of Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation, its shareholders, officers, directors, agents or employees, the host, sponsors and tournament officials, and its partners, agents or employees and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament for any and all injury, death, illness or disease, and other damage or loss to property suffered by myself or others, By entering this tournament, I acknowledge and agree that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged while I am engaged in this event, I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against B.A.S.S. or Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation; its shareholders, officers, directors, agents or employees, the host, sponsors, officials and all other persons or entities associated with the tournament, even if they or any of them negligently caused the bodily injury or property damage.

4. Any suit brought by me against B.A.S.S. or Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation as a result of my participation in this tournament will be brought in state or parish court, East Baton Rouge Parish Louisiana. Should it become necessary for Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation; or someone on its behalf to incur attorney's fees, and costs to enforce this agreement, or any portion thereof, I agree to pay the reasonable attorney's fees thereby expended, or for which liability is incurred.

5. I have sufficient health, accident and liability insurance to cover any bodily injury or property damage incurred by myself or others as a result of my participation in this event.

6. *I have no past or present medical or psychological condition that might affect my participation in the tournament in such a way as to cause harm to myself or others.*

7. *I irrevocably grant to B.A.S.S., Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation, and its' sponsors, unlimited rights to use, in any media, any photographs and video/audio recordings of me, contestants, fish caught and accounts or interviews with contestants for any and all purposes and event coverage including, but not limited to promotional and advertising purposes. I agree to submit to and accept the results of the polygraph test given at this event. I understand and agree that Louisiana B.A.S.S. Nation has the right to designate a camera boat or a "follow" boat which will be observing only and may be within 25 yards of my boat.*

8. *All local, state and federal taxes, title, license and registration become the responsibility of each prize/cash winner. By entering this tournament series, reflects, that I have read this entire document, understand it completely, understand if affects my legal rights, and agree to be bound by its terms. References to "I", "my," "myself," and other first-person references shall include any child or ward to which I sign or agree.*

ANGLER/CAPTAIN/ FAMILY CODE OF CONDUCT:

A. Anglers/coaches participating in any LYBN, or B.A.S.S.-sanctioned event shall observe this code of conduct and the applicable rules for the specific event in which they are participating. Anglers, parents and family members of anglers shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner becoming of professional anglers that will not reflect unfavorably on B.A.S.S., LYBN, its members, officers or representatives, tournaments or sponsors. To this end, anglers, parents, coaches, faculty members, friends and family members of anglers shall use their best efforts to demonstrate professionalism and integrity in support of the sport of amateur and professional fishing. Any angler, parents and family members of anglers who violate any of the provisions of the Angler Code of Conduct may be subject to forfeiture of tournament winnings, suspension from competing in individual LYBN or B.A.S.S.-sanctioned events, permanent ban from competition or any combination thereof deemed appropriate by B.A.S.S. or LYBN.

B. Anglers are frequently in the public eye and are considered role models; therefore, it is imperative that tournament competitors demonstrate good sportsmanship in fishing. Sportsmanship is defined as adhering to tournament rules, fair play, respect for opponents and polite behavior while competing in the sport.

C. The following are examples of unacceptable behavior by competitors in B.A.S.S. events that will be cause for penalties as outlined in this document: • Heated public disagreements with B.A.S.S. or LYBN officials, other competitors, fans and volunteers during an event. • Public attacks through media, including social media, upon the integrity

of B.A.S.S. or LYBN rules or officials. • Public comments that an angler knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of LYBN, B.A.S.S. or LYBN officials, or its sponsors. • Displays of anger and displeasure for reasons related to fishing competition where members of the public, including other anglers, spectators and the media, are present. • Publicly questioning or criticizing a tournament official or official decision, ruling or penalty except through the proper channels. • Abuse (physical, verbal, threatening or slanderous) of tournament officials, volunteers, fellow competitors or others connected with a B.A.S.S. or LYBN event, including comments on social media. • Offensive or slanderous comments with racial, cultural or sexual overtones regarding event officials, event personnel or fellow anglers. • Intentionally interfering with a fellow angler's ability to compete.

D. Any disqualification, suspension or other disciplinary action imposed by any tournament or fishing organization may result in disqualification from competition and the rejection of an application for participation in a B.A.S.S. or LYBN tournament.

MEDIA COMMENTS; PUBLIC ATTACKS:

The favorable public reputation of B.A.S.S. and LYBN as a sanctioning organization in the sport of fishing, the integrity of its officials, and the reputation of its media properties are valuable assets and tangible benefits for B.A.S.S. Accordingly, it is an obligation of competitors to refrain from comments to the news media that unreasonably attack or disparage the integrity of tournaments, tournament officials, sponsors, fellow members, fellow anglers LYBN or the B.A.S.S. organization. Competitors, parents and/or family members are encouraged to express themselves and have the right to question the rules officials. Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with B.A.S.S. policies are encouraged as opposed to attacks upon the integrity of the rules or officials. However, public comments that an angler, parents and/or family members knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of LYBN, B.A.S.S., B.A.S.S. officials, or sponsors shall be considered conduct unbecoming of a professional and will result in disciplinary action.

By registering and making payment to participate, I agree to the terms of the rules set forth in this document for all team members and captain included in the registration.