

Louisiana Youth BASS Nation Frequently Asked Questions on Points

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Below are frequently asked questions and answers as determined by LYBN. This does not criticize any organization who don't follow our process, it simply states our procedures.

Q: How does the LYBN assigned points get calculated

A: Teams get 300 for first place. After 1st place each team deducts one point for each finishing position below that.

- If a team has zero fish to weigh, they do not hold a place ranking in the tournament and will receive 50 points if they showed up to fish. (This format follows the state adult trail and BASS Nation Youth trails in other states)

Q: If my team zeroes, why wouldn't we just quit fishing?

A: It's our hope that teams aren't in the sport just to chase points, especially at the Junior level.

- At the junior level, it's very hard for a team to fish all qualifiers without faltering in at least one event. When, and if that happens, teams get a chance to gain points and tighten up the standings.
- Juniors should be focused on learning and having fun. Focusing too much on a points race is putting pressure on younger anglers to perform rather than enjoy the sport.
- We've seen it too many times and often can predict teams that have anglers that will get burned out before they graduate high school because too much pressure was put on them to win too early.

Q: What is the reasoning behind 50 points for a zero catch.

A: Simply put, to be fair to all and not take the advantage away from those teams who catch fish at a tournament.

- You can look at it in many ways but when a team does not record a catch, you must find a way for all teams that don't record a catch throughout the year to receive equal points.
- Scenario one: Give all teams last place points. (First spot where zeroes start)
 - This is punishing the teams who performed, worked hard, stayed on the water and brought a fish to the scales.

- Every team that zeroed would get one less point than the last one that placed.
- You could show up, put the boat in the water, put it back on the trailer, go home, and get one less point than a team that fished all day to earn their points.
- Scenario two: Give all teams that zero, a set number of points (Lets use 30) below last place. (ex. $250-30=220$)
 - If you think of the big picture, a tougher tournament will give the teams that zeroed a higher points total. Ex. You have 50 teams fishing and only 10 catch fish. All the teams that zeroed would be in the 290-point position, minus 30 points giving them 260 points each.
 - Now look at a tournament with 100 boats fishing and 75 catch fish. Every team that zeroed would be in the 225-point slot and minus 30 points equals 195 points.
 - Two teams in two tournaments perform equally catching zero fish yet one gets 260 points, and another gets only 195 points. That makes for an unfair and skewed points system leaving one team at a much larger advantage than the other just because less teams fished and brought a fish to the scales.

Q: *Why don't you drop the lowest score.*

A: That's not a fair system either.

- Scenario; A team fishes 4 qualifiers and places consistently in the top ¼ of the field in every tournament.
 - Another team fishes the 4 qualifiers and has two better finishes than the 1st team, but zeroes in one tournament.
 - Under the drop the lowest score scenario, team one is punished for consistently performing better than team two. They must drop let's say 225 points as their lowest score.
 - Team two only has to drop 50 points and let's say he averaged 226 point per tournament for the other 3, he has a total of 728 points, with the 50 points for a zero and drops 50 for a total of 678 points.

- Team, one averages 225 points per tournament for a total of 900 points earned but must drop 225 points for their lowest score which only gives them 675 points and then finishes behind team two in the standings.
- **Which team was more consistent for the season?** Team one averaged 225 points per event and team two averaged 182 points per event yet team two finished higher. That would need some serious evaluation to say that's a fair system. In our procedures, this is why we don't drop one.

Q: How can a team with more total weight finish behind a team with less weight?

A: It all comes down to constancy per tournament. Points are not determined by overall weight for the season but by weight per tournament that translates to finish position points.

- A team could fish only Toledo Bend and Caney tournaments and catch conceivably 40 to 60 pounds at three events.
- Other teams could struggle in those tournaments yet place higher in every other tournament that need a much lighter weight to win and their consistency is better than the teams that catch the bigger bags at three events.
- And then there is the factor of 50 point for failure to bring in at least one fish that is a major factor in calculations.

Q: Does weight count toward over all points earned?

A: Only by determining your finish place at each tournament which translates to your points total earned. You don't earn points any other way.

Q: How can I take the pressure of chasing points off my team to help their mental game?

A:

- Focus on having fun.
- Create a positive fun atmosphere on the water.
- Be a cheerleader as much as a coach.
- Find ways to get them to stop and notice their surroundings and the environment for short mental breaks to give them time to reset.

Information contained in this document is subject to change at any time at the discretion of the LBN and LYBN boards.