

# 2026 LYBN North and West Division Qualifiers Cypress Bend SRA Park, Toledo Bend February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2026

There will not be a pre-tournament meeting at Toledo Bend. This document contains the information needed.

Registration deadline is: 1/30/26 @ 11:59pm

First off, be patient, if we all do our part, things will go smoothly.

The address of the park is:

Cypress Bend SRA Park Cypress Bend Park 3462 Cypress Bend Dr. Many, LA 71449 (318) 256-4118

Official practice day for the **2/7 Tournament is Friday 2/6/2025**; Official practice day for the **2/8 Tournament is Saturday 2/7/2025** (If you aren't competing on 2/7); All rules apply.

Captains may fish on official practice day except on 2/7 if the team is registered for 2/7 because that is a competition day. Captains can run the trolling motor on practice day, but we prefer high schoolers to run them if possible.

Your captain on practice day must be your registered captain, for this tournament.

**Switching captains on 2/8/2026 (Day 2) is not permitted** unless there is extenuating, unforeseen circumstances and must be approved by tournament officials!

You may only be on the water (In boat) with a max of two anglers registered for this tournament with one captain, on official practice day(s).

Back up captains and family may fish on Toledo Bend at any time during the event but may not share any fishing information with any registered anglers and captains.

We will start boat checks/ check in **at 4:30 am** Saturday and Sunday mornings in the area shown on the maps on document.

We want all boats in the water ready to go by 6:00AM!!!!! COME EARLY!

# If you wait till 5:30 to get to the park, you will more than likely be late getting in the water.

**This is a large number of boats**, and we need your help **to make this go smoothly**. Pay close attention to our volunteers directing ramp traffic.

Our tournament volunteers may have to pass you trying to get in the park both mornings, please let them pass and get in line at the park gate. Also, Don't block the park gate so volunteers can't get passed you.

As soon as you **stop in line for the boat check** and launch, **start prepping your boat** for inspection. Don't wait until you get to officials to prep your boat.

### Items to be completed are:

- Navigation lights in and turned on. (It is a good idea to bring a battery backup navigation light set for light issues) If you fish enough tournaments, one day you will pull in and your lights won't work. We can't let you fish if your lights aren't working. (We do have a limited number of lights for purchase if yours goes out)
- Livewells open for inspection.
- One PFD for each member of the team counting the captain, out and on the deck, easily
  visible to tournament officials.
- If you were on the lists, you will be checked for insurance papers, and Boaters safety cards
  or proof. Be prepared to show them if you didn't send them in earlier in the week. You may
  email them no later than Thursday night but after that, be prepared to present them at boat
  check.
- Double check to make sure that your plug is in while prepping.
- This will be another rolling boat check. Have your prep done and stay in the boat and truck.
- Because to the safety checks within the Fishing Chaos app, we will no longer be issuing boat cards.
- After boat check, please turn your headlights off when entering the launch area to avoid blinding those trying to back boats in and directing traffic.
- If you don't have your boat and gear ready to back in the water at the launch staging area, our crew will send you to the back of the boat check line.
  - o If you are one of the first boats in line, we will allow you minor boat prep but be ready.

Once again be checked in and have your boat in the water before 6:00 AM.

# Check in by water.

If you feel safe and within a reasonable distance, you may come via water for check in. WE DO NOT RECOMMEND THIS! Park at the dock and send one angler to boat check to check in we will send someone to check your boat.

If you motor from other locations use extreme caution navigating and go slowly. *We will not be held responsible for unsafe navigation in low-light conditions.* 

Please notify us via email or text if coming by water. USE EXTREME CAUTION IF BOATING IN LOW LIGHT CONDITIONS, AND AGAIN... WE DO NOT RECOMMEND IT.

If you come to the launch via water, it is your responsibility to get your boat checked, check in, and get your ribbon. If you don't check in in the AM you won't be able to weigh your fish.

After checking in on the water, please quickly move away from the dock to the staging areas for blast off. Do not park at the docks after check in preventing others from getting their boat checked.

If you decide not to fish, you need to text us to let me know asap

#### See maps on this document for traffic flow.

Once again... Do not park your boat on the docks and hang out. Only use the docks for entering and exiting boats as well as getting boat checks.

#### Parking:

- Cypress Bend has the largest parking lot on Toledo Bend. Overflow parking will be off the edges of the pavement. Make sure that you don't block someone in.
- If any part of your vehicle is protruding into the park roads, it may get towed. Pull completely off the road.
- When driving through the park, please stay as far to the right as possible to leave room for others to pass from the opposite side of the road.
- If you have the ability to walk some distance, leave areas closest to the launch for those who have mobility issues and Junior captains who need to get to their teams quickly.
- After launching boats, drivers, proceed immediately to the parking areas.
- Please park as close to others as possible, to avoid wasted space.
- Please do not block any intersections and be courteous to those trying to get in line from the other areas of the park... PLEASE LET THEM IN LINE.

Juniors will blast off first. (Safe daylight is somewhere around 6:15 to 6:45am depending on weather)

When lining up for blast off, **communicate your boat number** with other boats. This **will help everyone line up in the proper order for blast off**. Blast off will begin when the tournament director deems that it is safe to navigate (Safe light)

Move up as boat numbers are being called. Try to be passing the officials boat at the time when your boat number is called.

If you leave early before we have volunteers to check you in, you must text Mr. Tommy and let him know. (504) 722-6638) Failure to do this could result in a one tournament suspension. This is of the utmost importance. This is for your safety not ours. We need to know that you are off the water and are safe.

<u>Afternoon Check-in</u> Check in times will be located inside the fishing chaos app after we generate boat numbers

If you are not checked in with our tournament officials on the dock before your due in time, you are late.

There will be someone checking boats that afternoon, at the round pavilion on the north side of Cypress Bend Cove. (Where you blast off that morning) They will have bright yellow caps or high visibility vests. Late penalties will be assessed if late. Allow extra time for boat traffic!!

**After you have checked in, move out of the check in area** to avoid gridlock with other teams trying to check in.

Special note: Fish care is a top priority for BASS and our organization. The next few instructions help us make sure that we are returning as many healthy fish back to the lake as is humanly possible. Pay close attention to these steps.

- Once you check in with officials, beach or dock your boat, You may also trailer your boat then send one angler to the bump station table to get one of our bags.
- For this tournament you do not need put your boats on the trailer before weighing in unless otherwise instructed by tournament officials. If you choose to trailer your boat first, that's fine.
- DO NOT BRING FISH TO THE BUMP STATION IN YOUR OWN BAGI
   This is a conservation practice and required for our contract with BASS and SRA. It will be enforced so please adhere to this rule.
- Once you have your fish in the weigh bag, quickly return to the bump station to have fish checked.
- Fish will be bumped and you will proceed to the live tanks to keep fish healthy
- After weighing fish, proceed to the photo area live tank and let your fish recover before you get photos taken.

- After photos are taken, put your fish back in the bag, submerge them in the live tank a few
  moments to recover, then promptly return your fish to the water. Please, no photos outside
  of the photo area are allowed. Parents will be allowed to take photos in the photo area only.
  This can result in a penalty and is for fish care.
- (DO NOT THROW DEAD FISH IN THE WATER. EITHER KEEP THEM, OR GIVE TO A TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL.
- If you don't think a fish will survive when releasing, please don't throw it back, contact an
  official at the bump station) Be gentle when returning fish to the water. We have seen
  anglers throw fish in the air when returning them to the lake. This WILL result in a dead fish
  penalty.
- After weighing fish, please try to move your boat out of the immediate area so other teams can weigh fish, then put your boat on your trailer as soon as possible.
- Very important!! Do not stop in the ramp area roadway to tie down your boat. Hook the front then pull into a parking spot and stay out of the flow of traffic, please.

If you have a big bass, nice bag of fish, or your PB, please ask the weigh master to allow you to take a photo on stage and it will be allowed. Have someone ready with a camera so we can accomplish this quickly for conservation reasons.

# Safety and sportsmanship

Be considerate of others while on the water. When passing close to others who are anchored or fishing, please slow to an idle speed, no wake. Observe all posted "No Wake" zones.

Do not cut boats off. Don't try to fish a spot or bank that someone is already on

When running, make sure you stay in the marked boat lanes for your safety!!!!!! (see video we posted on FB if not familiar with Toledo Bend boat lanes)

TOLEDO BEND CAN GET ROUGH QUICKLY, PAY ATTENTION TO CONDITIONS AND WIND DIRECTION...

#### The minimum length on bass at Toledo Bend will be 14" for all Bass.

With the volatility of weather and changing conditions of Toledo Bend, we reserve the right to make a switch to a trailer tournament if warranted for the safety of our teams. Continually monitor Facebook to see if there is a change of plans.

Thank you to our volunteers who have stepped up! We have a small crew, but we will do the best that we can.

If you can stay around after the tournament concludes, we could sure use some help each day.



Morning Traffic Flow









