

**MANSFIELD BASSMASTERS  
TOURNAMENT RULES  
2011**

**1. Basic Points Allocation**

- A. All tournaments will be fished for individual points. No team points will be allowed.
- B. First place will be thirty-five (35) points with all other tournaments participants receiving points equal to his/her place of finish according to total weight of fish (i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> = 34 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 33 points, etc.) Any/all tournament participant with the lowest weight (i.e. if contestant with the lowest total weight of 2 lbs receives 20 points, then all other contestants with zero (0) weight receive fifteen (15) points)
- C. No club member participating in any club tournament will be awarded less than one (1) point, regardless of weight.
- D. The Tournament Director will be responsible for turning in all accumulated points to the Secretary/Treasurer on a monthly basis.
- E. All non-boaters will be responsible for payment of all boat fuel. Vehicle fuel expense will be shared with the owner of the towing vehicle. These rules must be met to receive tournament points/wings. Only the boat owner may waive this rule.
- F. If no fish are weighted at a given tournament, each participant will receive twenty (20) points and \$25.00 of the \$30.00 entry fee will be returned to each club participant.
- G. Angler of the year will be determined by the total combined points of the best 10 tournaments of the year. Only if you fish all 11 tournaments will you be able to drop a tournament.

**2. Check-In and Check-Out at Tournament**

- A. Prior to fishing a club tournament, all tournament participants are required to check in with the Tournament Director or his representative. All tournament fees (including late fees) and any delinquent club monies may be paid prior to or at weigh-in to receive points/money winnings for that tournament. Members must have their tournament dues paid up prior to weighing in. If there is money due from the member, he will not be allowed to weigh in. The Secretary will provide a list of members that have paid to the tournament director so he can verify who can and can't weigh in. The Tournament Director does not have to come in early or leave late. He is to adhere to the same times as the other competitors. These rules are NON-NEGOTIABLE and WILL BE ENFORCED!
- B. If a tournament participant wishes to leave the lake prior to weigh-in, that person MUST notify the Tournament Director or his representative, or notify another participant that will be present at the weigh-in site in order to receive points/monies for that tournament. This is a safety requirement we ALL shall adhere to!

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**3. Schedule and Fishing Times**

- A. All tournament dates will be set and finalized by the Tournament Director at least one (1) month prior to the first tournament of the year.
- B. The start and end times for each tournament will be set by the Tournament Director NLT one (1) month prior to that particular tournament. In the event of unusual circumstance, the Tournament Director may change the start/end times notifying all tournament participants.
- C. Tournament Lake will be selected at the monthly club meetings in the month prior to the date for the club tournament (i.e. club tournament on 15 June, select lake during the May club meeting). No lake may be selected as club tournament site more than once in a calendar year.
- D. Selected Tournament Lake will be off-limits at 6 P.M. the day prior to the scheduled tournament.
- E. There will be no set minimum or maximum distance for proposed tournament lakes.

**4. Method of Fishing**

- A. Rod and reel only—Artificial baits only (include pork trailers).
- B. NO controlled trolling is permitted, either with the trolling motor or the big motor.
- C. Fishing from a boat, tube, shore or sitting on a bucket at the dam is permitted.
- D. All tournament participants must honor any lake “off-limits” areas.
- E. Only one rod/reel/line may be in use at a time (i.e. if you’re hung up, you must retrieve/break off line prior to using another rig).

**5. Safety**

- A. All contestants must wear an approved U.S.C.G life preserver any time the boat is on plane and the boat driver must have the kill switch attached.
- B. All boats must be equipped with an operable kill switch.
- C. All boats must have all required U.S.C.G. safety equipment on board and meet all U.S. C.G. and boat manufacturer’s safety specifications.
- D. Absolutely NO alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are to be in the boat or be consumed on the water during tournament hours. **VIOLATION OF THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF ALL ENTRY FEES AND POINTS!**

**6. Courtesy**

A distance of one hundred (100) feet must be kept from another member’s boat unless both boat owners waive this rule.

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**7. Weigh-In**

- A. The Tournament Director will keep the official time.
  - B. All contestants must be at the weigh-in site at the designated end time. Late arrivals will lose one (1) pound from total weight for each minute late up to a maximum of fifteen (15) pounds/fifteen (15) minutes. Any contestant more than fifteen (15) minutes late will forfeit all weight.
    - 1. All tournaments will adhere to state regulations regarding size and numbers unless the specific lake's stated number and size limits are different.
- These restrictions apply to largemouth, small mouth and Kentucky (spotted) bass.
- C. All Fish will be measured on the "Golden Rule".
  - D. One-fourth (1/4) pound will be deducted from the weight of each dead fish brought to weigh-in.
  - E. Any illegal/short/slot fish will have the entire weight of that fish disqualified plus two (2) pounds deducted from the total weight.
  - F. All protests must be submitted to the Tournament Director or his representative within fifteen (15) minutes after last fish weigh in.
  - G. If you have to leave the lake early, it is permissible to allow a club tournament participating to weigh your fish as long as each participant's fish can be separated.

**8. Trophy Awards**

- A. A Mansfield Bass master Plaque will be awarded to each tournament winner, however, only one first place plaque will be awarded per person per calendar year. An engraved plate will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners for each tournament.
- B. Angler of the Year is to receive a trophy and \$100.00 prize for winning at the end of the year.
- C. A prize will be awarded at the end of the year for the heaviest fish.
- D. A prize will be awarded at the end of the year for the heaviest stringer.
- E. A prize will be awarded at the end of the year for sportsmanship of the year.

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**9. Tournament Money/Winnings**

- C. The tournament entry fee is Thirty (30) dollars. This amount is to be prepaid at the monthly club meeting prior to the specific tournament or mailed (postmarked) to the Tournament Director no less than one week prior to the specific tournament. Make checks payable to Mansfield Bass masters. Any tournament fees paid after 12pm midnight the night before the tournament will be considered late and will be charged a \$5.00 late fee. (total=\$35). All late fees will be paid to the winner of the specific tournament.
- F. Tournament fees will be divided as follows: fifteen (15) dollars to placed finishes, five (5) dollars to big bass pot, two (2) dollars to the 6 lb pot, and eight (8) dollars to the club.
- G. Payout percentage is based upon number of entries Fourteen (14) or less entries will pay a 70% / 30% split to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places. Fifteen (15) or more entries will pay a 60% / 30% / 10% split to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Total place payout is based on number of contestants times \$15. In addition to percentage payout, the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner also receives any/all late fees.
- H. Big Bass = one winner = entire big bass pot.
- I. The 6 lb Pot will be awarded to the largest fish six (6) pounds or greater if the contestant qualifies. If the contestant does not qualify, the next qualified contestant with the largest fish six pounds or greater will be awarded the 6 lb Pot.
- J. Winnings will be awarded at the next club meeting following the specific tournament.

**10. Guest**

- A. The number of guest participating in any club tournament is unlimited, provided all club member non-boaters are accommodated. Number of guest per year per member is also unlimited.
- B. Any guest fishing a club tournament may participate only in the Big Bass pot for that tournament. The fee is \$5.