

McPherson Bassmasters Tournament Rules

12/3/09

ENTRY FEES

1. Entry fees are \$10.00 per person.
2. The non-boater fishing with the boater will pay the boater's entry fee.
3. Tournament entry fees should be paid at the next club meeting following the tournament.
4. Boaters will pay their own entry fee only if they fish alone.

NON-BOATER'S REIMBURSEMENT TO THE BOATER

1. The non-boater will reimburse the boater the amount designated by the official reimbursement chart as set forth by the Tournament Director.
2. The non-boater should reimburse the boater the designated fee on or before the first day of the tournament.
3. When two non-boaters fish in one boat, the non-boaters will pay equal shares of the boater's reimbursement fee and entry fee.

YOUTH MEMBERS

1. The McPherson Bassmasters want to include youth in our club tournaments. There must be a mutual understanding between the minor, the minor's parents or legal guardians, and the McPherson Bassmasters that the club nor any of its members is to be held responsible for the minor or his/her conduct while attending a club-sponsored tournament. It is strongly encouraged that a parent or legal guardian attends the tournaments with the minor to supervise them.
2. The minor must present a notarized Release of Responsibility to the Tournament Director at the club meeting prior to the tournament sign up for each tournament he/she wants to attend.
3. The minor and his/her parents or legal guardians must also understand that the minor is responsible for the payment of all membership fees, tournament entry fees, and boater reimbursement fees as set forth by the club and its membership. Failure to promptly pay these fees will result in the immediate revocation of tournament privileges.

TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS

1. Boaters and non-boaters will be paired for a tournament according to a random drawing conducted by the Tournament Director at the club meeting preceding the tournament.
2. Those members planning to fish the tournament should sign the appropriate sign up sheet when they arrive at the club meeting or by sending word with a member attending the meeting.
3. If a contestant draws a partner who he/she has fished with during the year, the contestant may request to fish with a different partner. If all boaters have been paired with a non-boater, the contestant may swap partners with another contestant if all parties involved are in agreement.
4. Once a boater has fished by himself during the current year, he will be paired with a partner thereafter until all boaters present for the tournament have fished alone one time.
5. If there are fewer boaters than non-boaters, all boaters' names will be placed in a hat again to be drawn for the remaining non-boaters. Once a boater has fished "three out of a boat" during the current year, the boater's name will not go back into the hat for taking an extra non-boater until all boaters present for that tournament have fished "three out of a boat". Likewise, once a non-boater has fished "three out of a boat", the non-boater does not have to fish "three out of a boat" during the current year until all other non-boaters present for that tournament have fished "three out of a boat".

TOURNAMENT TAKEOFFS

1. All tournament takeoffs will be an Ease Out format with one boat leaving the No Wake Zone at a time according to numerical sequence.

2. Takeoff positions will be determined by a random drawing conducted by the Tournament Director at the club meeting preceding the tournament. Boaters' names will be drawn from a hat until all boaters have been assigned a takeoff position.
3. The last boat in the takeoff order will be in charge of sending out the preceding boats. This boat will be positioned at the edge of the No Wake Zone and will signal the takeoff sequence.
4. All boats must remain in the No Wake Zone until their takeoff position is signaled.
5. A boat must clear the No Wake Zone before the next takeoff position is signaled.
6. Any boat not answering the takeoff signal will forfeit its takeoff position and will become the last boat to takeoff.
7. All boats must be on the water and ready for takeoff at least five minutes prior to the designated takeoff time or the boat will forfeit its takeoff position and will be the last boat to takeoff.
8. Any boat entering the tournament at the ramp will be assigned the last takeoff position.

SAFETY

1. All contestants should wear a Coast Guard approved life preserver when the combustible motor is in use.
2. Kill switches must be functional and always used.
3. Never try to come in if you think the lake is unsafe due to unfavorable weather conditions. No penalties will be applied under these circumstances.
4. Observe all boating rules and regulations during tournament hours.
5. No alcoholic beverages are allowed during the tournament hours.
6. Conduct yourself in such a manner as to promote a positive image of bass and tournament fishing.

BIG BASS

1. Entry fee is \$5.00.
2. The Tournament Director at the club meeting or at the tournament takeoff site will collect the Big Bass entry fees.
3. Contestants wishing to compete in the Big Bass Pot will pay the entry fee before the start of the tournament.
4. Payback will be 100%.
5. If the contestant is fishing alone and the fish is larger than the current Big Bass for the year and of legal size, the fish should be kept in the livewell until another club member can verify the fish's length and observe the fish's release.
6. Any contestant fishing alone that catches a bass that he/she thinks is the Big Bass for the day should keep the fish in the livewell until its length is verified by another club member.(if the fish is of legal size)

POINTS

All Meeting, Show, and Tournament Points shall be awarded at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Meeting Points

1. 100 Meeting Points will be awarded to each member attending the monthly club meeting.
2. Members missing scheduled meetings due to employment shall receive meeting points if:
 - A. The member notifies another club member before the meeting that the absence is due to employment and that he/she intends to compete in the next scheduled tournament.
 - B. The absent member does compete in the tournament.

Show Points

1. 100 Show Points will be awarded to each contestant who participates in the tournament.
2. Show Points will not be awarded if:
 - A. The contestant did not enter the tournament at the club meeting.

- B. The contestant does not arrive at the takeoff site at least 15 minutes before the designated takeoff time.

Tournament Points

1. Points will be awarded for the largest five fish caught by a contestant during a tournament.
2. Points are awarded according to the length of the fish caught as defined by the score sheet handed out by the Tournament Director prior to the tournament.
3. A contestant returning late from fishing will forfeit points for fish caught but will be eligible for Show Points. Points will not be forfeited if the late return was due to circumstances beyond the contestant's control as deemed by the Tournament Director.
4. **Scoring Fish**
 - A. All fish must be a minimum of 12 inches long to be scored.
 - B. All fish must be measured by laying them flat on a measuring board with the mouth closed.
 - C. All fish must make contact with or go beyond a mark on the measuring board before points can be awarded for that mark.
 - D. When fishing with a partner, have them verify the fish's length and observe the fish's release.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

1. The tournament schedule for the upcoming year will be determined by a majority vote of the club members present at the club meeting.
2. The Tournament Director will present the tournament schedule for the upcoming year for the club's approval at the December club meeting. This will help club members who must request vacation time from their employers in order to fish a tournament.

AWARDS

Club Tournaments

1. Awards will be given for each tournament based on the total Show and Tournament Points for each contestant in the tournament.
2. Awards for each tournament will be as follows:
20 or more contestants – club will pay 1st through 4th places
15 – 19 contestants – club will pay 1st through 3rd places
10 – 14 contestants – club will pay 1st and 2nd places
0 – 9 contestants – club will pay 1st place only

1st Place-----\$40.00
2nd Place-----\$25.00
3rd Place-----\$20.00
4th Place-----\$10.00
Big Bass-----Big Bass Pot

Annual Awards

1. Awards will be given annually based on the total Meeting, Show, and Tournament Points of each club member for the club year.
 - A. Angler-of-the-Year – highest placing club member for the year
 - B. Non-boater of the Year – highest placing non-boater for the year
 - C. Cash Awards – the cash awards will be calculated using the percentages designated below for each award multiplied by the year end balance of the club treasury.
2. Annual Awards will be as follows:
Angler-of-the-Year-----Cash Prize (31%) and Plaque
2nd Place-----Cash Prize (21%)

- 3rd Place-----Cash Prize (17%)
- 4th Place-----Cash Prize (13%)
- 5th Place-----Cash Prize (9%)
- Non-Boater of the Year-----Cash Prize (4%) and Plaque
- Big Bass of the Year-----Cash Prize (5%) and Plaque