

High School Series Rules

The following rules shall apply to all Colorado Bass Nation High School Team Series events except that these rules may be changed by CBN immediately upon notice by CBN to its members, which notice may be published on the official HS Open website at www.centennialbass.homestead.com. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director (TD) or their designee at a tournament. In the event of a rule violation, the TD may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate by them, including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and entry fees and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decision of the TD or their designee shall be final in all matters.

1. **LAWS:** All Federal, State, & Local laws shall be obeyed.
2. **DRUGS:** No illegal controlled substances, including but not limited to, alcohol and marijuana, shall be consumed during the tournament.
3. **PARTICIPATION:** All participants shall be a member of BASS, in good standing, before the tournament date.
 - a. All Boaters must possess proof of insurance during the official practice and tournament days, meeting the current minimum requirement set forth by B.A.S.S., which as of January 1st of each year:

“NO COMPETITOR MAY OPERATE A BOAT UNLESS THAT CONTESTANT HAS DOCUMENTED PROOF OF A MINIMUM OF \$300,000, PER OCCURRENCE, BOAT OWNERS LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERING THE BOAT BEING USED IN THE TOURNAMENT. PROOF OF INSURANCE MUST BE WITH THE BOAT BEING USED AND MUST COVER ALL PASSENGERS IN THAT BOAT. RANDOM CHECKS WILL BE CONDUCTED AND ANY COMPETITOR WHO DOES NOT HAVE PROOF OF IN-FORCE INSURANCE WITH \$300,000 COVERAGE MAY BE DISQUALIFIED. EACH POLICY MUST SHOW AN EFFECTIVE START AND EXPIRATION DATE. Tournament officials have sole authority to determine if insurance policies meet B.A.S.S., LLC requirements.”

It is each member’s obligation to know what B.A.S.S.’s Insurance minimums are, which may differ or change from what is written herein.

- b. Minimum boat requirements – Boats must be at least 15’ in length with a minimum of a 40hp engine. No stick steering. The boat must have a working livewell capable of keeping the fish alive. The TD may use their discretion to allow or not allow a boat due to safety or fish care concerns.

4. **TEAMS:** During the Regular Season, a HS team shall consist of a maximum of 2 HS Students and their Boater Coach. All Boater Coaches must be over 18 y/o.
5. **SAFETY:** All participants shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) at any time the big engine is on and in gear. This PFD should be fully latched. The Boater's PFD shall have a functioning Kill Switch attached to it and to the engines Kill Switch system any time the big engine is on and in gear.
6. **ENTRY FEES:** Any entry fees shall be collected, prior to the start of the tournament during the registration period.
7. **LEGAL FISH:** Only Black Bass will be allowed to weigh-in. Only 5 fish may be in a Team's livewell at any time, even though there may be 2 participants in a boat. The weight of a Team's fish will determine their finishing position with the heaviest cumulative weight winning.
 - a. There is a ½ pound penalty per dead fish. The dead fish's weight will count towards the total weight.
 - b. There is a 1-pound penalty per short fish. The short fish will not be weighed.
 - c. A dead fish cannot be weighed for the Big Bass prize.
 - d. Culling of a dead fish is prohibited.
8. **METHODS:** All Black Bass presented for weigh-in must have been caught during the tournament. All fish caught while sight fishing must have been hooked inside the mouth. No snagging allowed. Trolling is not allowed. Only one rod and reel may be used at a time by an angler. Only artificial lures may be used. No live or prepared bait, except for pork, may be used. Scents and attractant may be used.
9. **TIE BREAKER:** The Tie Breaker for cumulative weight of a tournament shall be the biggest bass weighed for the Big Bass prize. If it is the Weekend Tournament, a secondary tie breaker will be the heaviest bag of the tournament.
 - a. The Tie Breaker for the Big Bass Prize shall be which team weighed the heaviest "Bag" that day or weekend.
10. **OFF LIMITS:** Unless the Tournament Director determines otherwise: There is not an off-limits rule.

11. **PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING:** There will be a Pre-Tournament Meeting where weigh-in time, official time, off limits, etc. will be discussed. This is also when the draw for launch order will occur.
 - a. For the 4 HS Open tournaments, the Pre-tournament meeting will begin at least 15 min prior to the start time of each tournament
 - i. Any Team arriving after the draw but before Blast Off will take off in last position. Any Team arriving after Blast Off will have to locate the Tournament Director and pay prior to fishing.
 - b. For the 1 State tournament, the Pre-tournament meeting will begin one hour before sunrise unless otherwise directed by the Tournament Director.
12. **CHECK-IN:** There will be a 1-pound penalty for each minute a team is late after the official check-in time. After 15 minutes late, a team will be disqualified. After 15 minutes the Tournament Director will attempt to locate any missing teams. If a team leaves early, for any reason, that team should place a note on the vehicle of another team.
13. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** The 50-foot cushion rule shall exist so that all participants may fish and have a fun time in these tournaments. No team shall cut-off another team, that is fishing, within 50', by passing in front of them. Always ask before going in front of or around another team, whether they are anchored or not. Any protest about events shall be brought to the Tournament Director before the actual weigh-in begins. All decisions of the Tournament Director are final.