

Texas BASS Federation Nation West Region 2014 Official Tournament Rules

1. All State, Federal, Federation and local lake laws will apply.
2. Tournament fishing hours are from safelight until 4:00 pm. Tournament Director will determine the time of safelight.
3. The official clock will be posted at the tournament headquarters. Contestants are responsible for checking the official time.
4. Entry-fee is \$50.00, \$45.00 tournament fee and \$5.00 Big-Bass pot. Eighty percent of the tournament fee (\$36.00) will be paid-out and 20% (\$9.00) will go the region treasury. One hundred percent of the Big-Bass pot will be paid back. Places will be paid according to payout sheet developed by the West Region Treasurer.
5. Weigh-In will open at approximately 3:30 pm and will cut off at 4:00 pm. Contestants must **be in line by 4:00 pm** or weight will be forfeited for the tournament.
6. Contestants 18 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult or if fishing alone, must have written parental consent and release.
7. All contestants must register with the tournament Director in person or by phone before fishing. If unable to contact the Tournament director the contestant may contact another West Region member who is a contestant on the water and report to them that they are in the tournament. They must do this prior to fishing and they must immediately contact the Tournament Director to pay entry fees at weigh in.
8. All decisions of the tournament officials are final.
9. Fish will be measured on a flat board with mouth closed and tail pinched.
10. Keep your catch alive; there will be a 4-ounce penalty for each dead fish brought to the scales.
11. Fish must be brought to the weigh-in in a bag containing an sufficient amount of lake water.
12. No frozen or dead, pale-gilled fish will be weighed.
13. *Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted and Guadalupe bass will be weighed.*
14. Only fish caught in a sporting manner on artificial baits (pork rind accepted) will be weighed.
15. Any contestant who enters the weigh-in line with more than five (5) fish or the tournament number requirement will be penalized. The largest fish will be culled and culling will continue with the largest fish until the tournament limit is reached. A contestant may win only one Big Bass place per tournament.
16. All fish must meet the minimum and maximum length limits as established by the Texas Parks & Wildlife laws for each tournament lake. It is the responsibility of each angler to check the TPWD guidelines before each tournament. Violation of this rule will result in one pound penalty plus the loss of the fish's weight in violation.
17. Contestants who are intoxicated will lose that days catch.
18. All contestants must wear life jackets when the combustion engine is running or when state law requires it.
19. In the unlikely event of a protest BASS rules state that the protested party must submit to a polygraph exam if so requested by the tournament director. It will be the protested party's financial responsibility to complete the arranged exam set by the Tournament Director. Time and date of said exam shall be scheduled and set forth by the Tournament Director.
20. Polygraph test may be given at any West Region tournament trail event.
21. Polygraph test will be given at the Open Tournament.
22. BASS Rule. Anglers may use nets to assist in the landing of their fish.
23. BASS Rule. Landing nets may not exceed 6.5 feet in total length.
24. West Region will observe an off limit period prior to each of it's tournaments. The lakes are off limits from sundown the Sunday prior to the tournament date until 6:00 am the Friday prior to the tournament date. All contestants must be off the water by sundown the Friday prior to the tournament date. (Official practice day)
25. The number of contestants qualifying for the "West Region Championship" will be based on the total number of paid members in the region for the calendar year in which the championship is held.
99 paid members or less: The top 18 members in point standings after the last regional qualifying event of the year will advance to the championship. In addition, 2 wildcard spots will also be awarded to the two anglers with the highest points who have fished all the regional qualifying events for that year. *The number of contestants will be rounded up, if necessary, to insure an equal number of boaters and non-boaters if less than 18 eligible qualifiers. A contestant must fish a minimum of 4 of the 6 regional qualifying events to be eligible for the championship.

In this instance, 20 members would fish the championship. 100 paid members or more: The top 20% of total paid membership in point standings after the last regional qualifying event of the year will advance to the championship. In addition, 2 wildcard spots will be awarded to the two anglers with the highest points who have fished all the regional qualifying events for that year. *The number of contestants will be rounded up, if necessary, to insure an equal number of boaters and non-boaters. A contestant must fish a minimum of 4 of the 6 regional qualifying events to be eligible for the championship.