

Texas BASS Federation Nation West Region 2017 Official Tournament Rules

1. Tournament fishing hours are from safelight until 4:00 pm. The Tournament Director will determine the time of safelight for each event.
2. The official clock will be posted at the tournament headquarters. Contestants are responsible for knowing the official time.
3. Entry-fee is \$75.00 per event (\$70.00 tournament fee + \$5.00 Big-Bass pot). Eighty percent of the tournament fee (\$56.00) will be paid-out and 20% (\$14.00) will go into the regional treasury. 100% of the Big-Bass pot will be paid-out at each event. A contestant may win only one (1) Big Bass place per event. One (1) in seven (7) places will be paid-out according to payout sheet developed by the West Region Treasurer.
4. Weigh-In will open at approximately 3:30 pm with cut off at 4:00 pm. Contestants must be in line, with their fish, by 4:00 pm. Contestants not in line, with their fish, by 4:00 pm will forfeit that days catch for the event.
5. Off Limits: The West Region will observe an off limits period prior to each of its tournament events. The lakes are off limits from sundown on Sunday prior to the tournament date until 6:00 am on Friday the day before the tournament date. One (1) official practice day will be observed for each day of tournament competition (one-day event (1) practice day, two-day event (2) practice days). All contestants must be off the water by sundown on official practice days.
6. 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 entered in the event and report to them that they are competing in the tournament. The contestant must do this prior to making his/her first cast. The contestant must immediately contact the Tournament Director at weigh-in and pay entry fees. No contestant will be eligible for prize money and/or points until tournament entry fee is paid.
7. All contestants are required to wear a USCG approved life vest, with functioning kill switch attached, when the combustion engine is running and/or when required by state law.
8. Contestants under eighteen (18) years of age must be accompanied by an adult, or must provide written parental consent and a signed release of liability form provided by the Tournament Director.
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 weigh-in in a bag containing a sufficient amount of water to keep catch alive.
12. No 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. Landing nets are allowed to assist in the landing of fish. Landing nets may not exceed 6 and 1/2 feet in length.
16. Any contestant, who enters the weigh-in line with more than five (5) fish, or tournament required number of fish, will be penalized. The largest fish will be culled and culling will continue with the next largest fish until the tournament limit is reached.
17. All fish must meet the minimum and maximum required length limits as established by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for each tournament lake. It is the responsibility of each contestant to know the TPWD required length limits for each tournament event. Violation of this rule will result in one (1) pound penalty plus the loss of the fish's weight in violation.
18. In the unlikely event of a protest, B.A.S.S. rules state that the protested party must submit to a polygraph exam if requested by the Tournament Director. It will be the protested party's financial responsibility to complete the exam. Time, date, and location of exam will be arranged by the Tournament Director. Protest must be made in writing and received by the Tournament Director within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.
19. Contestants who, in the opinion of the Tournament Director, are under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol may be disqualified from the event.
20. Polygraph test may be given at any West Region tournament trail event.
21. Polygraph test will be given at any open tournament event.
22. All Federal, State, and local laws apply.
23. All decisions of the tournament officials are final.

