

# RULES

## **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:**

The Tournament Director will have total control of all tournament weigh-ins, The Tournament director will supervise weighing measuring and recording of all fish. Once a member has handed his/her catch to the Tournament Director' or his assigned assistants, he/she will not be allowed to handle the fish again, until returned by the tournament committee.

## **PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:**

Tournaments are held for the benefit of the members of Oro Madre Bass Anglers. Participation in club tournaments is open only to club members in good standings, except for the noted exceptions below. Members participating in a club tournament agree to abide by all tournament regulations. All contestants must comply with all federal, state and local rules and regulations.

## **TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:**

The tournament schedule will be determined in the following manner.

- a) The tournament lakes will be determined by member ballot. Balloting will take place the final meeting of the year, in December. Each member in good standing is eligible to vote. The Tournament Director will provide each member with a ballot. The members will vote for 10 one-day tournament lakes with the option of making 1 a 2-day tournament.
- b) The Tournament Director will determine the order of the lakes, for the upcoming schedule. If possible, the dates of the tournaments will be determined at this meeting. If not, the Tournament Director will set the dates as soon as possible.
- c) Tournament to determine the club standings will be scheduled during the months of February-October, During the months of November-January club members in good standings may schedule Membership Drive tournaments with an entry fee of \$50.00.

Membership Drive tournaments are for fun but follow all tournament rules set by Oro Madre Bass Anglers.

### **Point Scoring:**

Points will be awarded for each regularly schedule club tournament on the following basis.

basis.	1st Place	50
Points	2nd Place	49
Points	3rd Place	48
Points	4th Place	47

In addition, each team will receive 50 Points for participation in a club tournament. No bonus points will be awarded for BIG BASS.

There will be 10 regular club tournaments during the year. The best seven 9 tournaments in points will be used for each member to determine the Team of the Year. The awards will be calculated by using the total points from all nine 9 tournaments. This will allow a team) to miss 1 tournament during the year and still qualify for Team of the Year.

Make up for any tournaments that were cancelled due to unsafe conditions will be made up as soon as possible.

**ENTRY FEES:**

The entry fee for each club tournaments will be \$75.00 per boat. Entry fees that are paid are nonrefundable.

The allocation of each entry will be as follows:

- \$40.00      Tournament Pot
- \$10.00      Team of the Year
- \$20.00      Retained by the club
- \$2.00        Year End Big Bass (8lb minimum)
- \$3.00        Tournament Big Bass

The entry fee for the (1) two-day club tournament will be \$150.00 per boat. The allocation of each entry will be as

- 1st Place            50%
- 2nd Place            20%
- 3rd Place            15%
- 1st Day Big Fish    5%
- 2nd Day Big Fish    5%
- To the Club           5%

**TOURNAMENT AWARD;**

A plate will be engraved and awarded for any place that was awarded a payout.

The tournament pay-out will be allocated in accordance with the following schedule:

Place	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25
1st	100%	60%	50%	50%	47.5%
2nd		40%	35%	30%	27.5%
3rd			10%	15%	7.5%
4th				5%	5.0%
5th					

In the event fewer contestants weigh in fish then there are places to be paid, the tournament pot percentages due those contestants weighing fish will be paid to them for their respective places. Any remaining monies in the tournament pot will then be divided equally among the placing entrants. Members placing in one of the top three positions or catching tournament big fish, for the first time, will also be awarded their perpetual trophy. Any team that does not weigh in fish but fished the entire tournament from blast off to weigh-in, will receive 50 points for participation.

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AND YEAR END AWARDS:**

The team who accumulates the most points from participation in 9 of the 10 club tournaments, shall receive the Club’s annual “Team of the Year” award. Both awards will include a trophy and cash prize. The team catching the largest bass of the year will receive a trophy.

**TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION:**

For a member to participate in a tournament, he/she must be entered in the tournament draw. This will allow enough time to make any rearrangements necessary. A late fee of \$10.00 will be charged at the ramp for any team signing up for tournament the day of. This is not applied to pay-out. Tournament fees are non-refundable.

A team must have a member present at the meeting prior to the next tournament in order to be in the draw for blast off. If a member of your team is unable to attend the meeting, that team will blast off at the end of the order.

Each contestant will submit an entry form along with the entry fee to the Tournament Director at the meeting preceding the tournament. - Participants may sign up at the lake the morning of the tournament if forms are signed, and fees are paid prior to launching. Blast off order will be determined at the meeting preceding the tournament.

Official tournament hours, blast-off and weigh-in times, and all other necessary tournament information will be announced at the tournament draw meeting.

The Tournament Director will announce the tournament headquarters/launch site for each lake at the time of the draw.

Contestants are responsible for being on time for the tournament. The Tournament Director will give final instructions prior to blast-off. Boat checks will be conducted at the discretion of the Tournament Director prior to launch.

There will no roll-over or transfer of tournament entry fees, any entry fees paid becomes property of the club, whether, the team fishes the tournament or not. It is expected the teams not showing up for a tournament will notify the Tournament Director or another club officer at least 24 hours prior to the tournament. NO exceptions.

### **SAFETY:**

Safe boating and fishing practices must be observed. Each Contestant must have a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device. Each boat must be equipped with an approved engine kill switch. Flotation devices must be worn, zipped and snapped anytime the main engine is in operation, Failure to observe safe boat operation or failure to use personal flotation devices properly will constitute a disqualification. All club members under the age of 18 SHALL wear an approved flotation device at ALL times when on the water.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP:**

While attending all Oro Madre Bass Angler functions each member represents the club. Prime importance shall be given to high standards of sportsmanship courtesy, safety and conservation, these basic sporting principles are always expected and demanded of all contestants. Care should be taken to present a good impression of bass fisherman to the general public at all times. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, drugs or narcotics will be in the possession of any contestant during club activities. Any violation will be cause for complete disqualification.

### **SIGHT AND BED FISHING:**

When sight or bed fishing, a fish is legally caught only after it takes the bait in its mouth before the hook set. Snagging of a fish in anyway will be considered a violation of the club's rules and regulations. Any fish which has taken the bait in it mouth and then is caught, will constitute a legally caught fish, the point of entry of the hook is not an issue.

**TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:**

Only artificial bait or lures may be used. No live bait or prepared baits will be permitted, except for pork strips, rinds, etc. Only casting

Spinning or spin-casting rods and reels may be used. Only one rod may be used at any given time. Rods may not exceed a maximum length of eight feet. All fish must be caught and landed from the boat. Trolling is not permitted. The use of landing nets, depth finders, temperature gauges, oxygen meters, pH meters, etc., will be allowed,

**BOAT AND MOTOR:**

Any boat fourteen (14) feet or longer will be allowed, provided and engine of twenty (20) horsepower or more powers it. However, no boat if the engine exceeds the maximum Coast Guard approved ratings. A live well system is required and must be large enough and adequately aerated to maintain a limit of bass for both fishermen. It is the boater's responsibility to ensure a means of keeping the catches of each member in the boat separate.

**PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:**

Off-limit fishing areas will be left to the discretion of the Tournament Director. Areas around any launching facility should be considered for being off-limits,

No fishing will be permitted within 25 yards of another tournament boat, without the approval of both partners in the boat, on site first. Partners must always make reasonable effort to remain together, in sight of each other and each other's catch, until the weigh-in is completed for each partner.

**COMMUNICATION DEVICES:**

Cell phones and all other means of communications are prohibited during the tournament. Exceptions are for family, business/work matters or emergencies. No outside help during tournaments hours.

**SCORING:**

Only largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass will be scored. Each contestant will comply with the specific tournament lake laws and regulations concerning the size and number of fish that may be legally taken. A thirteen (13) inch minimum applies to all fish weighed in. Bass will be measured on a WILL-HE-GO belly board, with the mouth open, at a 45-degree angle. Tails will be swept to check for legal length.

Any bass that does not meet the minimum length will be cause for a one (1) pound penalty to be around the weigh-in site. An infraction of this rule will cause a penalty of two pounds to be deducted from the contestant's final weight.

The utmost care and handling, to preserve and Maintain the life of every bass, will always be taken. Two tenths (.2) of a pound will be deducted for each dead fish brought to weigh-in. Big bass will be weighed-in separately and will be subject to the two tenths of a pound penalty if it is the dead fish. This applies only to the weight used to determine the BIG FISH award. All fish over 5lbs are required their own weigh bag.

No cold or iced fish will be weighted.

Any contestant having more than a legal limit of bass in his/her possession at the weigh-in will be disqualified from the tournament.

Each contestant agrees to release all live bass except for a trophy bass, which may be returned to the contestant after the fish has been weighed.

### **TIES:**

Tournament ties- Big Bass will be the first tiebreaker. The total number of fish will be the second tiebreaker, Total live fish will be the third tie breaker. Final tie breaker will be a coin toss, conducted by the Tournament Director.

End of the Year ties- Total weight for the year will be the first tiebreaker. A contestant may not use different tournament to determine final points and tiebreaker. The second tie breaker will be biggest bass caught for the year.

### **LATE PENALTY:**

If you do not make weigh in time, your team is automatically disqualified from the tournament. Boat breakdown is not an excuse for missing weigh-in. In the case of breakdown, contestants can transfer their fish to another boat, along with one member.

### **PROTESTS:**

The time for all protest will be 30 minutes of the weigh-in. All protests must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing.

**REVISIONS:**

Revision Date January 5, 2000

Revision Date January 4, 2003

Revision Date January 1, 2004

Revision Date January 6, 2005

Revision Date January 8, 2010

Revision Date January 18, 2020