



Canadian Bass Anglers Federation

Port Colborne Open Aug 17, 2024 Official Rules

"IF" there is a small craft advisory or lake is deemed to be too dangerous as determined by the tournament director and committee, the event will be moved to Niagara River, Launch _____. The Tournament director and committee's decision will be final. If due to extreme weather conditions the entire event must be cancelled, full refunds will be given as soon as possible.

1. All competitors must be registered, sign the waiver and paid in full prior to Thursday August 15th at 11:59pm. No onsite registration will be available – no exceptions.
2. Boat numbers will be assigned based on the order your registration is received.
3. No refunds will be issued for cancellations; unless your team is replaced by another team paid in full. Any potential refund will be issued following the event.
4. Blast off will be trickle start at 7:00am. Check in will be 3:00 pm. Designated blast off and check in details will be shared at rules meeting and in the morning of the event. Additional flights may be created based on the number of boats.
5. A Late Penalty of 1 lb. per minute will be applied to any team checking in after their designated check-in time. If an emergency arises, please contact tournament officials by phone.
6. Pre-Fishing is allowed until 5:00 pm the day prior to the event.
7. Each boat must consist of only 2 anglers. At least 1 member of the team must be at least 16 years of age. Note: under 16 years of age must fish with a partner 16 years or older and must have signed parental consent. Only one line per angler is permitted.
8. All teams must complete boat check the morning of the event. After you launch your boat, please proceed to boat check area. Boat checks will begin at 5:30am. a. All boats must have a fully functional kill switch and aerated livewell(s) (subject to inspection morning of event) All boats are subject to pre-tournament inspection. Failure to complete and pass inspection results in disqualification. b. Minimum boat length of 14' c. All Federal and Provincial boating regulations must be adhered to.
9. Personal flotation devices must be worn by all competitors while traveling with the main engine.
10. Kill switch must be attached to driver while traveling with the main engine.
11. Trolling with a gas engine is not permitted. "Strolling" with an electric motor is permitted.
12. Only artificial lures will be permitted; NO live bait or preserved bait excluding "pork-rind" type baits will be permitted.

13. Fishing boundaries include any waters defined as accessible by boat without locking through. If fishing in U.S. Waters, anglers will be responsible for having U.S. License and Safety Equipment as required by law. In case of emergency, where necessary – one competitor can go ashore (ie.phone) while the competitor must remain in boat. One Competitor must stay in the boat at all times – cellular phone number(s) will be made available at check in for emergency purposes.
14. Competitors may obtain fuel and/or repairs from marinas – must contact the Tournament Director in the event of repairs.
15. No Fishing allowed within 100' feet of another tournament boat (tournament etiquette applies in all situations)
16. Only Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass may be kept all other fish must be released immediately.
17. Legal Fish entries will a maximum of 5 (five)bass. Any combination of largemouth or smallmouth bass will be accepted. Legal length for either bass species is 12" inches measured from "Tip to Tip" (extreme tip of nose to extreme tip of tail").
18. Culling equipment that punctures the body or mouth of fish as "stringer style culling clips, balance beams, and related equipment, etc. may not be used. Failing to comply results in disqualification.
19. No Competitor shall retain or transport any "bass" in their livewells starting Monday. Aug 12th, 2024 until the tournament day. "Guides" who are retaining fish for clients consumption will be allowed.
20. At no time shall a competitor have in his or her possession more than the legal limit, and at no time shall a competitor have more than the tournament limit in their possession while the boat is under power of the main engine. If a competitor determines they have over the limit they must immediately reduce his catch to the tournament limit with a live bass of their choice from their catch. Each returned bass will result in a 2 pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. In this case, competitors must attempt to notify tournament officials and if unsuccessful must notify officials at check in. Once a competitor checks in they must present all legal bass to tournament officials at the verification table. If competitors at the verification table have more than the tournament limit, the competitor will cull their largest fish(s) and reduce bass to the tournament limit and each returned bass will result in an additional 2–pound penalty to be deducted from their daily score. If a competitor has his fish verified, weighed and upon returning to the boat discovers additional fish over the tournament limit that were not presented to officials; he then must notify tournament officials immediately to receive a 2 lb. penalty for each bass discovered.
21. Culling of Dead fish is not permitted. Team must retain and weigh in any dead fish as part of the event limit. Culling dead fish will result in disqualification.
22. All fish weighed in will be promptly released following the weigh-in.
23. It is the responsibility of the participants to bring fish up to the weigh-in area from the boat. Weigh bags will be supplied by the CBAF. Please use them. The inner mesh bag is essential to the weigh in process.
24. All fish to be weighed in must be in good condition at time of weigh-in and are subject to the weighmaster's discretion. Dead fish determined by the weigh-master and/or tournament director will be assessed a half pound penalty to be subtracted from that team's total weight – the fish in question WILL be tallied into the total. For fish falling short of the 12inch minimum, a 1pound penalty will be subtracted from that team's total weight –the fish in question WILL NOT be included into that team's total weight. Simplified: Dead fish –the fish's weight counts minus the half pound penalty. Short fish –the fish's weight doesn't count plus the one pound penalty.
25. Port Colborne Open "Big Fish" must be alive, if deemed dead by the tournament director it will not count towards "Big Fish" prizes.

26. Each team is allowed one (1) re-weigh and final call is made by the weigh master. The team must keep the second weight regardless of the result. Teams are allowed to weigh-in multiple big bass.
27. Decision of the tournament officials are final. Protest will be allowed up to 15 minutes after the last team is weighed in. A \$75.00 deposit must be paid and will be refunded if the protest stands.
28. In the event of a tie, for any position the cash prizes for that position and the next position will be added together and distributed equally among the tied teams.
29. All boats must check-in at the designated Check-In Boat/person. A 5 lb. Penalty will be applied against any team that does not check-in with the check in boat/person.
30. Cell and Smart phones or other electronic communication devices may only be used in the event of an emergency. No communications between competitors or non-competitors to gain a competitive advantage during the tournament hours, unless deemed an emergency. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
31. If in question, any cash/prize winning competitor(s) must agree to take a lie detector test and pass before receiving their prize.
32. Competitors may be disqualified for violations of the rules herein, the Ontario Fishing Regulations, or the law, and will not receive any prizes of any kind or refund of their entry fee.
33. No refund of entry fee (tournament director's decision is final); however, last minute substitutions for one or both anglers are permitted before the beginning of the event.
34. All taxes on any prize awards are the responsibility of the recipient.
36. Use of alcohol or narcotics during tournament hours is prohibited. Tournament hours are from, angler check-in until final award distribution.
37. If you have any questions on the rules be sure to clarify with the Organizers prior to Blast Off.
38. Decisions of the Tournament Officials are final.

Questions or comments can be directed to: John Grandy - email: johngrandy@rogers.com ph: (613)849-3097