



East Fork Bass Anglers Tournament Rules 2008



Tournament Rule #1: Eligibility Requirements for Participating in sanctioned tournament

To participate in an East Fork Bass Anglers club tournament, the angler must be a current member in good standings. The member cannot participate in an upcoming event, if he is in default of dues or assessments to the club or to a member of the club. All dues and entry fees shall be paid at the regular club meeting prior to the tournament or tournaments being fished

Tournament Rule #2: Entry Fees

Each competitor will be assessed a tournament fee of twenty dollars for a one-day event, twenty-five dollars for each two-day event at the time of the draw at the regular club monthly meeting. The club's treasurer will pay out Entry Fees at the next regular monthly meeting, after the tournament results have been ratified. There will also be an optional side pot for big bass for the event with a \$5.00 fee. The Entry fees will be paid by the following formula:

<u>One-Day Event</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Two-Day Event</u>	<u>Amount</u>
First Place	8.00	First Place	10.00
Second Place	5.00	Second Place	6.00
Club Classic	<u>7.00</u>	Club Classic	<u>9.00</u>
Totals	\$20.00	Totals	\$25.00

BIG BASS will be paid out 100% of money taken in for that event (both days in a two day event)

Tournament Rule #3: Off-Limits and Permitted Fishing Locations The Tournament Director can designate an off-limits area prior to a tournament being fished. During a 2-day event, the Tournament Director will establish an off-limits area at the previous day's release site. Permitted fishing locations are everywhere on the body of water being fished, that has not been designated as off-limits by local, state, Federal authorities and/or our club's tournament director. All waters closed to public fishing will be considered Off-limits to all the tournament anglers. Fishing within 50 feet of gas pumps is prohibited. The tournament director can reserve the right to call a fishing restriction date, where no angling can be accomplished prior to the start time of the schedule event. All fishing must be accomplished from the boat, no banking fishing, or wading to lighten boat to obtain access to an area that otherwise would not be fishable.

Tournament Rule #4: Safety All boats used during competition shall have on board all the approved U.S.C.G. safety equipment required by local, state, and federal laws governing the tournament waters being fished. Be no shorter than 15 feet and not exceed the maximum HP approved for the craft. East Fork Bass Anglers will require the wearing of a U.S.C.G. approved Type III Personal Floatation Device (P.F.D.) or better, during those times when the gas motor is in operation. All boats will be equipped with a kill switch in proper working order and properly secured to the operator during those times when the gas motor is in operation. Alcoholic beverages and recreational/illegal drugs will not be permitted during tournament hours. A current copy of the Boater's Insurance Liability Statement should be on file with the Club's secretary. Minimum liability coverage of \$100,000 must be carried. Occasionally a ramp inspection will be performed to ensure that all boats are maintaining the proper safety gear, proper licenses, and/or certain gear has not expired. All non-boaters must provide their own PFD.

Tournament Rule #5: Tackle and Equipment All Competitors must use artificial lures only, no live bait will be allowed. However, an angler may use baits such as pork rinds. An angler can only use one rod and reel at a time. Trolling as a method of tournament angling is strictly prohibited. All bass must be caught in a sporting manner, and the use of a landing net will be permitted. The E.F.B.A. tournament officials highly recommends the use of a **Rubber Landing net**. All boats must have properly working livewells an enough space to maintain two limits of bass in lively condition. The utilization of live well additives to enhance and prolong the lively condition of the bass is **STRONGLY** recommended by the E.F.B.A. tournament officials. All stickers, taxes, launching fees, boat plates, registration and the appropriate fishing licenses for the water being fished shall be on board or on person as prescribed by law or these rules

Tournament Rule #6: The Pairing of Competitors The tournament director will utilize the luck of the draw system for the pairing of partners and boat positions, except for those tournaments designated as Buddy tournaments. If in the event that a member draws another member with whom he has previously fished with, either one will have the option of being drawn with the next person available. If in the event it is the last pair drawn, it will be allowed to swap partners if those two have not fished yet together. For "Buddy Tournaments", it is recommended that we NOT fish with the same partner for more that one tournament. If in the event that two boaters are paired up and we end up with a non-boater odd man out, we will have a blind draw for those involved, as to not have a non-boater unable to fish, or, if a non-boater cannot team up with a boater, we will have a draw from the available boaters to insure that member has a boat to fish from. The rules of the blind draw will be in effect in this situation, as to having fished with that person or not.

We will draw for partners at the event 30 minutes prior to scheduled launch. You must have your entry fee in at that time. The non-boater will pay his boater the _____ prior to loading his equipment in to that boat. You must declare in a timely manor the pairings of partners for away "Buddy" tourneys.

Tournament Rule #7: Daily Registration/Check-in: All competitors will be at the designated starting point at least (30) minutes prior to the prescribed time set forth in the regular monthly meeting, so to ensure all pairing will be accomplished, safety equipment, live wells, appropriate licenses and fees are current. Failure to be at the designated location at the prescribed time could result in disqualification in that day's event unless the **Tournament Director** has been notified in advance of the starting time. A **Late Check-in** penalty will be assessed at the rate of 1 pound per minute beyond the designated stopping time. A boat is considered late if the boat is not in the ramp area preparing to trailer or awaiting to trailer due to ramp traffic. Any Boat more than (15) MINUTES late for the designated check-in time will be disqualified for that day's event. The drawing order will be used as the launch order, and will be reversed for the second day of two day tournaments.

Tournament Rule#8: Boat Operation: Competitors are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship and courtesy to every competitor and every watercraft on the waters being fished. If the tournament director is made aware of a legal discretion, or be it known that he operated in an unsafe manor, that angler will be disqualified by the tournament committee. A full discussion of the days events must be planned, so that, the scheduling of equal time will be afforded each competitor to: pick water to be fished for that day's event, fishing from the front of the boat using the trolling motor. However, the non-boater is responsible for damages incurred to the boat and motors while under his (negligent) command of the trolling motor operations, not covered by the boaters insurance. Meaning: "the deductible"

Tournament Rule #9: Scoring: Individual tournament standings shall be determined by the total weight of each competitor's creel, minus all penalty points incurred for that day. The creel will consist of the following species: Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Kentucky spotted Bass for all regular season tournaments. The creel and length limits will be in accordance with local, state, and federal laws governing that body of water being fished. If the tournament director so deems, a paper tournament can be utilize, the minimum standard will always be a twelve (12) inches in length limit. On those bodies of water where paper tournament are to be conducted, all bass will be measured recorded and immediately released if they do not meet current length limits governing that body of water.

ANY Bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will only be weighed in with a 2/3-majority vote by those present at the weigh in.

Ties will be broken as follows:

1. Largest weight of live fish in a creel
2. Largest number of live fish in a creel
3. Largest number of bass
4. Flip of the coin

T.R. #9A: Interference

During the weigh-ins, each competitor will have an opportunity to utilize a courtesy board to measure his creel to ensure proper length. Once the creel has been handed to the Weigh Master, only the angler, the Weigh Master, and tournament official recording event are allowed at the scales. Any interference by another angler could result in penalties or disqualification being assessed to that competitor.

Tournament Rule #10: Point System: All club tournaments are scored on an individual basis, not a team basis. These include meetings, tournaments, and special events. Points are awarded for placement in a competitive fishing tournament scheduled by the club. The points awarded are on a declining scale beginning with 30 points. First place as determined by total weight gets 30 points, second gets 29, third gets 28, fourth gets 27, etc...Weight of fish caught determines placement. No weight means no placement value, however, if you attend the event but catch no fish, you are guaranteed 8 points for participating in a 1-day event, 8 points per day for a 2 day event. There is no tiebreaker. Ties get same points. If you do not attend, you do not receive any points. If you lose your weight do to penalty, you will not receive any points other than participation points for that day. You must discard the points from 2 tournaments from your overall point total. You need not participate in an event to discard it. **Attending “Kid’s Day” will be worth 20 points.**

Tournament Rule #11: Penalty Points: Penalty points will be subtracted from the total weight of the angler’s daily creel weight as follows:

1. Zero point deduction for each short bass given to the weigh master
2. The angler who weighs a dead bass will be penalized **0.25 pounds** penalty for each dead bass.

Tournament Rule #12: Rules Violations: Violation of any rule could possible bring penalties and expulsion from our organization, but violation of tournament rule 3,4,5,7,8, and 9A, will demand the immediate disqualification of that angler from that days event without a protest being filed by another angler if the Tournament Director or tournament official is aware of the infraction. A disqualified member will have (48) hours to appeal the disqualification by filing an appeal in writing through the club’s president to the Tournament Committee.

Tournament Rule #13: Cancellation of a Tournament: To cancel a tournament or change a date, will require a vote and majority decision, of the membership, at a regular club meeting. If in the event of unforeseen circumstances at an event, or within 5 days of that event, that could be deemed dangerous to members and equipment, the Tournament Director can deem the water “unfishable” and-or, a change of venue can be requested by a majority of members present or participating in the event. The Tournament Director, or another Board Member in the absence of the Director, will have final say as to whether the water is “fishable”, and request the vote of those in the event for one of the following three options.

1. Tournament canceled, rescheduled for another available weekend. Entry fees stay in pot
2. Tournament canceled, reschedule not a consideration, all fees refunded.
3. Change the tournament waters, to the predetermined “back-up” body of water, or in the event of an out of town tournament, a reasonably close body of water that will be named by the Tournament Director, before the vote.

In any and all of the above scenarios, **only those involved in the event** will be included in the voting process and allowed to participate in a rescheduled or moved event, unless the Tournament Director deems it in the best interest of the club.

Tournament Rule #14: No Fish/One fish Rule: In the unlikely event that no bass are presented to the weigh master by tournaments end, this tournament will be deemed a completed tournament with all entry fees being returned. If at the end of a tournament and only 1 bass is weighed-in, all of the prize money:

First, Second, and Big Bass will be paid to that angler.

Tournament Rule #15: Protests and Appeals: All protests must be in writing and presented to the Weigh Master no later than 1 hour after the conclusion of the weigh-in. The statement must state the nature of the infraction(s): all evidence, list of witnesses supporting your protest must also accompany your written statement. The Tournament Director shall render his decision on the protest at the tournament site. All parties involved in the protest will have the right to file an appeal to the Tournament Committee by a written statement, then giving it to the President no later that 48 Hours after the Tournament Director's ruling. The President shall then petition the Tournament Committee for an opinion. If by chance, the Tournament Committee cannot render a decision. The appeal will be transferred to the Board of Directors for a decision to be rendered. During this process, the tournament will not be ratified and no payments of prize money nor will points be awarded until the Board hands down its decision.

Rev 02-08-04

East Fork Bass Anglers Constitution and By-laws

Rev 4-02-08

ARTICLE I: Name & Purpose

Section 1: Name

This Chapter shall be called "EAST FORK BASS ANGLERS" of Clermont County, Ohio.
Assigned Ohio Bass Chapter Federation
Number 005897

Section 2: Purpose

Our Mission:

To enhance the public's perception of the sport of bass fishing through, the sharing of acquired knowledge and experience, by promoting the "Catch and Release" technique of angling, to educate our youth not only to the excitement of our sport, but demonstrate through innovative environmental systems and conservation methods that will ensure the future of our children's legacy.

ARTICLE II: Membership

Section 1: Number of Members

This chapter shall begin with and maintain at least six club members in order to be classified as a solvent O.B.F.C. (see dissolution statement at end of Constitution). The total general membership shall not exceed 30 members in any given calendar year without the explicit authorization of the club's current membership.

A ratio of (+2) Boaters to Non-Boaters will be kept in consideration when voting perspective members into the chapter.

Section 2: Requirements for Membership

A perspective member must first meet all the following standards before membership can be granted:

Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership at his induction meeting.

Be a member of the Bass Angler's Sportsman Society or become a member within 30 days.

Be sponsored by a current member of the
East Fork Bass Anglers.

Complete an E.F.B.A. membership application.

A Majority (2/3) of the membership present at an induction meeting must vote in the affirmative.

Pay all required dues

Section 3: Membership dues

Currently our dues are \$50.00 (fifty) dollars, the breakdown is as follows:

A. National Bass Federation annual fee is fifteen dollars **.B** Ohio Bass Chapter Federation annual fee is fifteen dollars **C.** East Fork Bass Anglers annual fee is fifteen dollars.

These dues are payable upon acceptance as a club member and will be payable each year there after at the first regular monthly meeting of December. Currently our calendar and fiscal year begins January 1 and ends December 31, membership fees will be assessed at this rate regardless of the month of acceptance.

Section 4: Maintaining Membership status

To remain an eligible member of the E.F.B.A. club, participation in regional, state, and division events, a member must meet the following criteria:

Attend a minimum of 50% of all E.F.B.A.' club functions which will include club tournaments, regular monthly meetings, youth and or conservation event. Club officials will be held to a higher standard, they must attend 50% of club functions to maintain eligibility.

Each member will maintain the highest courtesy, responsibility, and respect for club members, all laws governing events, and for the general fishing public, and always represent E.F.B.A. in a positive manner.

Section 5: Removal and Exclusion of Membership

Any member who has evidence that a member has misrepresented, dishonored, or tarnished our organization by his acts of dishonesty, irresponsibility, or flagrant disrespect for the laws governing our organization and their events, shall place in writing a letter of complaint and petition the Board of Directors for an expulsion hearing. Expulsion hearing will be convened at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors and conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order". The findings of the Board of Directors shall be present to the Body for ratification.

ARTICLE III: Officers, Elections, Vacancies, & Eligibility

Section 1: Officers and their Duties

President, will preside over all meetings and direct all official business of the club. Appoint and be an un-official member of all committees, who's vote will be taken in the event of ties, and chair the Board of Directors.

Vice President, will act as Program chairman, including but not limited to, Youth and Environmental programs, assist the President in his duties and preside in the absence of the President.

Secretary, will maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the Chapter president. Maintain liaison between the chapter and the National and State Federation organizations. Will properly and timely, fill out and send out, necessary forms. Will keep the membership up to date as to events and news worthy information.

Treasurer, will collect and disperse all funds and maintain accurate financial records. A current balance sheet will be presented to the Board each regular monthly meeting and the annual balance sheet will be presented each January to the Board for audit.

Tournament Director, will enforce the adopted tournament rules governing our club and will chair the Tournament Committee. He will maintain accurate records of club tournaments and appoint his assistant(s) to aide in the recording of data at all tournament events and present his report to the Board at each regular monthly meeting.

Section 2: Elections

The elections of Officers process will begin in November by nominating eligible members to a post that are present at that regular monthly meeting. Each nominee must verbally accept only one post. Then a ballot will be formed by the Board of Directors and distributed by the Secretary at the December meeting. Each member is entitled to one vote. All proxy votes are prohibited. Ballots will be collected by the Secretary, then tabulated and certified by the Board. The new officials will be seated at the conclusion of the December meeting.

Section 3: Eligibility to hold Office

In order to hold office, you must have been a member in good standings for a minimum of six months, attended 50% of chapter meetings and other club sanctioned events, and have demonstrated an active interest in all chapter functions.

Section 4: Term of Office and Vacancies

The term of Office for each Official is two years, which shall commence on December meeting of the first year and end on the December meeting of the second year. In the event an office becomes vacant, a special election shall be held to fill the un-expired term of the vacated office in accordance with ARTICLE III Section 2.

ARTICLE IV: Standing Committees

Section 1: Board of Directors

The Board of Directors will consist of the following officials: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Board will be charged with the ratification and certification of all reports, developing an annual budget, monthly agenda, maintaining the club's roster, Web site, a monthly/quarterly newsletter, and sending a team or representative to all Ohio Bass federation functions. The Board will also preside over all hearings of expulsion or those protests and appeals referred by the Tournament Committee and maintain the Constitution & By-Laws and the Tournament Rules. The Board must maintain a quorum of 3/4th of its post in order to conduct the club's official business. However, if a quorum cannot be met, the President will have the right to appoint members in good standing to fill the vacant post and build the Board to a seven member panel in those cases deserving high priority or challenging views in order to achieve a sound decision.

Section 2: Tournament Committee

The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan, organize, and operate all club tournaments. The Tournament Committee will maintain the tournament rules and render decisions on the proposed changes presented to the committee through the Board of Directors. The committee will keep and maintain accurate tournament records, enforce tournament rules, investigate, and render decisions on all protests that have been directed through the tournament director. The Tournament committee will draft the “Annual Schedule of Events” ***AND THEY WILL BE FINAL.*** The following members will represent the Tournament Committee. Chairman: Tournament Director, appointed Assistant Tournament director, and the Club’s President as the ex-official member. All three members must be present to conduct business. This committee can be expanded to no more than five if the Tournament Director deems it necessary. He can appoint the Angler of the Year and past tournament director to the committee to ensure a well-developed tournament committee panel.

ARTICLE V: Method of Amending the Constitution/Tournament Rules

You must place in writing to the Board of Directors or the Tournament Committee the stated rule you wish to amend, and then illustrate the reading of the amended version, with an explanation why your version should be adopted. The B. of D. or the Tournament Committee at their next meeting will review your proposed amendment.

ARTICLE VI: Eligibility for Ohio Bass Events.

Section 1: The size of the club’s roster will determine the number of teams that can be sent to regional events. In order to be eligible, you must have participate in at least 50% of all club functions, you must have participated in at least one or the other youth and environmental event and finished high enough in the club annual standings to be chosen by our president to represent our club. Alternates will be selected according to their eligibility and ranking.

Section 2: To be eligible for reimbursing of Regional fees you must have participated in at least two fund raising events. Further re-imbursement beyond the regional level will depend on the amount of funds available for disbursing.