

# IEBC TOURNAMENT RULES

## Section 1. Who may participate?

1. All participants must have paid their Inland Empire Bass Club memberships by the preceding regularly scheduled general club meeting and be in good standing.

## Section 2. Safety requirements

1. Participants will operate their boats and in accordance with state and local marine law and must display a tournament banner.
2. Outboard engine horsepower will be at or below B.I.A. rating of the boat
3. Alcoholic beverages and non-prescription drugs are not allowed in boats during tournament hours.
4. U.S.C.G Floatation devices must be worn by participants at any time the outboard motor is operating , and a working “kill switch” must be attached to the boat operator when the boat is underway.
5. Spot checks of U.S.C.G. required safety equipment may be made. Equipment to include :
  - a. U.S.C.G approved life jackets
  - b. Type IV floatation device
  - c. Fire Extinguisher
  - d. Whistle or horn.
  - e. Marine Flares with current expiration date.
6. Tournament Director has final authority to decide if the tournament will proceed or be canceled if there are reasons such as high winds that cause a safety concern.

## Section 3. Contest Hours

Tournament hours will be listed on the club website, but may be changed by the tournament director to conform to alternate time zones and inclement weather. In any case, changes in hours shall be announced as early as is practical.

#### **Section 4. Contest Days**

1. Fishing is not allowed on tournament dates except during contest hours for any kind of fish.
2. All club sponsored tournaments have an off-limits for the preceding 5 days of a tournament except when the tournament follows a Monday Federal Holiday when only the preceding 4 days will be off limits or when a special provision is made and published on the club website at least 2 weeks prior to the tournament.
3. The Tournament Director will determine contest headquarters.
4. State fishing regulations will govern except:
  - a) Live or processed bait is prohibited, however pork rind and scent attractants and/or masks may be used
  - b) Each contestant will not exceed a five bass possession or a state possession limit whichever is less.
  - c) All non-targeted species shall be immediately released.
  - d) All bass must be caught in a conventional manner from within the boat. Contestants may not
    - i. fish from a dock or the shore, and may not leave the boat to land a fish. Competitors may
    - ii. obtain fuel, repairs or use the restroom facilities at any time during the tournament, No “jerry” cans are allowed in boat.
  - e) Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited.
  - f) Working live wells must be used during tournaments to house bass. Live wells may be
    - i. permanently installed , or be ice chests or similar devices. All devices must be aerated or
    - ii. recirculating and fully operational. The tournament director may inspect live wells at any
    - iii. time. Every effort shall be made to keep fish alive while in contestants’ possession.
  - g) Fishing is permitted throughout the designated tournament lake, river, or impoundment.
    - i. The director shall notify contestants prior to “blast-off” of any off-limit areas or special
    - ii. Restrictions such as “off plane” zones. Contestants may not fish within one hundred

- iii. (100) feet of another contestants' boat which is anchored in position or who's trolling motor
- iv. Is in the water, unless invited by the contestant having dominant position. Once
- v. permission is given to one contestant all contestants must be allowed

#### **Section 5.**

1. All contestants shall register at the tournament headquarters no later than one-half hour prior to start time.
2. Contestants arriving after the official start time must check in with any participating club member **PRIOR** to fishing.
3. Entry fee is \$240.00 per contestant/day, (Kids under 18 are free, but not eligible for ~~option potstop 3 money~~) ~~shall be collected by the director~~. Option pots are not run by the club ~~\$5 for big fish and \$5 for mystery weight~~.

#### **Section 6. Draw Starts**

1. Boat positions shall be drawn no later than twenty minutes prior to the start of the contest.
2. Only registered contestants may be drawn.
3. The contestant drawing the last boat position shall start the boats the first day, in numerical order from a convenient location as determined by the tournament director. The contestant drawing the starting number for the first day will launch the boats in reverse numerical order on day two.
4. Contestants not registered at least 30 minutes prior to official start time of the first day shall not receive a boat position number, and will start last both days.
5. Contestants may not begin fishing until their boat number has been called.

#### **Section 7. Weigh In**

1. All contestants must return to contest headquarters by boat for weigh in on or before scheduled stop time. The official shall keep the only official time. For borderline arrivals, "returned" is defined as "within 100 yards of the launch site with the boat off plane". The decision of the tournament director regarding late arrivals is final.
2. If a boat becomes disabled, the affected contestant(s) catch may be transported to weigh in by another contestant, with or without the affected contestant. In addition,

any contestant who must retire early from contest may leave his or her catch with another contestant: however state possession limits per contestant still apply.

3. One (1) pound penalty will be applied per minute that contestant(s) are late for arrival to weigh in.
4. Only the official weigh in bags, (marked with I.E.B.C) -will be allowed to be used to weigh in fish. There will be six (6) to ten (10) -bags available, -decided by the Tournament Official.

### **Section 8. Weight and Measures**

1. All fish shall be weighed on official club scales, or as designated by the tournament director.
2. A penalty of one-half pound (50/100, ~~0.5 fifth/hundredths~~) shall be deducted from any contestant's total for each fish that is judged to be dead by the tournament director.
3. Total weight and Big Fish shall be officially scored in hundredths of a pound.
4. Awards shall be determined by total weights of legal fish, minus any penalties. If for any reason a fish must be weighed in pounds and ounces, all total weights and Big Fish shall be scored to the lower ounce, then transposed to the lesser hundredths for official scoring. (Example: 7lbs3 ¾ oz+=7lbs 3 oz =7.18lbs)
5. Weighing the contestants' declared Big Fish would break ties.

### **Section 9. Disqualifications**

1. The tournament director shall enforce Inland Empire Bass Club tournament rules, and require all participants to obey jurisdictional fishing regulations.
2. Contestants who receive a citation or an infraction for violations of law shall be disqualified for that day only.
3. Any contest rule broken may mean disqualification for one or both days of a club tournament.
4. The tournament director may disqualify any contestant for violation of Inland Empire Bass Club rules, however the disqualification may be appealed, so the disqualified contestant shall still weigh his/her fish.
5. Protest by contestants shall be made in writing to the tournament director within one hour (60 minutes) of tournament weigh in.
6. No use of cell phones or communications devices are allowed to aid in catching and locating fish during tournaments. They may be used for contacting families or aid needed during an emergency.

### **OPTION POTS FOR CLUB TOURNAMENTS**

- ~~1. Big Fish option pot is \$5.00 for the weekend. The fisherperson with the biggest fish for the weekend gets the monies if they have paid into the option pot. Option pots are decided by those that put into them at each tournament. They are not run by the club.~~
- ~~2. Mystery Weight option of \$5.00. The mystery weight is a random draw by the tournament director of one of the tournament entrants. Upon registration, every person is assigned a sequential number and two of these numbers are chosen at random to receive a part of the "Mystery Weight" option pot. 60% of the pot goes to the first number drawn. 40% goes to the second number drawn. (Payouts are rounded to the nearest cash amounts available.)~~
- ~~3. Top 3 \$40.00 entry for the top 3 finishers. Payouts are determined by the total weight for the tournament and shall be divided and distributed such that 50% of the entry fees are split 50/30/20 for the top 3 places but rounded to the closest available cash amounts.~~

NOTE: Option pot money will be awarded 30 minutes following the final weigh-in for the day unless not allowed by the tournament headquarters facility or governing laws in which case option pot money will be paid out at the next regular club meeting. Anglers must be in attendance to receive award money. If not, money will be awarded to the next place angler that is in attendance. If no anglers are in attendance the prize money will be donated to the general club fund.

## **Yearly Awards & Angler of the Year**

### **Top Angler of the Year**

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The club keeps track of angler total season finishes in club tournaments. Points are awarded for placement in club tournaments with first place getting 200 points and every place after that getting 2 points less (198 for second, 196 for third, etc) ~~Places are determined by weight total for the 2 day tournaments. Final season standings are based on the best 5 tournaments out of 6 fished by each angler. To be Angler of the Year, every tournament must be fished over the course of a season.~~

- ~~• Each weekend tournament is 2 each 1 day tournaments.~~
- ~~• Points are scored on your best day from the weekend.~~
- ~~• You can fish either one or two days of the weekend.~~
- ~~• Your best place score will be kept for the weekend.~~
- ~~• Max. weekend point total remains at 200 and will decrement by 2's as before.~~
- ~~• There will be 10 one day tournaments in a year (5 weekends) plus the team tournament this year.~~

- To be eligible for Angler of the Year (AOY) one must fish 8 of the 10 one day tournaments and the Team Tournament. (This means you could miss one weekend OR the second day of two tournaments and still be eligible.)
- Top 5 for the year are based on total point score as calculated in the example below.
- Tie breakers for end of the year scoring will be based upon largest stringer weight, followed by largest fish of the year.
- BENEFIT of these changes is flexibility: A person can fish only 1 day of every tournament and still stay competitive in End of Year standings. AOY is still a possibility if that person can't stay for a weekend or has to miss a tournament for other reasons.
- Entry for each day is \$20. All money goes to the club.
- Club will sponsor BBQ's every time they are logistically sensible.
- Payouts for big fish, big stringer, etc. will not be arranged or paid by the club. Members may participate in option pots on the side if desired.
- There will not be any mystery weight/angler anymore.

**Example with 2019 schedule:**

- Moses Lake April 27 and 28 – Fish April 27, finish 8<sup>th</sup>, Fish April 28, finish 4<sup>th</sup> – 194 pts.
- Pend O'Reille June 1 and 2 – Fish June 1, finish 10<sup>th</sup> – 182 pts.
- Potholes June 15 and 16 – Fish June 16, finish 3<sup>rd</sup> – 196 pts.
- Roosevelt July 13 – Team Tournament – Fish July 13 with partner, team scores 2<sup>nd</sup> – 198 pts. for both fishermen.
- Snake River Sept. 28 and 29 – Fish Sept. 28, finish 1<sup>st</sup>, Fish Sept. 29, finish 5<sup>th</sup> – 200 pts.
- Banks Lake Oct. 26 and 27 – Fish Oct. 26, finish 8<sup>th</sup>, Fish Oct. 27, finish 5<sup>th</sup> – 192 pts.

End of Year Point Total = 194+182+196+198+200+192 = 1162 pts.

Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	200	11th	180
2nd	198	12th	178
3rd	196	13th	176
4th	194	14th	174
5th	192	15th	172
6th	190	16th	170
7th	188	17th	168
8th	186	18th	166
9th	184	19th	164
10th	182	20th	162

Tournament results will be posted on the club website as will ~~be~~ season standings up to the last tournament of the year.

The following awards are given each year based on total fishing performance:

1. Top 5 Overall
2. Ladies Division
5. Big Largemouth Bass
3. Youth Division (up to age 18)
4. Top Five in each Tournament
6. Big Smallmouth Bass

~~Inland Empire Bass Club~~