

By-Laws and Rules

Columbia Basin Bass Club

Updated: April 20, 2016

ARTICLE 1: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Organization is open to members of all ages. Members 18 and under require parent or guardian signature.

SECTION 2: Members shall conduct themselves in a proper manner at meetings and tournaments. Members who feel that another member has conducted himself in a non-sportsman-like manner, or in a manner that is detrimental to the club as a whole, may submit that member's name to the officers for consideration. Officers may elect to reprimand the member or present his name to the membership for a vote of expulsion. It requires 2/3 majority vote of members present for a member to be expelled. Any member planning to use his boat in a tournament must sign and complete a liability waiver application form that states they have insurance of at least \$300,000.00.

SECTION 3: The Bass Club fiscal year begins January 1st and ends December 31st. Membership dues shall be paid starting in December of each year, in the amount of \$25.00 for individuals, \$40.00 for a family.

SECTION 4: A copy of these by-laws and tournament rules will posted on the Columbia Basin Bass Club website. Should the organization disband, all assets will be dispersed as decided by a simple majority vote of members.

ARTICLE II: OFFICERS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1: Officers shall consist of:

A. PRESIDENT - preside over meetings, conduct official business, direct and appoint committee functions and maintain order during meetings.

B. VICE PRESIDENT - Act as program chairman, conduct raffles and preside over meetings in the absence of the President. Keep FLW and B.A.S.S. membership updated.

C. SECRETARY - Keep accurate minutes of meetings, write "Latest News" section to be posted on the web site, handle club correspondence, AOY standings.

D. TREASURER - Maintain accurate financial records and report financial status at each meeting. Make bank deposits, purchases and receive and disperse all monies, maintain membership roster and

E. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR - Will conduct boat checks, announce official time, announce weigh-in time and conduct weigh-in, in addition to enforcing rules and regulations.

F. AWARDS/TROPHIES DIRECTOR - Will ensure the procurement of trophies for each tournament.

G. PRIZES DIRECTOR- Will ensure the procurement of prizes for each tournament.

H. MEMBERSHIP/WEBSITE DIRECTOR - Maintain the club website, interact with potential members, and handle the administrative functions relating to new membership.

SECTION 2: Elections shall be held annually at the regular meeting in November. Elections shall be by simple majority vote of members present. Proxy votes are not permitted. To be eligible for an office, a member must be in good standing.

SECTION 3: In the event the presidency becomes vacant, the Vice President will assume the office of president and conduct an election for Vice President. FLW, TBF and B.A.S.S. will be notified of the officer change.

SECTION 4: By-laws may be amended at any time of the year, by submitting the change in writing to the secretary. The proposed changes will be posted on the web site before the next meeting.

SECTION 5: Any rule, decision, or action taken by any Officer or member may be overruled by a majority vote of the club members present at that meeting.

ARTICLE III: END OF YEAR AWARDS

SECTION 1: ANGLER OF THE YEAR

The high point holder (Angler of the Year) at the end of the year will receive a trophy and a prize valued at \$150. The Top 5 in year-end points will all receive plaques. The Top 5 in year-end points for the Junior Division will also receive plaques. There will also be a plaque for the Women's Division Angler of the Year and a prize valued at \$150.

SECTION 2: BIG BASS AWARD

Big Bass of the Year caught during regular tournament will be awarded a trophy.

ARTICLE IV: TOURNAMENT RULES

SECTION 1: POINTS

The secretary shall record points as follows:

- First Place 225 points
- Second Place 217 points

- Third Place 210 points
- Fourth Place 204 points
- Fifth, etc (See previous tournament results)

Competitors that do not weigh-in fish will receive 50 points. Angler of the Year will be based on all tournaments held during the season that qualify as points tournaments. Each individual on a team will receive the same number of points during team tournaments. Angler of the Year points are calculated with one “dropped” tournament, which can be either a missed event or the lowest point total of the season for that angler.

In case of a tie at a regular season tournament, the biggest bass weighed will settle the tie. In the event that both total weight and biggest bass are the same, the prize money will be divided equally and each angler will receive the same amount of points. At the conclusion of the season if the Angler of the Year points are tied, the tie will be settled by total weight during the season.

SECTION 2: TOURNAMENT PUNCTUALITY AND LIVEWELL CHECKS

The Tournament Director will conduct all tournaments as outlined in the rules. Live-well checks will be randomly performed before the tournament begins, at the Director’s discretion. The Tournament Director will also monitor that boats are arriving on time, and will handle all protests or complaints; their decision will be final. The penalty for being late for weigh-in is one pound per minute with total disqualification after 10 minutes. Any violation of a rule that doesn’t carry a specific penalty could result in total disqualification for the tournament day.

SECTION 3: ENTRY FEES AND PAYBACKS

The entry fee is \$35.00 per person (\$70.00 for a team event) payable at the club meeting, Thursday Driver’s Meeting, or *no later than ½ hour* before the tournament begins on the morning of the tournament. Big-bass pot and additional options are separate and will be handled by the secretary, treasurer, and president. Tournament payback is 70% of the entry fees, and the remaining 30% will go toward the general fund. The Regular and Team Tournaments will payback as follows:

For under 30 entries: three places will be paid as follows.

- 1st Place 50%
- 2nd Place 30% (Payback will be based on total weight and
- 3rd Place 20% points will be awarded per Article IV, Section 1.)

For 30-39 entries: four places will be paid as follows.

- 1st Place 40%
- 2nd Place 30% (Payback will be based on total weight and
- 3rd Place 18% points will be awarded per Article IV, Section 1.)
- 4th Place 12%

For 40-49 entries: five places will be paid as follows.

- 1st Place 40%
 - 2nd Place 27%
 - 3rd Place 18%
 - 4th Place 10%
 - 5th Place 5%
- (Payback will be based on total weight and points will be awarded per Article IV, Section 1.)

For 50+ entries: six places will be paid as follows.

- 1st Place 35%
- 2nd Place 25%
- 3rd Place 17%
- 4th Place 10%
- 5th Place 8%
- 6th Place 5%

SECTION 4: LIMITS AND SIZES

Fish limits per tournament day, along with minimum lengths and maximum lengths, will be determined by the state permitting process. Culling starts according to lake limits (5 fish limit – culling will start when the 6th fish is boated).

SECTION 5: PENALTIES

There will be no penalty for dead fish, but contestants will receive a .12 pound bonus for each fish that is alive. The penalty for being late for weigh-in is one pound per minute with total disqualification after 10 minutes. In case of breakdown, one member may transfer their catch to another member's boat to be transported to the weigh-in without penalty.

SECTION 6: SAFETY

Safe boating conduct must be practiced at all times. Competitors must wear an approved Coast Guard check type PFD any time the combustion engine is operating. The boat owner is responsible to have all required Coast Guard equipment on board. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the water during the tournament. Contestants must notify the Tournament Director and/or any Club Board Member if they leave the water early and do not intend on reporting at the weigh-in; failure to not report could result in future penalties.

SECTION 7: TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT

Only artificial lures may be used. No 'live or prepared bait' will be permitted, with the exception of pork strips, rind etc. One rod and reel is allowed to be in use at one time. Trolling with the big motor is prohibited. All bass must be caught alive in a conventional accepted fishing manner.

Landing nets may be optional. Fly-rods are not permitted unless you are fishing alone or both fishermen agree prior to the tournament. Wading is not allowed. All boats must have a properly running aerated livewell large enough to support a limit of bass.

SECTION 8: SPORTSMANSHIP

Members and guests are expected to follow high standards of good sportsmanship, safety, courtesy and conservation. All fishermen must have a valid fishing license before they fish a tournament. Good Boater/Non-Boater relationships are important to the future of our organization.

SECTION 9: REGISTRATION

Contestants must be a member of the club to fish in the club-sanctioned events. The only exception to this rule is the Later Greater Open, which is designated as a fundraising/charity event. The reason for this is to fulfill and abide by tax and prize laws, per the IRS tax code relating to social clubs. Registration for tournaments occurs at the Club Meeting, the Driver's Meeting on the Thursday before the tournament, or *½ hour before the tournament start time on the morning of the tournament*. Registration that occurs after this ½ hour cut-off will incur a \$10.00 late fee, and contestants registering late will not be able to enter any of the cash options.

SECTION 10: CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Only club members can qualify for the Club Championship. The top 10 anglers in each of the women's, juniors, and men's AOY standings at year-end will automatically qualify to fish the Club Championship. Beyond the Top 10, qualification in the Club Championship requires that a member must have fished at least 3 of the 5 points tournaments during the year. Payouts for the Club Championship will be at least 100% to boaters. There will also be a payout to non-boaters. Specific details relating to the payout, prize structure, and overall layout of the Club Championship will be determined based on the club budget, and will be announced closer to the time of when the Club Championship occurs.

SECTION 11: BY-LAW CHANGES

Any changes to these rules that may be necessary due to weather, safety, changes in laws etc. will be announced at the meeting and/or the launch site by the Tournament Director.

These are the Official By-laws of the Columbia Basin Bass Club as adopted by the general membership and board of directors on January 26, 2016.

~Ben Hanes, President