

Fayette County  
Bass Club of Tennessee, Inc.  
(FCBC)



Official Rules and Regulations

# 2006 Publication

- 1. Safety.** Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times by all tournament competitors. Each competitor is required to wear a Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver. This preserver must be worn anytime a combustion engine is operating. The preserver must be strapped, snapped, or zippered securely and maintained in that condition until the competitor reaches his fishing location and the combustion engine is shut off. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification.
- 2. Sportsmanship.** Competitors in F.C.B.C. tournament are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principals may be deemed cause for disqualification. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors who may be on tournament waters. No alcohol beverages or other stimulants or depressants, shall be allowed in the boats. Drunkenness by any competitor during the tournament may be deemed cause for disqualification.
- 3. Tackle and Equipment.** Only artificial lures may be used. No “live or prepared bait” will be permitted, with exception of pork strips, rinds, etc. Only one (1) casting, spin casting, or spinning rod (eight (8) foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reel may be used at any time, all other types prohibited. Other rigs as specified above may be in the boat ready for use; however, only one (1) is permitted in use at any given time. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner.
- 4. Basic Boat Equipment.** Every boat must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment. In addition, it must have a functional bilge pump and live well space (PROMPTLY AERATED TO ADEQUATELY MAINTAIN ALIVE A LIMIT CATCH OF BASS BY BOTH FISHERMAN USING THE BOAT). Tournament officials shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is “PROPER AND ADEQUATE.”
- 5. Boat and Travel Expense.** In view of the large expense involved in operating and maintaining a tournament bass boat, it is suggested that the non-owner partner at least assume the cost of gas and oil for the competition day (\$25 minimum). It is a requirement to give a 48 hour advanced notice to one’s partner of any cancellation. If no notice is given the partner that canceled is required to pay the participating partner for the cost of travel (\$25 minimum), either boat partner or non-boat partner.

- 6. No Show.** In the case a boater does not show up at the ramp for a tournament, the Board Of Directors shall determine witch boat is capable for safely caring three persons on board, then shall draw straws to see which he will fish with, if a boater does not have a no-boater then automatically they will fish together as team. In the case of three men in same boat then the third man should keep his fish separate.
- 7. Tournament Committee.**
- a. The club shall nominate five members and shall elect three members at large to the tournament committee. The current club president and the immediate past president shall automatically be tournament committee members.
  - b. The tournament committee shall meet in sufficient time for the proposed sites, dates and times to be brought before the club at the regularly scheduled January meeting.
  - c. The club membership shall then vote on the proposed sites, dates and times making whatever changes they deemed advisable at the January meeting. Simple majority vote on any proposal shall be all that is required for acceptance or rejection. A complete tournament schedule as adopted shall be published in the February newsletter.
- 8. Changing Sites, Dates and Times**
- Once a tournament schedule is adopted, it can be amended only under the following conditions:
- a. By a 2/3 vote of the club provided the changes are made at least the meeting prior to the scheduled tournament.
  - b. By acts of God. The tournament committee has the right to cancel and/or amend the schedule of any tournament where they feel unfishable conditions due to floods, inclement weather, or dangerous conditions exist.
    1. The tournament committee shall have the right to postpone the start of any tournament when they feel dangerous conditions exist. If the tournament start is delayed, the completion time will remain at 3:00 p.m.
    2. If a tournament is postponed, it shall be the responsibility of the committee to notify at least one member of each team of the postponement. It shall be the responsibility of the notified member to notify their partner of the postponement.
    3. If the selected body of water is unfishable due to floods, the tournament committee should hold the tournament on a fishable body of water, if one is available on the same date and on the same times as originally scheduled. If the tournament site is changed it shall be the tournament committee's responsibility to notify at least one member of each team of the change. It shall be the responsibility of the notified member to notify their partner of the change.
- 9. Permitted Fishing Location.**
- Contestants must not depart the boat to land fish. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. Both contestants must remain in the boat at all times, except in case of dire emergency. Partners must remain together at all times, in sight of each other and each other's catch, under the conditions cited above, in order for their day's catch to be scored in the tournament.

**10. Official Checkpoint.** There shall be only one official point for check out in the morning and check-in in the afternoon. This point shall be designated at the regular club meeting prior to the tournament.

**11. Scoring.**

Tournament winners shall be determined by the total pound weight of the team's catch during the day of the tournament. Only largemouth, spotted red-eye or small-mouth bass will be weighed. The catch limit shall be five (5) of the above species and varieties per **Team** per day. Tournament officials will conduct checks for violation of this provision. If a team has in its possession more fish than the given limit, then working in order of largest to smallest a fish will be culled until the legal limit is met. The official length for bass shall be twelve (12) inches or the legal lake limit. **THE OFFICIAL MEASURING DEVICE SHALL BE A FLAT-BOARD (GOLDEN RULE TYPE).** Tournament officials will only verify the length of fish presented for weigh-in. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure twelve (12) inches or legal lake limit shall accrue penalties at the rate of one pound for each such bass. This penalty shall be deducted from the total score of the competitor. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled, or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited at the discretion of the tournament officials. Each competitor must present his catch to the weigh-in official.

**12. Penalty Points.**

For each legal dead bass presented to weigh-in officials, the competitor shall be penalized two ounces of weight, to be deducted from his daily score. Each team with a dead bass shall be responsible for the proper disposal of their dead bass. Throwing back dead bass into the tournament waters at or near the ramp is not proper disposal.

**13. Late Penalty/ Start Time.**

Competitors who are not at the official check-in point at the appointed time shall be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute. The penalized weight will be deducted from the total weight of the competitor's catch, including any weight to be counted toward a "Lunker Award." Any competitor more than fifteen minutes late will lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness and in no case shall a competitor be allowed to make up LOST TIME. All fishing must cease upon check-in. The starting and check-in times will be established at the meeting prior to the tournament.

**14. Type of Tournament.**

Each regularly scheduled tournament conducted by the club shall be a boat tournament. The total weight of legal fish caught by both partners determines the outcome.

**15. Selection of Partners.**

Partners shall be selected by blind draw held in open at the regularly scheduled meeting prior to the tournament. No member shall have the same partner until every one has fished together.

## Fayette County Bass Club of Tennessee, Inc. Official Rules and Regulations

A blank chip will be added for every boater less non-boater. At least one partner must be an active club member in order to participate in the Lunker and Fruit Jar Pots..

### **16. Determining Winners.**

- a. The first place team shall be the team with the highest total weight. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place team shall be the team with the second highest total weight, etc. through 10<sup>th</sup> place.
- b. The lunker award shall go to the angler catching the largest fish. (See paragraphs 17-b, 19 and 20 for details on the lunker awards).
- c. Weight shall be record in fractional pounds. (i.e. 1.54 lbs )

### **17. Awarding Trophies.**

- a. Trophies or plaques shall be awarded to the individuals of the highest placing three teams.
- b. If two teams tie for any of the first three places, the team with the larger fish will be awarded the higher place trophy.

**Note:** Trophies and Plaques shall be awards if and only if sufficient funds exist.

### **18. Awarding Points.**

Points shall be awarded to the individual of the top 10 teams on the following basis:

1 <sup>st</sup> place	20 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	18 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	16 points
4 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> place	2 points

Members participating in the club tournaments can be awarded participation bonus points.

1. Participation bonus points shall be kept separate from the tournament score, being added to the total score at the end of the tournament trip.
2. Bonus points shall be scored by each member participating in a club tournaments and meetings, regardless of the participant's score. Five (5) points for attending the regular meeting and two (2) points for attending the tournament safety meeting held 15 minutes prior to launching.
3. One (1) point per pound from each tournament will be added to each partner of the team. For example, one point will be awarded for total fish weight being between .5 and 1.49 pounds.
4. Based on a nine tournament schedule, each angler will be granted a drop tournament. Thus only place and weight points from 8 tournaments shall be used to calculate an angler's year end points. An angler's lowest tournament point total will automatically be dropped. The Safety Meeting and Lunker points are protected and will not be dropped from an anglers year end points.

5. Lunker Fish Bonus Points: The person(s) with the lunker fish at each tournament will be awarded 2 points plus 1 point per pound for the lunker fish. For example, 3 points will be awarded for a fish weighing between .5 and 1.49 pounds.
6. Accumulation of points shall commence at the December club meeting. The accumulation of points shall end in October at the completion of the James Rogers Sr. Classic Tournament.
7. In order for an active member to be eligible for any points awarded at a monthly club tournament, the member's intention to fish the tournament must be made known prior to the completion of the Tuesday night club meeting of the given month. For example, in July, if a member does not make his intention known to fish the July Tournament prior to the close of business at the July Club meeting, then that member shall not be eligible for tournament points at the July Tournament. However, the member may still compete in the tournament for fun, fruit jar pot and/or lunker pot.

**19. Tie Breaker.**

- a. If a tie occurs during a tournament then section 16-b and or 18-5 will apply. If the teams have the same size larger fish that is not the lunker then the teams will be given the same points and split any money to the qualifying teams.
- b. If a tie happens concerning Year End points, then the following will be used to break the tie:
  1. The lowest tournament points dropped by rule 18-4 will be added to an angler's Year End points. The angler with the higher Adjusted Year End points will be the winner.
  2. If a tie still exists after Rule 19-b-1 has been applied, a coin toss will be used to decide any tie.

**20. Fisherman of the Year.**

The individual with the highest total of points at the end of the calendar year will be recognized as the "Fisherman of the Year" and a trophy so signifying will be awarded. A trophy will also be given to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

**20. Western and State Regional Tournament FCBC Team.**

The top 6 members at the end of the year will go to the western tournament and represent the club if the team qualifies to go to the state tournament. Also, the top 3 members going to the state tournament with boats will receive \$100 for boat expenses, the top three no-boaters will receive \$50 for travel expenses.

**21. Fruit Jar and Lunker Pots**

Club will have lunker (big bass) pots to increase competition among fisherman and generate money to cover club expenses.

- a. **Lunker Pot.** The entry fee for the Lunker Pot of a given tournament is \$10 per angler. One-half of the Lunker Pot money collected will be deposited into the club's general funds. One-half of Lunker Pot money collected will be paid out to the angler catching the largest fish weighing at least 3.00 lbs. If a tie for the lunker fish exists, then one-half of the Lunker Pot money collected will be paid out in equals shares to the anglers catching the lunkers that created the tie.

**Exceptions:**

1. If a qualifying fish is not caught, then three-fourths (75%) of the Lunker Pot money collected will be deposited into the club's general funds. One-fourth (25%) of the Lunker Pot money collected will be carried over to the next tournament's Lunker Pot.
  2. If a qualifying fish is not caught at the Year-End Classic tournament, then all Lunker Pot money will be deposited into the club's general funds.
- b. **Fruit Jar Pot.** Any angler that participates in the Lunker Pot is eligible to participate in the Fruit Jar Pot. The entry fee for the Fruit Jar Pot of a given tournament is \$20 per angler. All of the Fruit Jar Pot money collect will be paid out in equal shares to the participating angler(s) of a team with the largest total weight. At least one angler of a team must have contributed to the fruit jar pot to be eligible to win the fruit jar pot.

**22. Lunker of the Year.**

A trophy called the "Lunker of the Year" award will be given to the individual catching the largest bass during the calendar year. To be eligible, a qualifying fish must be caught during a regularly scheduled club tournament.

**23. Rookie of the Year.**

A trophy called "Rookie of the Year" award will be given to the new individual with the highest points during the calendar year, to be eligible the member must be new to the Fayette County Bass Club.

**24. Amending the Tournament Rules.**

The tournament rules may be amended only at the last regular meeting of the year by a 2/3 vote of the members present, unless the Board of Directors determines a change in the rules must be made earlier in the year.

**25. Best Angler at the State Divisional Tournament.**

Of the six club members that represent the Fayette County Bass Club at the TBF state divisional tournament (West), the member with the highest ranking shall be awarded a prize.

## Fayette County Bass Club of Tennessee, Inc. Official Rules and Regulations

The prize shall be provided by the club and shall not exceed \$100 in value. If two or more members tie, then each member will receive an equal share of the prize.