



Official Rules

1. Rule Changes

Interpretation of the rules will be left exclusively to the tournament director. Decisions of the tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal or legal action. Protests must be made in writing within 15 minutes of the official check-in time.

2. Participation

Participation is open only to tournament anglers who are 18 years of age or older. We may make exceptions for father/son situations, etc.

All contestants must have in their possession a valid state fishing license.

3. Pre-tournament practice

Pre-fishing is unlimited. The purchasing of information or the hiring of services will not be permitted for 10 days prior to the tournament and continuing through the tournament day. All contestants must be off the water by 6 p.m. the day before the tournament.

4. Registration

Each contestant must register in person at the designated site before 7 p.m. the day before the tournament. Pre-tournament meeting will start at 7 p.m.

5. Safety

Safe boating must be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to wear a fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device anytime the boat is on plane from boat blast-off until check-in. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device that must be secured to the driver's body whenever the boat is on plane. At the discretion of the tournament director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed, or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions.

6. Sportsmanship

All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, the Super Slam Bass Tour, and to the sport of bass fishing. Sportsmanship violations will be determined and dealt with solely by the tournament director. Decisions made will be final and not subject to legal action.

7. Boat operation

Any angler that, in the judgment of the tournament director, operates the boat in such a manner that endangers the safety of others will be disqualified for that day.

During tournament hours, contestants may not obtain or receive assistance from competitors/non-competitors, or following a competitors'/non-competitors' boat or participate in the practice of "hole sitting" or the placing of a marker buoy by anyone. The use of mobile communication devices, including, but not limited to, cellular telephones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., during tournament hours are prohibited except in an emergency (severe weathers, etc.) or to communicate with lockmasters.

8. Boat and horsepower regulation

All boats must be a minimum of 14 feet in length.

Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment.

Boats must contain a properly aerated live-well space to maintain a live limit of 6 bass.

Maximum horsepower of outboards used will be 300 horsepower, not to exceed the horsepower capacity plate on the boat.

Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower numbers on the motor or rating will be cause for disqualification from the tournament and may result in ineligibility to compete in future events.

9. Permitted fishing methods

All bass must be caught alive with a conventional rod and reel.

Only artificial lures may be used. Pork permitted.

Only one fishing rod may be used at a time.

Landing nets are permitted.

10. Permitted fishing locations

Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as "off limits" or "no fishing" by local or federal officials or within 30 yards of a competitor's buoy, unless invited in. The boat that placed the buoy must stay within 30 yards of their buoy to retain their "off limits" area.

All angling must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters.

Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat.

The boat must remain in the tournament waters during the tournament day.

No tournament boat may be loaded on the trailer before the weigh-in except with the permission of the tournament director.

In the event of equipment failure or emergency, there is only one acceptable method of returning to the official check-in:

Both partners must remain in the boat and be towed back by either a competitor, non-competitor, or by the fishing director. You may not load your fish into another boat and return to the checkpoint. The team's catch can then be counted without penalty (except for late penalties, dead-fish penalties or other penalties pertaining to other tournament rules).

At no time during official tournament fishing hours should two competitors boats be touching or appear to be touching.

11. Official checkpoints

There will be an official checkpoint in the morning and in the afternoon. Failure to go through the check-in points will result in disqualification. Fishing must cease upon afternoon check-in.

12. Late penalty

Contestants who are not at the official check-in area at the appointed time will be penalized 1 pound per minute deducted from the total weight including any weight to be counted toward a big bass award.

13. Live fish

Every effort must be made to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live-well and live-well additives. Dead fish at weigh-in are very detrimental to the public's perception of our sport. The dead fish penalty will be .40 pounds per dead fish.

14. Scoring

Scoring will be determined by the pounds and ounces of each team's weight.

Only largemouth and smallmouth bass are accepted species. Contestants presenting more than six bass will have their catch for that day disqualified.

The official minimum length limit for bass will be 12 inches unless the local limit is more than 12 inches; in which case, the lake limit will be in effect. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure the prescribed length will result in a 1 pound penalty to the remaining total weight of legal fish.

15. Ties

The BIG FISH will break all ties; if a tie still remains it will be broken by team-of-the-year standings. The team with the most points wins the tie. If the situation occurs during the first tournament of the year, it will be decided by a coin flip.

16. Alcohol/drug consumption

Alcohol/drug use during official tournament hours will result in disqualification.

Contestants may consume alcohol after official tournament fishing hours. No alcohol is permitted on the weigh-in stage. Remember, we are all at the tournaments to have a good time and at the same time be stewards of the sport.

17. Insurance

Liability insurance, with coverage in Minnesota, with minimum amounts of \$100,000 is required, for all boats used in Super Slam Bass Tour tournaments. By the signing the release on the entry form, you are verifying that you have the required minimum insurance coverage.

18. Clean boats

All boats used in Super Slam Bass Tour events must be cleaned by contestants of exotic and invasive species prior to entering tournament waters.