

The Idaho Junior TBF Championship

August 9 & 10, 2014

Sugarloaf Campground Cascade Lake Idaho

Official Rules and Regulations

1. RULE CHANGES: These rules and safety regulations are “time tested” over many years of federation history and represent great effort, study and research that have gone into them. The following rules of this tournament will remain unchanged, except for special tournaments conducted by The Bass Federation, Inc., herein after (TBF). The rules set forth by the Board of Directors shall remain unchanged, except for special tournaments conducted by TBF. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director. In the event of a rules violation, the Tournament Director may impose such sanctions, as they deem appropriate, including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decisions of the Tournament Director and tournament officials shall be final in all matters.

2. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: This tournament is only open to premium \$25 youth TBF members in good standing with an Idaho TBF Junior Anglers Chapter and an Idaho TBF State Federation Chapter or under special invitation. TBF membership and good standing will be verified to determine eligibility. Contenders must be a paid up member of an Idaho TBF affiliated club 30 days prior to the official tournament day. Contenders must meet age and eligibility requirements as set forth by the following: : Contenders must have obtained the age of 11 years, but not yet 16 years as of Aug. 31 of the World Championship year(2015). Proof of age to the satisfaction of tournament officials is the responsibility of the competitor. All participants must have in their possession a valid fishing license covering the waters to be fished, where required by law. Any contestant that is handicapped in such a manner as to unfairly hinder his partner or endanger the safety and well-being of his partner, boat captain or himself shall not be eligible.

It shall be the contender’s responsibility to check the schedule of events for official registration time and location or obtain times from an official of The Idaho Bass Federation.

3. PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE: The Idaho Junior TBF Championship waters will be off-limits starting from 6pm Saturday August 9, 2013 through the start of the event on August 10. There will be no official practice day. Starting at official off-limits on Saturday evening and continuing through the final weigh-in of the 2014 Idaho Junior TBF Championship, competitors cannot solicit, receive, or gather any information via phone, electronic devices, or any other means with regard to locating or catching fish on the Idaho Junior TBF Championship waters unless that information comes from another Junior competitor. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** No competitor may buy or barter a fishing location from guides or other contenders for use during any competition day. During competition days of the tournament, a contender may not use a CB Radio, VHF marine band radio, a cellular phone, or any other type of communication device for the purpose of locating or catching fish. Contenders are permitted to transmit by radio or telephone only in the event of an emergency. **Cell phones cannot be used until fish have been weighed.** The only exception of cell phone use is in the case of emergency (see rule #6.) or for the purpose of taking pictures in which case the Boat Captain will be the photographer. If so equipped, contestants may listen to the marine-band weather information. Each contestant agrees to report, in a timely manner, to the Tournament Director any violation or infraction of these Tournament Rules. (See 27. PROTESTS) the failure to report violations or suggestion to violate these Rules, or false verification of weigh-in forms will be cause for disqualification.

4. REGISTRATION/PRE TOURNAMENT BRIEFING: Each contender is required to pre-register and return completed entry *forms* and proof of birth date to the Tournament Director postmarked on or before the deadline date (July 12th, 2014) Entries will be accepted until July 26th (postmarked), but a \$25 late fee will be assessed. **No Exceptions. A PROPERLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED ENTRY FORM *and* SIGNED RULES PAGE MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR ON OR BEFORE THE DEADLINE DATE.** In addition, late entries may be required to provide a boat to be used in the tournament draw. Said boat must be acceptable to the Tournament Director for use in the tournament. Tournament Director retains the right to disqualify late entries if this boat requirement is not met. The Tournament Director reserves the right to discontinue acceptance of applications prior to deadline and also the right to extend the acceptance date.

On the day before the tournament, each contender must check-in at contender registration and obtain his/her registration packet. Registration will continue until the start of the Pre Tournament Briefing, scheduled at 6pm on Saturday, August 9. Failure to register in person during the prescribed hours may result in a \$25.00 fine or possible forfeiture of participation. **The Pre Tournament Briefing is mandatory for competitors.**

5. SPORTSMANSHIP: Contenders in the Idaho Junior TBF Championship are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those purchased over the counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any contender during the official event or during the tournament will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this and all future TBF tournaments. No alcoholic beverages or other stimulants or depressants, prescription or otherwise, shall be allowed in the boats during the Tournament or competition day, or when in the weigh-in area. 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. Any act of a competitor which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters, and courtesy shall be reason for disqualification. All contenders are bound by the prevailing statutes and regulations of the various states within which they fish. Chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or other crimes involving moral turpitude, or other conduct reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules shall be grounds for rejecting any application for participation and for disqualification. Any disqualification or suspension from, or other disciplinary action regarding any tournament or fishing organization, shall be grounds for rejecting any application for participation and for disqualification.

6. SAFETY: In the event of an emergency situation, competitors should call 911 first and then notify tournament officials. All persons in a tournament boat shall remain seated in a recommended on-plane seating location when the combustion engine is running. Sitting on pedestal seats while the combustion engine is in operation is not permitted. TBF Junior Anglers are NOT permitted to operate the main engine or drive the boat. Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by tournament contenders, observers and boat captains.

During the tournament, each competitor is required to wear a Coast Guard and Idaho approved chest type life preserver any time the combustion engine is operating. (The State of Idaho does not permit inflatable personal flotation devices under the age of 16). The Boat Captain is required to wear a Coast Guard approved life preserver any time the combustion engine is operating. The preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely and maintained in that condition until the competitors reach their fishing location and the combustion engine is shut off. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification.

Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten or cancel the start of an official tournament day because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather. TBF reserves the right to impose speed limits on any or all tournaments. Whether or not to impose a speed limit, the area covered by the speed limit and/or the actual speed limit imposed shall be left exclusively to the discretion of the Tournament Director. **The speed limit for this tournament shall be 55 miles per hour.**

7. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Only artificial lures may be used. No “live bait” or prepared bait will be permitted, with the exception of pork strips, rinds, etc. Only one casting, spin casting, or spinning rod (8 ft. max. length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reel may be used at any one time. All other types prohibited. All bass must be caught alive and in a conventional sporting manner. Anyone guilty of snatching or snagging visible fish will have their day’s catch disqualified. When visually fishing for bass, to be counted as legal fish all bass must be hooked inside the mouth and **must be verified** by your partner before being unhooked. Gaffs may not be used to boat bass nor be permitted in the boat at any time. The use of grippers in landing bass is prohibited. Landing nets will be allowed.

8. BOAT AND MOTOR: For the safety of all participants, boats will be equipped with some type of ignition\engine stop\shutoff device. The engine stop switch device must be attached to the driver’s body any time the combustion engine is operating. Anytime the combustion engine is operating and in gear, the Boat Captain must be the driver in the driver’s seat in full control of the boat. A small electric trolling motor may be used for slow maneuvering; however, trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. All boats must be propeller driven, a minimum of 17 feet in length and have a rear deck. All boats must be equipped with wheel steering; no other steering device will be permitted. No barges or similar cumbersome crafts will be permitted. Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. Boats must contain a properly aerated live well space to maintain alive a limit catch of bass by both contestants. Maximum horsepower for all outboard motorboats used in practice or tournament competition will not to exceed the horsepower limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard in its ruling of Nov. 1, 1972.

9. BASIC BOAT EQUIPMENT: Every boat must have all required safety equipment. In addition, it must have a functional bilge pump and live well space, properly aerated, to adequately maintain alive a limit catch of bass by both competitors using the boat. TBF recommends the use of live well additive Rejuvenade to promote a healthy release of all fish to their natural habitat. Further TBF Conservation Dept. recommends the use of ICE to cool live well water and improve oxygen levels during “summer” months. Leave your aerators on “recirculate” and running. Tournament officials shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is “proper and adequate.”

10. BOAT IDENTIFICATION: Each boat MUST be given, prior to each day's start, a live well and SAFETY INSPECTION check by a tournament official, Also a boat marker, which MUST remain in the boat and turned in during check-in at the end of each day. A boat is officially checked-in when the number is logged in.

11. BOAT OPERATION: A full discussion must be held between the two Junior Angler contenders and Boat Captain immediately following the tournament briefing/boat draw on Saturday evening, as to the schedule of tournament day boat operations.

If a suitable schedule of boat operations cannot be agreed upon, the boat captain will conduct a coin toss to determine who operates the boat during the morning half of the day. During this morning half of the day, the other competitor shall remain in the rear of the boat, unless invited up front by the other competitor. The reverse applies for the second half of the day.

Any contestant, who, in the judgment of the officials, operates the boat in such a manner as to unfairly handicap his partner, shall be disqualified. The boat captain has sole discretion to override any selected location for safety reasons.

If a contestant waives the above rights, he/she shall retain the right to select the fishing water for *their* remaining one-half the tournament day.

Additionally, due to the inability to pair contestants, if a youth is fishing alone, the observer assigned to that boat will be encouraged to fish.

12. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director. Each competitor must obtain this information from TBF Staff. Any water within these boundaries posted Off-Limits or No Fishing by state or federal agencies will be **OFF-LIMITS**. Also, any live bass-release area established by the Tournament Director will be **OFF-LIMITS** and will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. Only that water open to **ALL** public fishing will be considered tournament waters. All angling must be done from the boat.

13. CONTESTANTS MUST REMAIN IN BOAT: Contestants must not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament days. Contestants must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. Both competitors must remain in boat at all times except in case of dire emergency. In such an emergency, both competitors may be removed from their boat to: A BOAT OPERATED BY OTHER COMPETITORS OR A RESCUE BOAT so designated by the Tournament Director. 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 catch of that day to be counted. The momentary condition of being out of sight of each other for a restroom break is permitted, however **ALL FISHING MUST CEASE**, until partners are back together. If a competitor must violate any of the above conditions (to use a phone to report an emergency or breakdown) both competitors must cease fishing at this point, and their catch must be verified by a tournament official in order to be counted in the tournament. If after the emergency situation is resolved by tournament officials and enough time is left to resume fishing, a **RESTART** will be allowed and the competitors will continue and their catch will be counted. This applies only to dire emergency situations. Trailing of boats during tournament hours is prohibited, except by the direction of the Tournament Director.

14. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT: There shall be an official checkpoint for checkout in the morning and check-in in the afternoon and this point shall be designated at the tournament briefing. At the time of check-out all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformance with all Safety and Tournament rules set forth by the Tournament Director; at check-in all boats shall identify themselves, and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area. Partners must stay together, through check-in and weigh-in, until weigh-in slips have been signed. **YOU MUST CHECK-IN EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FISH.**

15. SCORING: Tournament standing, awards and final standings shall be determined by a method of scoring set forth, and announced in the pre-tournament briefing. Only Largemouth or Smallmouth Bass will be weighed. The limit shall be 5 of the above species and varieties per day. At no time shall a competitor have in possession more than the tournament limit. Tournament Officials will conduct checks for violations of this provision, and in the event a competitor has in their possession more than the stated limit, shall cull, starting with the largest bass first, etc., down to the stated limit. The official length for bass shall be 12". Only bass which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line, shall be weighed-in. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure the official length shall accrue penalties at the rate of one pound for each non-legal 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 only at the discretion

of tournament officials. After a competitor checks in at the official checkpoint he MUST proceed immediately to the weigh in area to obtain a weigh in bag. Competitors will weigh in by order of boat number. Once a competitor's catch has been weighed, measured, counted or verified by a tournament official, that contestant may not return to his boat until all contestants have weighed in. Bass must not be stringered at any time during the tournament. This restriction excludes live well stringer systems used for culling, which are allowed. Each contestant's catch must be presented in an official weigh-in bag, which is specially designed and controlled to increase survival rate will be furnished by the Tournament Officials.

16. CATCH-&-RELEASE: If it becomes necessary for a competitor to cull their catch, every effort must be made by the competitor to handle their own fish.

17. DON'T KILL YOUR CATCH: Each competitor is expected to keep their bass alive by the proper use of the boat's live well system, Rejuvenade live well additive and ice. For each legal dead bass presented to weigh-in officials, the competitor shall be penalized eight (8) ounces of weight, to be deducted from their daily score. The Tournament Officials shall have sole authority for accessing penalty points.

18. LATE PENALTY: Competitors who are not in the official checkpoint area as described in Rule 14 at the appointed time shall be penalized at the rate of 1 pound per minute, to be deducted from the total weight of their catch that day, including any weight to be counted toward a "big bass award," for each 1 minute they are late. Any competitor more than 15 minutes late shall 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." After proper recognition at the check-in point, competitors will be allowed ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site; however, all fishing must cease upon check-in. After the tournament begins, fishing the tournament waters is prohibited except during tournament hours. Exact starting and check-in times will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. It is the angler's responsibility to confirm check-in times each day on the daily pairings.

19. TIES: In case of a tie for champions, monetary awards, or cut positions the following tie-breakers will be used in order: 1.) The individual with the largest number of legal fish weighed in during the official tournament, 2.) The individual with the largest number of legal **LIVE** fish weighed in during the official tournament, 3.) The individual with the heaviest single bass, 4.) Flip of a coin. In the unlikely event that individuals remain tied after these tiebreakers are employed, the tie shall be resolved by means selected by the Tournament Director will be used to determine the winner(s), and the awards. Ties for lesser positions shall be resolved by means selected by the Tournament Director.

20. PAIRING OF CONTESTANTS: *Whenever possible*, two contestants will be assigned to each boat, with one adult boat captain. Whenever possible, contestants will not be paired with a boat captain or observer who is related in any way to the contestant. If for any reason only one contestant is available to go with a boat captain, an observer will be assigned to ride in that boat with them. **Observers will be encouraged to fish during the tournament.** (See Section 11) *Whenever possible*, no contestants from the same club, family or age group will be paired together. Announcement of partners and Boat Captain will be made at the scheduled tournament briefing, which must be attended by each competitor and their representative. The Tournament Director may reassign partners at any time prior to takeoff. A contestant must not allow any bass caught by them to be counted on the score of another contestant. In such cases, both contestants will be disqualified from this and all future TBF sanctioned events.

21. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS: None of the above rules shall prohibit a properly designated tournament official from approaching or boarding any competitor's boat at any time during the event or during the official tournament.

22. NGJWC QUALIFICATION: Under no circumstances shall an individual be allowed to attempt to qualify for the National Guard Junior World Championship in more than one state in the same qualifying year. Anyone qualifying or attempting to qualify through more than one state for the same NGJWC shall be removed from this and possibly all future competitions. Because this is a TBF national rule not a STATE rule, you can also be removed from another state's team.

23. PATCHES AND/OR SIGNAGE: Anglers are encouraged to wear their own clothing which may bear patches, logos and other signage promoting the anglers' sponsors. TBF may, however, restrict the use of patches, logos, signage, etc. that promote or advertise products which are in TBF's sole judgment in competition with the products or services of official TBF sponsors or which are, in TBF's sole judgment, in poor taste. TBF will provide as much advance notice as possible to the competitors in such instances.

24. BOAT CAPTAINS: Boat Captains will not be allowed to fish during the official Idaho Junior TBF Championship; they are there to act as boat captains, mentors and observers. Boat Captains may assist the TBF Junior Anglers in a manner as to coach or mentor them only. Boat Captain may answer questions in a yes/no format about fishing areas or techniques, baits, etc., but the final decision, as long as safety is not a factor, on where to fish or fishing methods will rest with the TBF Junior Anglers. The Boat Captains MAY NOT tie knots, cast lines or lures, set the hook, or play fish to the boat. They may operate the landing net if they so chose. Boat Captain will have complete control of the boat and outboard engine at all times. The TBF Junior anglers may not drive the boat. TBF Junior Anglers may run the trolling motor; however, the Boat Captain has the right to take control of the trolling motor at anytime if safety or equipment is at risk.

25. Winner Commitments: The two winners, one in each age group, do agree to represent the TIBF Youth Program at the National Guard Junior World Championship, and other events supported by the TIBF i.e.; the C.A.S.T. Event, REEL Kids Casting events, Etc.... Failure to accept these responsibilities will result in forfeiture of the title of TIBF Junior State Champion, all trophies, prizes, and other benefits associated with the title. (Certain exceptions may be reviewed by the TBF State Youth Director for approval)

26. WAIVER AND RELEASE: As a condition of participation in this tournament, each competitor must execute a waiver and release of liability and a name and likeness release, which are included at the bottom of the tournament application.

27. PROTESTS. In the event that a competitor feels any of the above rules have been violated by another competitor or Boat Captain during the official tournament period, a written protest must be delivered to the Tournament Director within 15 minutes after the close of the tournament weigh in. The written protest is a brief description of the violation, and is the starting point for an investigation of any wrong doing. The Tournament Director will have the final say in all protest actions and rulings.

28. TRAVEL ASSISTANCE. TIBF will provide monetary assistance to the winner of each age group, to be used to offset some of the costs of travel to the National Guard Junior World Championship. This amount will be a flat rate, set by the executive board of the TIBF, and is subject to adjustment by vote of the executive board at any time.

THE IDAHO BASS FEDERATION
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Page must be signed and returned with a completed entry form to be eligible to participate.

By signing this agreement I acknowledge that I have read and understand the rules and procedures to implement The Idaho Bass Federation Junior State Championship and The Bass Federation, National Guard Junior World Championship.

The Idaho Bass Federation will conduct a Junior State Championship on Cascade Lake on August 9th & 10th , 2014. This competition will be for age groups, 11 to 15 years of age. A winner will be determined and that winner will be invited to compete in The Bass Federation/National Guard Junior World Championship in 2014, location and time to be determined.

All competitors can expect to receive some gifts and prizes from various TBF and FLW sponsors as well as the National Guard, but this is not guaranteed.

The Idaho Bass Federation will provide travel assistance money in the sum of \$800 per Junior State Champion. It shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the winners to purchase airline tickets and or rental car and make all travel arrangements to the event. Upon arrival in the host city, TBF will provide housing and some meals for the competitor and the adult. Do not assume that all meals will be provided. If other family members desire to attend the event they will travel at their own expense. TBF will arrange housing for the one adult and the youth. The difference in housing cost for additional party members will be at their own expense.

TBF and FLW are family organizations and no alcoholic beverages are allowed at any official event.

The youth will compete on a bass boat provided by FLW and driven by a boat captain furnished by FLW.

Competitor	Date	Parent/Guardian	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Print_____		Print_____	