

# *Phoenix Bass Masters*

March 31, 2022



## 1) TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

The Tournament Director is a member of the PBM Board of Directors (BoD) and presides over all aspects of PBM Draw Tournaments.

## 2) ENTRIES

Prior to Noon on the Friday 8 days prior to the tournament, entries must be submitted to the Tournament Director via email or text. When contacting the Tournament Director to enter a tournament, each entrant (whether Member or Guest) must provide the following information: a) Whether you are entering as a Boater or Non-boater; b) If you are declaring someone as your co-angler, who it is, and how to contact them; c) You meet all applicable PBM standards for boat and vehicle insurance.

Entry Fees must be paid at the Club meeting prior to the Tournament or at the Lake. Entry fees of anglers who commit to fishing a tournament, but who do not fish it, shall be forfeited unless the angler is granted a case-specific dispensation by the Director for cancelling due to exceptional, unforeseen, unavoidable circumstances.

## 3) BOATER/NON-BOATER

An angler is considered a Boater if they own a boat meeting all PBM requirements and fish the majority of the PBM Draw Tournaments in their boat. If they fish as a Non-boater due mechanical/electrical issues with their boat or declare fishing with another Boater, they are still considered a Boater.

If a Non-boater buys a boat meeting all PBM requirements and fishes the majority of the PBM Draw Tournaments in their boat, they are considered a Boater. The Non-boater's points transfer over to the Boater Angler of the Year (AoY) points category.

## 4) GUESTS

Non-members may fish one tournament each calendar year and must pay the tournament fees. A Boater or Non-boater member may declare a Guest as a co-angler for that event or the Guest shall be paired through the random draw. Guests are not eligible for the 5-lbs. or Goon Fish side pots.

## 5) FEES

Entry fees for Boaters and Non-boaters are \$50 each per tournament; this includes \$45 for Total Weight and \$5 for Big Fish. Non-boaters must also help defray boat expenses by giving, prior to launch, their Boater at least: a) \$30 for Bartlett, Pleasant and Saguario; b) \$50 for Alamo, Apache Lake, Canyon and Roosevelt; c) \$75 for events along the Colorado River (e.g., Martinez, Havasu and Topock).

## 6) PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

**Over Limit.** Teams bringing to the weigh-in station more than their legal limit of largemouth and/or smallmouth bass will be disqualified.

**Dead Fish.** Teams must keep their fish alive. Culling dead fish will result in disqualification. Dead fish brought to the weigh-in scale must be weighed. A penalty of 1 lbs. is assessed for each dead fish weighed and shall be deducted prior to calculating the total weight.

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**Short Fish.** Short fish will not be weighed and a penalty of 2 lbs. for each short fish brought to the scales shall be assessed to the total weight.

**Disqualification.** The Tournament Director shall disqualify a team if: a) A Member/Guest violates these rules or pre-launch guidance; b) A Member/Guest is cited, during tournament hours, for any reason by a State, Federal or Local Law Enforcement; c) The Tournament Director determines a Member/Guest is or was, during tournament hours, in possession or under the influence of a substance contrary to State or Federal law; c) A second tournament disqualification in the same year for any reason listed above shall be Just Cause for the BoD to expel that individual from PBM; d) Tournament entrants who are disqualified shall not have their entry fees refunded or credited toward a future tournament.

## **7) PAIRINGS**

Pairings will be conducted by a computerized random draw. Pairing of Boaters and Non-boaters, in two/three angler teams, shall occur 5 days prior to the tournament. At least 1 angler in each paired team must be a member. Members may only pair with each other for the year if they are: a) life partners; b) partners in a long-term relationship, or c) have a parental, sibling or formal guardian relationship. However, prior to a draw, a Boater member may declare a pairing for that event with a Non-boater member or Guest. Members may only declare a pairing with a specific individual once each year. However, except for year-long pairs, Boaters and Non-boaters may not be paired with each other more than twice in a tournament year until all Boaters and Non-boaters have been paired twice. Finally, if, during draw pairings, the number of Non-boaters is greater than the number of Non-boater slots available, members (in rank order of current Angler of the Year points; coin flips break ties) shall have priority over Guests. If, after draw pairings are announced but prior to launch, more Non-boater slots become available, the Tournament Director will pair available Non-boaters.

## **8) SIDE-POTS**

Draw Tournaments feature two optional side-pots: 5 lbs. (heaviest largemouth/smallmouth bass caught that weighs at least 5 lbs. on the weigh-in scale); and Goon Fish (heaviest fish caught that is not a largemouth/smallmouth bass). Entry in each side-pot is \$5 per angler, per tournament. Both side-pots are managed by the Tournament Director. Side-pots continue to roll over to the next tournament until a winner is declared. Members who paid into a side-pot previously may, if they missed an entry(s), bring their entries up to date for that side-pot before a tournament. Once a side-pot reaches \$500, entry is closed to anyone who was not entered in it before the side-pot reached that amount. Guests may not enter the 5-lbs. or Goon Fish side-pots and their fish will not count.

## **9) HOURS**

Tournament hours are from the beginning of the mandatory pre-launch meeting until the weigh-in scale closes. Day tournaments are typically from safelight until 3:00 pm. Night tournaments are typically from 6:00 pm to Midnight. However, the Tournament Director may modify a tournament's hours because of safety concerns, such as lightning, excess heat, wind, or any other un-safe conditions.

## **10) MANDATORY PRE-LAUNCH MEETINGS AND CHECK-INS**

At each tournament site, the Tournament Director shall hold a pre-launch meeting for all competing anglers. Competitor attendance and check-in is mandatory.

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## **11) OFF-LIMIT AREAS**

In the pre-launch meeting, the Director will review areas that are off limits for that event. All tournament waters are off limits from 9:00 pm local time the day before a tournament until the tournament begins, unless there is an overlapping tournament in which an entrant is involved. However, during the off limits, entrants may shore-fish until Midnight local time the day before a tournament with baits that target goon fish, not largemouth or smallmouth bass.

## **12) LAUNCH AND START**

Boats must be launched immediately after the pre-launch meeting. At the designated start time, each boat must, in assigned order, pass within two boat lengths of the designated Starter's Boat at no wake speed, and verbally acknowledge the Starter of their boat number.

## **13) LATE TO LAUNCH**

A Boater who is late to launch must try to find their Non-boater and a member to check their live well before starting to fish. If a Boater is 15 to 30 minutes late to launch, their Non-boater may: a) Opt to wait for their assigned Boater; b) Fish with another team; or c) Have the Treasurer refund their entry fees. Boaters who are more than 30 minutes late may opt to not participate in the event. If they do, they must contact the Tournament Director immediately and shall forfeit all fees paid for that event.

## **14) WEIGH-IN**

All boats must return to the launch dock prior to the scheduled end of on-the-water competition. The Tournament Director may opt to have someone on the dock to check boats in. If so, that will be announced in the pre-launch meeting. After checking in at the dock, teams are expected to wait approximately 30 minutes before heading to the weigh-in station. The teams must then return their live fish to the lake immediately after weigh-in.

## **15) BOAT AND EQUIPMENT**

Each boat must be at least 16 feet long and meet the following criteria: a) Have a functional motor (e.g., gasoline-powered outboard, inboard or inboard/outboard) and maximum horsepower shall not exceed the B.I.A. rating on the boat plate; b) Have a functional livewell; c) Have a functional electric trolling motor; d) Have a functional motor kill switch attached to the driver's life vest.

## **16) SAFETY**

Each boat must meet, and each participant is responsible for familiarity and compliance with: a) USCG boating safety requirements; b) All required safety equipment must be in good working condition; c) Each participant must wear a USCG Approved Class I, II or III chest-type life preserver that is strapped, snapped or zippered in place and maintained in that position at all times when the motor is in gear; d) When the motor is in gear, the driver shall have an operable kill switch attached to their life preserver.

## **17) BOAT OPERATION**

Participants must display safe boating and must respect no wake zones, restricted area signs and other on-the-water boater advisories. Sportsmanship and courtesy are required of each participant, including not encroaching on water being fished by another team. Boaters should familiarize their Non-boater(s) with operation of the boat in case a Non-boater must operate the boat in an emergency.

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## **18) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND PETS**

Tournament entrants may not possess or use controlled substances contrary to State or Federal law governing waters and lands on which that tournament is being held. Further, alcoholic beverages and non-medical marijuana may not be consumed from the beginning of the pre-launch meeting to close of the weigh-in and entrants who are under the influence of alcohol or medical marijuana may not drive a tournament boat or tow vehicle. Finally, pets other than Service Dogs are not allowed on board while boats are participating in tournaments.

## **19) METHODS OF FISHING**

Anglers may not have more than one rod and line in the water at any one time. Rods may not exceed 10' in length. Only artificial lures may be used. Trolling is prohibited. Fish may not be intentionally snagged. When sight fishing, if a fish is caught it may not be kept when landed, unless at least one hook on the lure is embedded on the inside of its mouth. Pork rind, liquid or paste scent and electronic fish attractors are permitted but attractant lights and solid fish attractors or dispersed baits may not be used. Underwater cameras and viewing tubes may not be used. Anglers may not leave their boat to catch or land a fish, (e.g., at least one hand or foot of each angler must be on or inside the gunnel at all times), except when due to breakdown, an angler and the team's fish ride back to the weigh-in with another boat, or a shore visit is necessary to answer the call of nature.

## **20) LIMITS AND MEASUREMENTS**

Only largemouth/smallmouth bass count toward Total Weight, Big Fish and the 5-lbs. side-pot. The possession and weigh-in limits are five fish per team per event, unless a 3-fish limit is announced. Any fish, of any size, other than largemouth/smallmouth bass, is eligible for the Goon Fish side-pot. Each fish weighed in for Total Weight, Big Fish or the 5-lbs. side-pot must measure at least 13 inches. Fish length is measured on a "Golden Rule," with the mouth closed and tail pinched. The longest point of the tail determines the length. Short-fish weights shall not be recorded, and a 2-lbs. penalty shall be assessed for each short fish brought to the weigh-in. Goon Fish shall be brought to the weigh-in scale. To reduce livewell crowding, Goon Fish may be "weighed in" by taking a digital photograph of the fish and the weight displayed on a digital scale.

## **21) SCORING**

Tournament scores/rankings are determined by weights on the official weigh-in scale, minus any short/dead penalties. Total Weight and Big Fish are team weights. To be counted as a Big Fish, prior to weigh-in, that fish(es) must be mouth-tagged. The 5-lbs. and Goon Fish side-pots are credited to the angler that caught them. At weigh-in, a team may immediately request a single re-weigh of their fish, and the second total weight shall count for the tournament.

## **22) AOY POINTS**

Points for Boater and Non-boater AoY are scored for each member participating in a tournament (Guests are not eligible), starting at 200 for 1st place and descending 10-point increments for each subsequent place. Skunked teams receive 10 points below the lowest total weight points awarded for that event. Members who miss a tournament and disqualified anglers are assigned 0 points.

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## 23) PAYOUTS

20% of tournament entry fees less Big Fish money, are retained by PBM to defray operating expenses. 80% of tournament entry fees and 100% of Big Fish entry fees are paid out to the competing teams. If there is a tie in any category, it will be broken by the teams' total weight for that tournament. If a tie still exists, it will be broken by the total number of fish weighed in alive. If a tie still exists, the teams involved will split the purse(s) equally. 80% of the Total Weight entry fees will be paid back to the winning teams, split equally with all team members).

Number of Entries	Places Paid	Payout Percentages (Based on 80% of Tournament Fees)				
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
1 to 9	1 Place	100%	--	--	--	--
10 - 14	2 Places	70%	30%	--	--	--
15 - 19	3 Places	60%	30%	10%	--	--
20 - 24	4 Places	50%	25%	15%	10%	--
25+	5 Places	50%	20%	15%	10%	5%

100% of the Big Fish pot will be paid back to the winning team(s) split equally with all team members. Only one Big Fish per Team shall be weighed.

Number of Entries	Places Paid	Payout Percentages (Based on 100% of Big Fish Fees)				
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
1 to 9	1 Place	100%	--	--	--	--
10 - 14	2 Places	70%	30%	--	--	--
15+	3 Places	60%	30%	10%	--	--

100% of the 5-lbs. side-pot will be awarded for the heaviest eligible fish weighing 5-lbs. or more that was caught by an angler who was a paid-up contributor to that pot. The winning angler shall decide whether to share their 5-lbs. side-pot winnings with their co-angler(s).

100% of the Goon Fish side-pot will be awarded for the heaviest Goon Fish caught by an entrant who is a paid-up contributor to that pot. The winning angler shall decide whether to share their Goon Fish side-pot winnings with their co-angler(s).

## 24) PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS, AND APPEALS

Protests and complaints must be presented in writing to the Tournament Director no more than 15 minutes after the weigh-in scale closes. The Tournament Director shall decide each protest or complaint within 30 minutes after receiving it. A protested contestant may appeal a Tournament Director's decision but must submit it in writing to the PBM President no more than 48 hours after being notified of the decision. Appeals shall be decided by the President, who will consult with the Tournament Director and may consult with other knowledgeable individuals before reaching a decision.