

Badlands Bass Bandits
Club Tournament Rules & Handbook
2023 Edition



Introduction:

All guidelines and tournament rules apply to the members of the Badland Bass Bandits club. The intent of the rules is to protect every member during club activities while providing a competitive but fair fishing tournament experience. It is each club member's responsibility to review all guidelines and rules prior to participating in a club event.

Tournament Rules:

1. All club and tournament anglers must abide by the North Dakota Game and Fish laws. The Badland Bass Bandits club is not responsible for any penalty that an angler receives from the North Dakota Game and fish Department.
2. Alcohol or illegal drug substances are NOT allowed during club tournaments.
3. All Tournaments will start at 6:30am and end at 2:30pm central time, unless stated otherwise by club official(s).
4. All anglers must be in the tournament launch area by 2:30pm. For every minute after the check in time a tournament angler is late for, that tournament angler will lose 8oz (½ pound) of total weight. If the tournament angler is late for more than 15 minutes after the check in time, that angler is automatically disqualified for that tournament. This rule applies for all boaters and non-boaters.
5. ONLY Artificial bait is allowed during tournament events. This includes preserved live bait.
6. A team consists of at least two club members; the maximum number of anglers on a team is 3. Members can participate in a tournament alone if they choose to.
7. All bass must be 14 inches or greater in length to qualify for weigh in. Any fish turned into the weigh master and does not make the 14-inch margin will be penalized. The penalty for turning in a bass that does not meet this rule will result in the loss of that fish, as well as 8oz (1/2 pound) of weight deduction from the anglers' final total weight.
8. Teams are allowed to keep 10 bass in their possession during a tournament. Teams are only allowed to weigh their biggest 5 bass.
9. Culling is NOT allowed when fishing North Dakota waters.
10. All fish turned into the Tournament Director must be alive. Each dead fish turned into will result in an 8oz (1/2 pound) penalty from the final total weight. The 8oz deduction for a dead fish also applies when weighing for a big bass of the tournament cash/award prize.
11. Deadfish must be weighed. No exceptions.
12. The Badland Bass Bandit Fishing club promotes Catch -and- Release, at the end of the tournament any fish that is not healthy enough to be released back into the water will be harvested.
13. Only smallmouth and largemouth qualify, any combination of the two species is allowed.
14. A tournament angler can only use one rod and reel combination at a time.
15. For safety purposes, boat(s) are not allowed to re-enter the launch area for a 5-minute time period from the time the last boat leaves the launch area. Emergencies are an exception to this rule.
16. If no fish are caught during a club tournament, trophies are not handed out and prize money is awarded by individual chip draws for places awarded.

17. In case of a tie during a tournament, a three-tier tie breaker will be in place. 1st- Largest bass 2nd- Greatest number of fish 3rd- Flip of a coin.
18. For a 2-day tournament: If day 1 of competition is complete and day 2 is unsafe due to bad weather the tournament will be concluded and the results from day 1 will determine the tournament winners. If day 1 is unsafe due to bad weather the tournament directors along with the club members will decide if day 2 of competition will go ahead as planned.
19. In a situation where you witness a rule being broken or a violation of a club rule, you must contact a club officer prior to the start of the official weigh-in, at which point all club officers will have a chance to hear details from both parties and make a ruling. When the ruling has been made the decision will be final. This must be done prior to the official weigh-in, once the official weigh-ins have started the tournament results will become final.
20. Tournament Directors will have sole discretion for cancelling or shortening a tournament due to weather issues.

Safety Guidelines

1. During the take off period, all boaters must idle past the send off boat before getting on plane to avoid throwing a large wake towards the send off boat.
2. Everyone must practice safe boating.
3. The club highly encourages tournament anglers to wear a certified PFD whenever the combustion engine is operated.
4. The club highly encourages boaters to use their kill switch during on the water travel.
5. All boat owners are encouraged to ensure their vessel is in compliance to state regulations.
6. If inclement weather is forecasted prior to an event, be sure to check for event updates on our facebook page, web site or contact club official(s).

General Information:

1. Club events operate on Central time zone no matter the location. Unless stated otherwise by club official.
2. The boat sequence for tournament send off is determined by a lottery draw which will take place during rules and registration prior to start of event.
3. Angler and Rookie of the Year awards are based on a points system. Club members will accumulate points for each tournament event fished.
4. 1st place will receive 100 points, 2nd place will receive 99, 3rd place will receive 98, and so on. Any angler that participates in a tournament event but does not weigh in a fish will receive 70 points.
5. Shore fishing is not allowed during a club tournament.
6. Be respectful to each other as club members as well as public anglers. Remember that you are representing the club.

Tournament Payout:

The entry fee is \$80 per team.

10% goes to game and fish.

10% goes to bandits for trophies

80% goes back to anglers as payback.

Of the 80% remaining amount

\$10 per boat goes to big bass prize

Of that remaining amount

50% goes to 1st

30% goes to 2nd

20% goes to 3rd

Year End Awards include:

Angler of the Year

Rookie of the Year

Classic Champions

Biggest Bag of the Year

Biggest Largemouth

Biggest Smallmouth

Horizon Awards (2)