

Eagle Bassmasters Moose Pond Tournament Rules

Tournament Committee: The Committee shall be solely responsible for interpretation and enforcement of the rules and regulations. The committee is eligible to participate and compete for any and all prizes. Committee members may approach and board any boat at any time during the day. **The tournament committee rulings shall be final** except as defined by Maine Law.

Registration: All competitors must sign in at the tournament headquarters one half hour before the start of the tournament. Competitors will make their boat ready for inspection by committee members. Competitors shall make sure that their boat is clearly identified as being registered and inspected for the tournament. Only two competitors allowed per boat. Competitors under the age of sixteen must be teamed with a parent or guardian. At least one adult member of each team shall be present at the rules meeting. Teams shall remain the same throughout the day, no swapping of partners after a team has signed in.

Take off and check in: Drawing for blast off order will be at time of Registration. Boats shall leave the check out point according to the position of the draw. No swapping of take off position is permitted. All boats are to be inside the official check in point at the end of the tournament hours. A one pound per minute penalty shall be assessed to any competitor who is late up to fifteen minutes. After fifteen minutes, the team will be disqualified. All fishing will cease upon returning to the official check in point. In the event of a break down, competitors may board another boat with their fish to get back to the check in on time. All fish brought on board by the competitors who are broken down, shall be **clearly marked or separated by the teams.** The tournament committee shall be notified immediately upon entering the check in point of the situation. The broken-down boat may be retrieved by the team after their fish are submitted for weigh in. Teams shall remain together upon checking in until their fish are weighed.

Safety: Safe boating must be observed at all times. **Life vests must be worn and completely fastened at all times when the internal combustion engine is running, and the kill switch is to be hooked up to the operator of the boat.** All competitors' boats shall be equipped with U.S. Coast Guard required safety equipment. Only boats equipped with conventional steering wheel for the internal combustion engine shall be allowed. Stick steering is prohibited. **Horsepower:** Maximum horsepower for any competitor's boat shall not exceed 250 horsepower. The maximum rating listed on the U.S. Coast Guard Rating Plate attached to the boat shall not be exceeded.

Sportsmanship: All competitors are required to comply with all the Maine Fish and Wildlife laws, State and Local boating laws and any other rules that the tournament committee may impose. Competitors are required to follow and maintain the highest standards of sportsmanship and courtesy. Violations could result in disqualification.

No alcoholic beverages or drugs will be allowed in any competitor's boat. No alcoholic beverages are allowed at the weigh in site. Violators will be disqualified and forfeit any and all prize money or prizes.

Permitted fishing locations: Fishing is permitted anywhere on tournament waters without taking the boat out of the water. Competitors **must remain** in the boat at all times, except in the event of an emergency. The boat must be propelled by internal combustion engine, DC current motor, paddle or pole. Boats may not be lifted over obstructions other than by means listed. Competitors will maintain a fifty (50) yard distance from any other competitors or non competitor boat that has the DC motor in the stowed position and an anchor in the water. No competitor at anchor will "wave in" or allow another competitor inside the fifty (50) yard area surrounding their boat. If a boat is anchored in or near a channel another competitor may cross inside the fifty (50) yard zone to gain access to other water. The boat crossing the fifty (50) yard zone must pass at a reasonable & safe speed and may not fish inside this area when crossing through.

All fish submitted for weigh in must be caught during tournament hours, from tournament waters, by the competitors who submit the fish for weighing. Violation will result in disqualification.

Tackle, equipment and fishing methods: Only bait casting, spinning, and spin casting rods shall be allowed. Fly casting tackle is prohibited. Rod length shall not exceed ninety-six (96) inches in total length. Only one rod and reel shall be used by a competitor at any time. Other rods may be rigged and ready for use in the boat. Only artificial lures may be used. Pork rinds and strips are to be considered artificial baits. No live bait allowed on or in any competitor's boat or on a competitors fishing line. Fishing shall be done in the conventional manner of casting and retrieving. Trolling, wind drifting/wind trolling and/or free trolling is prohibited. Violations will result in disqualification.

Live wells: All boats shall be equipped with a suitable live well, aerated with a DC volt system. Coolers set up in such a fashion will be permitted. The tournament committee shall reserve the right to disqualify or reject any competitor's application for entry due to an insufficient live well system.

Scoring: Only largemouth and smallmouth bass shall be submitted for weighing. Twelve inch minimum per fish. There will be a seven fish limit for this event. **GOOD LUCK!!**