

2021 Riverfest Team Open Bass Tournament

Kennebec River, Skowhegan

Saturday ; August 7, 2021

Hosted by the Somerset Bassmasters and Main Street Skowhegan

Location; Cleaver landing, route 2, Skowhegan

Time; 8am to 4pm (registration and launch by 7:30 am)

Registration; Day of event (see attached rules and application)

Entry Fee; \$135 to be paid out (from each entry); \$100 to payout, \$10 to lunker, \$20 to the Maine Bass Nation youth fishing program, and \$5 for host costs.

Payout will go to 1 team for every 5 entries

Blast off order will be determined by blind draw

Registration

We have read, understand, and agree to the attached rules and by signing this application also affirm that we maintain the required liability insurance and keep a copy for verification on board the boat used in this tournament. Please fill out and bring to boat inspection/registration on the tournament day.

A. Boater

Name; _____.

Address; _____ City; _____ State; _____ Zip; _____

Phone; _____ Insurance(company and policy #) _____.

Boat; _____ Motor; _____ Hp; _____.

Signature; _____.

B. Partner

Name; _____.

Address; _____ City; _____ State: _____ Zip; _____

Phone; _____.

Signature; _____.

All state CDC COVID Rules apply

- 1. Rules and Regulations;** The tournament committee members are designated judges and are responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of the tournament rules. Their decisions are final. The judges are eligible to compete for all prizes.
- 2. Launching and removing boats;** All boats must go through an inspection to include a live well check and weed check prior to entering the tournament water and again after the event is completed. Boat owners are in violation if they pull a boat from tournament waters with fish in their live wells. No boat owners are allowed under any circumstances to pull boats from tournament waters with fish in the live wells.
- 3. Insurance;** It is the sole responsibility of the boat owner to carry and have proof of adequate public liability insurance covering them and passengers. All boat owners must carry insurance liability insurance in excess of \$100,000 to participate. Tournament staff has the right to ask for proof of insurance at any time and all teams will be required to present their insurance information when they initially register. All contestants in signing the application for this tournament are absolving the tournament organizers, tournament sponsors, cosponsors, and their employees from any responsibility for any damage or personal injury sustained as a result of their participation in the tournament or related activities. Contestants are required to have in their possession and provide proof of insurance on demand of the tournament director or other officials. All participants agree to hold harmless the Somerset Bassmasters, officers, directors, and agents.
- 4. Protests;** Protests must be filed in writing before the first fish is weighed
- 5. Tournament registration;** All teams must be signed in at the tournament headquarters no later than 7:30am the day of the tournament. Adult teams competing will consist of two anglers per boat. Adult/youth teams can have three per boat with adult and the other two a High School or junior (2nd through 8th grade) team. Contestants under the age of 16 must be teamed with a parent, guardian, or other parentally approved adult.
- 6. Official checkpoint;** There will be only one designated check point at the close of the tournament. Any contestant late for the weigh in will be penalized one pound per minute late up to fifteen minutes. At that point the team will be disqualified.
- 7. Safety;** Safe boating must always be observed. Life vest must be worn and fastened and time the combustion engine is running and in gear. Failure to comply will result in disqualification. All boats must have approved coast guard equipment on board including fire extinguisher and kill switch.
- 8. Sportsmanship;** All participants are required to comply with all Fish and Wildlife regulations of the State of Maine and this tournament. Any team ticketed will result in disqualification. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed in a tournament boat, at the official weigh in, or at any awards ceremony. Violators of this rule will be disqualified. All contestants are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsman like manner at all times.

9. **Tackle permitted;** Only spinning, casting, or spin casting rods will be approved for this tournament. All bass must be caught on artificial lures in a sportsman like manner. No live or prepared baits except for pork rinds, etc. are allowed. A contestant may fish with only one rod at a time, however he or she may have other rods prepared.
10. **Boats and Motors;** Combustion engines may not exceed the Coast Guard rating plate assigned to that boat and in no case can be larger than 250 horsepower. Electric motors and small gasoline engines may be used to maneuver the boat while fishing but trolling is not permitted.
11. **Fishing time;** The tournament will start at or before 8am and will end at 4pm.
12. **Scoring;** Only smallmouth and largemouth bass caught on tournament waters on tournament day will be scored. The minimum length limit will be 12 inches, mouth closed. There is a seven fish limit per boat with no weight restrictions. A 4 ounce (.25 pound) penalty will be imposed for any dead fish. Dead fish may be culled. A one pound penalty will be imposed for any short fish with the weight of that fish not counted. To qualify for lunker, a fish must be weighed and released alive at the weigh in site. Dead fish weighed must be sliced and properly sunk back out in the tournament water by the team that caught it.
13. **Ties;** In case of a tie the contestant with the largest live weighed fish shall be declared the winner. The second tiebreaker will be the team with the most live fish, the third tiebreaker will be the most fish weighed, and the final tiebreaker will be a coin toss. A tie for linker will result in that prize being split equally.
14. **Live Wells;** All fish must be kept in a continuously flowing aerated live well, pumping fresh water in. You may have the live well in recirculation mode when the combustion engine is running and in gear. The goal is for %100 live release of all fish caught.
15. **Fishing Location;** Teams can fish anywhere on tournament water that they can access by boat without removing the boat from the water. If there are going to be any waters so accessible that will be off limits there will be an announcement at the registration and again at the pre-tournament briefing.
16. **Awards and prizes;** Teams winning prizes will have to be present at the conclusion of the weigh in and tabulations to receive that prize. Lunker prizes may be split equally between smallmouth and largemouth bass. Whether to split this will be determined by a vote of the teams at the pre-tournament briefing. All taxes on tournament winnings will be the responsibility of the winning anglers.

FMI; Text Somerset Bassmasters President, Dave Trask @ #207-431-4343