

Sonoma County Belly Boat Bass Club Members Rules

Bass Nation Club

- 1.** All SCBBBC tournament fishing must be conducted from an inflatable float tube or kickboat (pontoon style) and kayaks. Tournament Anglers may not fish outside of their boats for any reason. Anglers must be floating in their boats while fishing. Anglers may not accept assistance from boats or other anglers to move about the body of water. Only fins worn on feet and oars may power float tubes, kickboat's and kayak's. #
- 2.** Sportsmanship - If any one from the public, angler or a club officer views another member exhibiting un-sportsman like conduct, or in any way conduct un-becoming to the club's values prior to, during or after a tournament may be disqualified from that Tournament. It's everyone's duty to marshal each other on the water.
- 3.** Membership:
In order to participate in any Sonoma County Belly Boat Bass Club tournament and be eligible for points and prizes, Anglers must pay their entry fees at the established meeting time, or after checking in with a club officer during the tournament if a late arrival (but prior to weigh-in). Those who have not paid their entry fees are ineligible for either prizes or points, regardless of their weigh-in results.
 - a.** Tournament anglers must have a paid membership to receive angler of the year, tournament of champions, or any other season awards. No points will be awarded to any none members that have not first paid their Scbbbc yearly dues.
 - b.** Non-Members are welcome to fish any and all tournaments with an extra \$10 dollar entry fee each tournament they fish as a non-member. No points will be accumulated but you are still eligible for that tournament prizes.
- 4.** Requirement for Regular SCBBBC Membership:
To become a Sonoma County Belly Boat Chapter Member, a person shall:
 - a.** Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership
 - b.** Be an active member of BASS
 - c.** Be 16 years of age
- 5.** Requirements for Junior Membership:
To become a junior member of an adult chapter, a person shall:
 - a.** Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership
 - b.** Be less than 16 years of age and supervised by a responsible adult.
- 6.** Membership Dues shall be \$65 annually. Be a member of B.A.S.S and have your B.A.S.S number if you would like to fully take advantage of all the benefits of B.A.S.S. Subscribing to the Bassmasters magazine is all you need to do to become a B.A.S.S.

member. Membership Dues Break Down: \$30 of which shall be for the B.A.S.S Nation dues, \$5 for the State BASS Federation Nation dues, and \$30 for SCBBBC chapter.

7. Tournaments:

Only members of the bass family (largemouth, spotted, smallmouth) may be weighed-in.

8. Creel limit for individual Tournaments is five (5) fish (unless it's a running permit tournament which the DFG only allows 4 fish). Creel limit for Team Tournaments is five (5) fish. No angler may have in his or her possession more than 5 fish at any one time unless in the process of actively culling a limit in either individual or Team Tournaments. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification from the Tournament of the individual and, in a Team Tournament, loss of all fish for that angler. Anglers may exchange fish with their partners only during Team Tournaments. Anglers may not exchange fish during individual Tournaments. Violation of this rule will result in Tournament disqualification. During Team Tournaments, if more than five (5) fish are in possession of a team after weigh-in time, that team will lose its largest fish until the total number of fish in their possession is four (4).

9. All live bass must be released during Tournaments with the exception of trophy fish of five pounds or better kept for mounting purposes. A penalty of 0.5 lb per dead fish will be assessed regardless of the size of the fish. Trophy bass alive at weigh-in may be kept for mounting purposes without penalty.

10. All Tournament angling must be done using only artificial lures. The use of live, dead, or cut bait is prohibited during tournaments. Violation of this rule will result in Tournament disqualification.

11. All anglers must possess valid California fishing license and must have it displayed as required by law. Violation of this rule will result in Tournament disqualification.

12. Livewells:

All bass shall be kept in a follow-me bag or livewell. Livewells must meet or exceed the following dimensions: Minimum 48 quart ice chest. Plastic bins or storage totes are not allowed or approved to use as a livewell. Livewells must also have an electric bilge pump with a Minimum 500 GPH (gallons per hour) set up so it fills the livewell with water and creates oxygen for the fish by spraying the surface of the water. Livewells must also have an overflow for fresh water. Battery operated oxygen bubblers should also be used. During special running tournaments (see rule # 26) bilge pump and bubbler must be running at all times during travel and at the weigh-in line. The use of rejuvenate or bass meds of some sort must also be used during running events. Homemade live wells and/or follow-me bags must be pre-approved by the Tournament Director, (see website for video on how to make a livewell) Tournament Director Assistants or club officer. Bass kept for trophy purposes may be kept on a stringer. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.

13. Meeting times for tournaments will be announced prior to the tournament. Those late for the meeting time will be assessed a penalty of 0.2 lb and must announce their presence in the Tournament (“check-in”) to a club officer prior to commencement of fishing. These penalties will be assessed to the angler’s overall weight during the official weigh-in. Failure by latecomers to check-in will result in Tournament disqualification. In the event of a cancellation of a Tournament it will automatically be rescheduled for the following weekend unless that is a holiday where it will be the weekend after that. The original check in, blast off and weight in times would remain the same.

14. Anglers may portage their float tubes, kickboats and kayaks through the use of automobiles, trucks, etc. (Only during running events where we have a special running permit from the DGF, usually only on Clear Lake tournaments)

15. The use of alcohol and/or non-medical drugs during Tournaments is prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in Tournament disqualification.

16. Anglers must be within one cast (approximately 30 feet) of the weigh-in site by the official weigh-in time. Lateness for weigh-in will be penalized at the rate of 0.2 lb per minute. Lateness of more than twenty minutes will result in Tournament disqualification. Penalty will be assessed first to the largest fish in the angler’s possession and will follow in sequence as necessary to the smallest fish until the entire penalty is assessed or the angler is penalized to an overall weight of 0 (zero) lbs.

17. Pre-Fishing:

Participants may not “Pre-Fish” a body of water scheduled for the next Tournament after midnight of the Monday immediately preceding the Scheduled Tournament. This rule does not apply to the Clear Lake Invitational and regular SCBBBC Tournaments scheduled at Clear Lake, the Delta waters or Lake Berryessa where there is a Pre-Fishing cutoff of midnight of the day immediately preceding the day of the Tournament. Violation of this rule will result in Tournament disqualification.

18. The Tournament Director & Director Assistants are responsible for the fair and impartial application of the rules. The decisions of the Tournament Director and/or Director Assistants are final. In the event that an interpretation of the rules is necessary, the Tournament Director and/or & Director Assistants may, at his or hers sole discretion, request the Club Officers and/or Club Members present at the Tournament to vote on the issue for a final resolution.

19. Partners for Team Tournaments shall be chosen only through a blind draw.

20. Minimum size length for bass is thirteen (13) inches. Length must be verifiable with Will-E-Go Board/ Flat with mouth open. Attempting to weigh-in undersized fish will result in loss of individual fish and 0.5 lb penalty per undersized fish. Attempting to weigh-in fish less than the DFG legal size limit of 12" will result in disqualification from the Tournament.

21. The club will obtain any necessary permits from the California Department of Fish & Game, Federal, and County and/or City agencies for its tournaments.

22. Number of Members

a. The chapter shall begin with and maintain at least six Active members

23. The SCBBBC will hold a public monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of each month throughout the year starting at 7:00 PM. Each paid member that attends a club meeting will receive 1 point in the standings towards the year end awards. Only 8 club meeting points available per year.

24. BASS Affiliation: Requirements for BASS Affiliation Club

a. Approval of Chapter Charter by BASS

b. Update BASS with a chapter membership roster once each year upon receipt of current BASS roster at year's end.

c. Names & addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted to BASS as they occur.

d. Maintain 100% BASS membership

e. Must affiliate with State Federation and support its conservation and youth programs.

Any additional requirements that the State Federation establishes for chapters, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary for the chapter to participate in the State Federation qualifying tournament(s), and any other Federation-sponsored tournaments or events

25. All disqualifications from a Tournament will also be reviewed by the SCBBBC officers for further action if necessary and as applicable per the SCBBBC's Bylaws.

26. Transporting of Live Fish – Also called running. Scbbbc has been granted a special permit from the DFG to transport live fish in an approved livewell (see rule #9 livewells) from one location on the tournament lake to the weigh in area. This is a privilege to Scbbbc and all running anglers must have a special permit in there precession during these special events. Note: you may leave an area your fishing during a tournament to fish another area only if you do not have fish in your possession. You can however return to the weigh in area and continue to fish if you do have fish in your possession.

27. The Angler of the Year & Rookie of the Year

a. The Angler of the Year (AOY) will be the Active SCBBBC member with the highest total amount of earned points for all events combined from February to December each year. All points will be counted and there will be no throw out points used to figure totals. Angler of the Year will receive a special plaque and gift certificate.

b. Rookie of the Year – Based on being a first year member and fishing no less then 8 tournaments. Angler will be the active SCBBBC member with the highest total amount of

earned points for all events combined from February to December each year. Rookie of the Year will receive a special plaque and gift certificate.

28. Only one limit per each live-well at anytime including special event running rule.

29. Angler may only have one line in the water at a time during Scbbbc tournaments.

30. TOC qualifiers taken to the tournament: We take the top 1/3 points leaders after their 2 throw outs (we do not round up or down) and 1 second half point's leader when our membership is 1-44 paid members. If we have 45 or more members in a given year we have a set number of spots available which is 14 Plus 1. Ties: Incase of a tie in the TOC the tie breaker will be the anglers overall points first, if tied in overall points we would go to total tournaments entered in the season. (See tournament of champion's special rules on website).

31. Anglers under 16 participants in Scbbbc events must use an approved life jacket while on the water at all times.

32. \$10 Dollar Meeting Point:

If you can't make our meetings you can now buy your meeting point. That's for everyone no matter where you live. Now every paid member of the Scbbbc can now contend for the TOC and Angler of the Year. The club also benefits from this and when the club benefits you benefit! Payment must be paid before that given months tournament.

33. New club officers shall be voted on by members each year. All members from the following year are eligible to run for an officer position.

Last updated: April 3, 2023