

HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHATTANOOGA 2017 BASS TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **RULES:** IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PARTICIPANT TO BE FAMILIAR WITH AND ABIDE BY THESE RULES. THESE RULES TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER PRINTED INFORMATION.
2. **BOAT WEIGHT:** HBAGC tournament is based on a 3 fish limit by boat weight (team or individual).
3. **PLACES:** The 1st place team will receive \$1,500 cash prize, 2nd place \$750 cash prize, 3rd place team \$300, 4th place team \$175, 5th place team \$120 cash prize. Prizes are based on a minimum of 40 registered boats.
4. **BIG FISH:** The big fish of the tournament prize will be \$250 cash.
5. **TIES:** Regular tournament ties will be decided by the flip of a coin or decision to split the prize.
6. **FISH:** All bass must be caught in a sporting manner and kept in an aerated live well. All fish brought to the weigh-in site become the sole property of the HBAGC. At the time of catch your four (4) fish must cull down to (3) fish. No culling bags are allowed. No more than three (3) bass may be brought to the scales. Trolling as a means of catching fish is **NOT ALLOWED** (Long Lining or Strolling allure will be considered Trolling). Culling at the Dock is Prohibited. All site fish caught must be hooked on the inside of the mouth.
7. **LEGAL FISH:** All fish are measured for length with the mouth closed.
 - a. **LARGEMOUTH BASS:** Must be no less than 15 inches in length.
 - b. **SMALLMOUTH BASS:** Must be no less than 18 inches in length, one (1) smallmouth per contestant may be weighed.
 - c. **KENTUCKY SPOTTED BASS:** Must be no less than 12 inches in length. A fish that appears to be a small mouth and has a tooth patch will not be weighed as spotted bass. They will be considered a smallmouth. The decision of the tournament official is final in regard to this and every, rule.
 - d. **SHORT FISH:** If a short fish is brought to the scales your entire catch will be disqualified. A courtesy board will be available to check your fish if requested.
 - e. **DEAD FISH:** No fish will be weighed and your entire catch will be disqualified.
8. **PARTICIPATES AND ENTRY FEES:** Entry fee is \$120 per boat. You may fish alone or with a partner.
9. **SAFETY:** Each Person must wear a coast guard approved PFD (personal flotation device) when the combustion engine is running. Boats must have a working kill switch connected to the drivers PFD when the combustion engine is running. Each boat must have working running lights. Safe boating must be observed at all time by each competitor.
10. **TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures, including pork trailers, may be used. **NO** live bait! Only one (1) rod per person.
11. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** At no time during HBAGC event will a competitor act to give themselves an unfair advantage over other HBAGC competitors. The use of cellular phones to give or receive fishing information, or locations, during tournament hours is strictly prohibited. Any participate causing dissention will be disqualified.
12. **PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Fishing is permitted on Chickamauga, Watts-Bar, and Nickajack waters, which are assessable by all tournament boats. Boats must stay 50 feet from a first anchored tournament boat with trolling motor up. All boats must remain 50 ft. apart except during a lock through, emergency situation, or to pass by to access a creek or slough.
13. **TOURNAMENT BOATS:** Your boat must remain in tournament waters at all times and all participants must remain in their boat expect in case of dire emergency or boat breakdown. Leaving the boat to land a fish recover a lure is not permitted. Fueling is permitted. A competitor from a disabled boat may return to weigh his/her fish by another tournament boat. All fish must return to the official HBAGC weigh-in site by tournament boat. All tournament boats must pass by the blast-off dock with live well open running lights on and kill switch attached to body for boat check. It is each participant's responsibility to be in the water prior to start. Tournaments will start just after first light (6am). We will start at that time, if you are not in

the water or ready at that time you will go after those that are ready. If you remove your boat from the tournament waters prior to the end of tournament hours, you must check in at the dock during the check in time. It is the responsibility of each participant to check in or you will be considered late and will be disqualified. Check in will begin on the dock 15 minutes before the end of tournament hours. If you remove your boat from tournament waters prior to check in, you must remain in the parking lot until check in for your catch to be counted. All fish are to remain in the live well until you have checked in. Any boat not checked in or late will be disqualified. Kayaks and/or canoes are not permitted.

14. POLYGRAPH TEST: The HBAGC reserves the right to require a polygraph test to be taken and passed, in the opinion of the polygraph operator and the HBAGC officials, before prizes will be awarded.
15. PROTEST: All protests must be made in writing and turned in within fifteen (15) minutes after the last fish are weighed. Any protest will be turned over to the HBAGC officials for evaluation and their decision concerning the matter will be final.
16. STATE/FEDERAL LAWS: State and federal laws must be obeyed pertinent to safety and fishing in off limit areas in all tournaments.
17. DECISIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS: All decisions made by, and instruction given by the HBAGC tournament officials are final and binding in any and all matters.
18. REGISTRATION: The deadline for sign-up will be 6:30 PM Friday night before the tournament at the HBAGC office.
19. THE TOURNAMENT START WILL BE AN EASE OFF: Boats will leave by their numbered position assigned at the time you signed up for the tournament. Swapping numbers is not permitted. No passing of tournament boats will be allowed until you reach the mouth of the park at the river.
20. ELIGIBILITY: Tournaments are open to all ages. If you are under the age of 16 you must be accompanied by an adult. Participants that will act as boater under the age of 18 years must have documentation that He or She has completed satisfactory a Tennessee Safety Boaters Course. All boats used in these tournaments must have liability insurance, Proof of insurance must be presented and a copy will be kept on file. Proof of age to the satisfaction of tournament officials is the responsibility of the potential competitor. All participants must sign a copy of the rules.

By my signature bellow I verify that I have read and understand the rules and documented proof of boating liability insurance.

Participant Signature: _____ Date _____

Printed Name: _____

Age if under 18: _____ Date _____

PRINT CONTESTANT NAME HERE FROM PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF MINORITY AGE PARTICIPANTS (UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)

I, AS PARENT/GUARDIAN DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE LEGAL RESPONSIBILTY FOR THE PARTICIPANT AND I AGREE AND GIVE MY CONSENT TO HIS/HER RELEASE AS PROVIDED ABOVE OF ALL THE RELEASEES AND, FOR MYSELF, MY HEIRS, ASSIGNEES THE REALEASEES FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITIES INCIDENT TO MY MINOR CHILD'S OR WARD'S INVOLVEMENT OR FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

Date: _____ Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____

Name Printed: _____