

# RULES & REGULATIONS

## **1. PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY:**

The club tournaments of the Chickasha Bassmasters (CBM) are open to bonifide members and their guest. This is a team format. You may however fish by yourself. Each team is allowed **ONE SUBSTITUTE or ALTERNATE FOR THE YEAR**. You can have a three (3) person team with two people being the regular team members and one substitute/alternate that may fill in when needed. They will not be allowed to fish alone without a regular team member. This person will be a sub/alternate for one team only and cannot be a member from another team. You may pay this membership when the team signs up as well. Guests are allowed for any tournament. A guest can only fish ONE tournament before he or she must become a member. (Exception: for 2 tournaments same weekend, a guest may fish both days without joining) At least one person in the boat must be 18 years of age. If the other team member is under 18 and not fishing with a parent/legal guardian, then Chickasha Bassmasters must have a signed release on file from the parent or legal guardian allowing them to fish the tournament with someone else.

## **2. MEMBERSHIP & ENTRIES:**

Chickasha Bassmasters is a chapter of the Oklahoma Bass Federation. **The annual dues per person are \$60.00.** This annual fee pays membership dues for: Chickasha Bassmasters, The Bass Federation & FLW Outdoors. This is for one calendar year (Jan 1 through Dec 31). This membership allows you to fish in all club tournaments

and participate in all Oklahoma Bass Federation/TBF/FLW events. The entry fee into Chickasha Bassmasters tournaments is \$75 per team/boat. This includes \$60 for the entry, \$5 for a prize fund for the championship and the optional \$10 Big Bass pot. Payout is 80% paying 1 place for every 4 boats. The remaining 20% is for club expenses. Big Bass payout is 100%. The prize fund is paid out 100% at the championship. All entry fees will be taken at the ramp or can be mailed in and must be in the hands of tournament officials prior to the start of the tournament. Championship tournament entries: \$140/team (includes \$20 for Big Bass) – 100% payout. If mailing in an entry for any tournament, it must be postmarked 10 days before the tournament. Championship entry is a Big Bass paid on each day and remainder goes to payout.

**3. LATE ENTRIES:** Late entrants must check-in with an official or a paid participant before fishing. The late entrants must have their live wells checked. They must also specify whether or not they are participating in the big bass jackpot. All entry fees must be paid in full before weighing the day's catch.

## **4. TRAILERING and TOURNAMENT TIMES:**

Trailerling will be allowed at all tournaments. There will be start/stop fishing time. You can put on the water and go to your spot, but not start fishing until pre-determined time. Then you have 15 minutes to check-in after the stop time. Anyone found to be fishing during this 15 minutes or arrive at check-in late, this will mean automatic disqualification and your catch will not count. i.e. – If the stop time

is 3pm, you must stop fishing at 3pm and be checked in by 3:15pm.

**4. SAFETY:** Each boat must have the required Coast Guard safety equipment pertaining to his/her boat. Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times. Each competitor is required to wear a Coast Guard approved chest type life preserver. This preserver must be worn anytime the combustion engine is going more than 5MPH. Each boat must be equipped with a kill switch to the combustion engine.

**5. SPORTSMANSHIP:** Members of and competitors in tournaments or any other activities that are held or sponsored by the Chickasha Bassmasters, are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. **NO** alcoholic beverages will be permitted during tournament hours (defined as start fishing time thru check-in time). Competitors will observe due courtesy to non-tournament fishermen that happen to be on the lake during the tournament.

**6. TACKLE & EQUIPMENT:** Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait will be used with the exception of pork rind strips. Only one rod may be used at one time. Others may be rigged and in the boat ready to use. Electric motors may be used for slow maneuvering, but trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. Boats are to be a minimum of 10 feet long and must have a working live well. Stick or tiller type steering is not allowed. Engine not to exceed coast guard rating on the boat.

## **7. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:**

Fishing is permitted anywhere on the tournament waters except within 50 yards

of another fisherman that is anchored with the trolling motor up and off limit water designated by either lake officials or tournament officials. All angling must be done from a boat and contestants **MAY NOT** leave the boat to land fish.

- 8. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT:** There shall be only one official checkpoint for checkout in the morning to pay entry fees and boat checks and check-in the afternoon. This point will be designated at the club meeting before the tournament.
- 9. SCORING:** Winners shall be determined by the total weight. Only largemouth, smallmouth, and Kentucky (spotted) bass will be weighed. The limit of each team shall be five (5) fish. Only one (1) 22" or longer fish per team allowed on lakes that limit anglers to one (1) fish over 22". Only bass described above which measure ten (10) inches or more in length, unless otherwise specified by state or lake regulations, shall be weighed. Any fish appearing to be frozen, mangled, mashed, or otherwise altered to the tournament officials will not be weighed. All fish will be measured on a Gator Grip Golden Rule.
- 10. DON'T KILL YOUR CATCH:** All boats must be equipped with a live well and working aerator pumps. Every effort will be taken to release all bass back to the water alive. Eight (8) ounces (.5lbs) will be deducted for each dead fish weighed in. All fish will be brought to scales in weigh in bag with water in it. **Only bags owned by Chickasha Bassmasters are allowed at weigh-ins. Please do not use your own bags.** Going along with suggestions from the Oklahoma Wildlife Department, tournament officials have the right to

shorten the number of hours and/or creel limits if deemed necessary.

- 11. LATE PENALTY:** Competitors still fishing after official stop fishing time or not checked in by official check-in time will have their day's catch automatically disqualified. There is no ounce per minute penalty for being late.
- 12. TIES:** The following will break ties: (1) Number of fish caught; (2) Split Money – if last payout place is tied, competitors split that check, if more than one place is affected, the places are added together and split between the tied competitors.
- 13. TOP 6 QUALIFYING:** To qualify for the Oklahoma TBF/FLW Top 6 Tournament in September, you must be a current member of TBF/FLW and Chickasha Bassmasters and fish at least five (5) out of seven (7) qualifying tournaments to qualify for the Top 6 Team. The top three teams will make up the top six. If a team is unable to fish the Top 6, the next qualifying team asked to fish. If a member of team is unable to go, the other member of that team may choose another qualifying club member (regardless of their qualifying place) to fill in and fish the Top 6.
- 14. CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING:** To qualify for the Chickasha Bassmasters club Championship, one member of the team must have fished at minimum 5 club tournaments as a paid club member, the partner has to fish at least one club tournament as a paid club member.
- 15. PROTEST:** Any contestant may protest the eligibility of any fish or any other

contestant. Protest may also be filed against individuals believed to have violated these tournament rules. All protests must be filed with the tournament director. The tournament director and club officials will make a prompt decision. This decision will be final. No protest will be considered after fifteen minutes have elapsed from the time that the last fish was weighed.

- 16. TOURNAMENT CHANGES:** Club Officers will make any and all tournament changes deemed necessary. If a conflict comes up at a scheduled event, every effort will be made to change lakes, not the date. i.e. - If a lake is shut down for all tournaments because of high/low water or a very large tournament is scheduled on the same lake on the same date, we will go to the lake that was second in voting.
- 17. MISC:** All participants of the Chickasha Bassmasters team tournament and any other function or event held by Chickasha Bassmasters are required to have a good time.

**Failure to follow any of the above rules will be grounds for immediate disqualification.**

**GENERAL: The Chickasha Bassmasters Club, its officials and sponsors are not responsible for any accidents, claims, injuries, and/or damage that may arise. If a conflict arises which is not specifically addressed occurs, a decision will be made by the tournament officials. Decisions of tournament officials will be final. None of the rules prohibit a properly designated tournament official from approaching or boarding a competitor's boat at any time.**

Updated 12/13/2015