

## BARRIE BASSMASTERS CLUB TOURNAMENT RULES

Updated May 2022

1. **Eligibility:** Participation in the Barrie Bassmasters Qualifier series is limited to members of good standing with the Barrie Bassmasters that are 16 years of age or older. Fields may be limited. Entry fees must be paid in full at the date designated by the tournament director. No exceptions to this rule.
2. **Teams/Partner Pairings:** Teams will consist of 2 members who will be randomly selected by a drawing of a boater and nonboater. The results of the draw are final and will only be adjusted in the event of one member cancelling. In this case the Tournament director will make an attempt to replace the team member that has dropped out. Only the Tournament Director is permitted to make changes to the team pairings in the event of a cancellation. In the event there are non-boaters who put their name in the draw but ultimately were not able to fish due to an inadequate supply of boaters, that non-boater will be guaranteed a spot in the next club tournament.
3. **Boater Pairings:** In the event that we have an excess of boaters, boaters shall be drawn to fish together in teams of two. The pair of boaters shall decide amongst themselves who's boat will be used in the competition. The angler who ends up not using their boat will be considered a non-boater for that event and will hence be eligible for non-boater prizes. A boater may fish alone in the event that a partner cannot be found.
4. **Team Members No-Show:** In the event the boater does not show up on the day of the event, the non boater will receive their entry fee plus the boaters as compensation. In the event that the non-boater does not show up then the boater will be given the option to fish by themselves or receive a refund including the non boater's entry fee. Should a boater elect to fish on their own then they shall wear a life jacket at all times. The club will have an inflatable life jacket available for the boaters use.
5. **Tournament waters:** All waters accessible by boat from the lake proper are deemed tournament waters unless declared off limits by the tournament director. Locking through to other waters is not permitted. 30 meters separation must be maintained between other competitors' boats. Boats must remain 30m apart at all times during fishing hours. All angling must be done from the boat.
6. **Pre tournament practice:** The tournament waters will be off limits from 5:00 PM the day prior to the event. Transporting of bass for the sole purpose of stocking an area for a future tournament is prohibited.
7. **Official protests:** Competitors wishing to make an official protest must do so by reporting to the tournament director immediately before weighing their fish. Protests regarding the refusal to fish with a drawn partner must be addressed by a minimum of 3 members of the tournament committee, and shall be brought to the attention of the Tournament director at least 48 hours prior to the tournament. Their decision will be final.
8. **Late penalty:** Minus ½ pound per minute.
9. **Contestants must remain in boats:** In the event of an emergency, it is permissible for competitors and their fish to be removed from their boat to the boat of another competitor for the sole purpose of transporting the other competitors and their fish back to the weigh in. No competitor may step on shore without the approval of a tournament committee member or under the supervision of another competitor. Washrooms may be used at marinas.
10. **Sportsmanship:** Competitors must follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and safety. Drunkenness and/or disorderly conduct during the pre fish and/or the tournament hours will not be tolerated and will be cause for disqualification from the present and/or future "Barrie Bassmasters" club events. Any act that reflects unfavorably on the Clubs/Federations efforts to promote fisheries conservation and a high degree of sportsmanship will be reason for disqualification.
11. **No alcoholic beverages:** No alcoholic beverages or other non prescription drugs will be allowed in the boats or weigh in area.
12. **Lures / Bait:** Only artificial lures may be used; No live bait or prepared bait with the exception of pork rind and strips is permitted. Trolling as a means of fishing is prohibited. The practice of dragging plastic baits using wind or electric is acceptable. Umbrella rigs are permissible under the confines of Ontario law (maximum 3 hooks per rig).
13. **Boat equipment:** Boats, motors and equipment must comply with current Coast Guard regulations. Boats must be a minimum of 14 feet in length, be equipped with a functioning livewell. and have an operational ignition kill switch that must be attached to the driver's body when the combustion engine is running. Canoes are not permitted.
14. **Boater's Insurance:** Boaters must provide proof of liability insurance prior to the start of the tournament season, during the May meeting, or as otherwise deemed appropriate by the Club Vice President or President.
15. **Non-boaters Share of Boater's expenses:** Non-boaters are required to pay \$60 to the boater for each tournament; for the purpose of assisting with the boater's operating expenses for the day. This is a maximum fee that is payable to the boater. Boaters may accept less money at their discretion.

16. P.F.D's: All competitors must supply their own coast guard approve PFD which must be worn while the combustion motor is running. It is the non boater's responsibility to provide their own PFD.
17. Aerated Live wells and live Bass: All competitors' boats must be equipped with a fully operational live well. Bass weighed in dead will receive a 1/4lb penalty. DEAD FISH WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE BIG FISH PRIZE. The tournament Director shall have the sole authority in assessing the health of bass and applying penalties.
18. Transporting of Fish During / After weigh in: Boats are to remain in the water until those anglers' fish have been weighed and released back into the lake. Transportation of fish overland contravenes Ontario Law, and will result in disqualification from the tournament.
19. Transporting of Fish During Tournament Hours: During competition hours, under power of your main engine, the maximum number of bass allowed in your live well is 4 bass per person. If you are caught with more than your allowable limit, your fish will be culled down to the limit starting with your largest fish.
20. Size and Limits: A maximum of 4 Bass per angler (largemouth and/or smallmouth) may be presented for weigh in. Minimum size is 12" measured from tip to tip. Bass measuring less than the minimum length will not be weighed and a 1-pound penalty shall be deducted from the balance of the individual's and team weight.
21. Culling Tags: Must be non-piercing.
22. Big Fish: a big fish prize will be awarded to the angler weighing in the largest live bass.
23. Communication: Competitors are prohibited from communicating with one another during competition hours for the purpose of sharing specific advantageous knowledge related to the fishery. Emergency cell phone numbers will be provided.
24. Fishing hours: Fishing hours shall be 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Hours may be adjusted by the tournament director at his discretion due to unsafe weather, light conditions, or other unforeseen circumstances. No fishing will be permitted from the prefish closing until these hours.
25. Prizes and ties: In the event of a tie for any position the monies will be divided equally between the tied teams.
26. Tournament Director: The Tournament Director has the discretion to 1) disqualify or penalize competitors for any violation of the rules, without refund. 2) Cancel or postpone the tournament in the case of bad weather. Only the Club President is permitted to resolve disputes which cannot be resolved by the Tournament Director. ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL.
27. Qualifying Tournament Format: Qualifying Tournament Format: Each angler in the boat fishes individually for the purpose of determining the angler of the year points, and cash payouts for each tournament. Tournament rankings are based on the total 4 fish weight per angler. Cash prizes are to be divided into separate non-boater and boater rankings (i.e. non-boater 1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place, etc. AND boater 1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place, etc.). The total cash purse for the day will be split 50/50 among the non-boater and boater categories. The Boater's and non-boaters fish shall be kept separate by means of tagging or keeping fish in separate live wells. Each angler will weigh their fish separately. Fish culling between competitors is prohibited.
28. Angler of the year Scoring & Tie breaks: Scoring for the angler of the year shall be based on the club approved points system (attached). Rankings will be determined by total points accrued for each angler's best 5 tournaments. In the event of a tie for any position, the angler with the highest total points for all tournaments fished shall take precedence. In the event there is still a tie, the angler with the highest total weight for all events fished is the angler of the year. Angler of the year points are based on each anglers' total 4 fish weight. There is only one angler of the year list, it does not distinguish between non-boaters and boaters.
29. Angler of the year Prize: The prize for angler of the year shall comprise a cash amount \$250 and free entry into the OBN qualifier to be held the following season. If the AOY winner chooses to not fish the OBN qualifier in the following season, the total cash prize is \$500. This may change from year to year as club finances permit (as determined by the club membership prior to the commencement of the tournament season).
30. Club Classic Qualification: Assessed based on the final angler of the year rankings. The top 10 boaters and top 10 non-boaters will be eligible to fish the Classic. Additional anglers will not be invited to fish should those in the top 10 choose not to fish the classic. Pairings will be based on a draw format, similar to the regular season events.
31. Club Classic Format: A Boater is paired with a non-boater, as per the regular season, however in this case a boater and non-boater can be paired together even if they fished together during the regular season. Final pairings will be determined by the Tournament Director.
32. Club Classic Prizes: The prize structure is as follows: \$300 for 1st place (boater and non), \$200 for 2nd (boater and non) place, and \$100 for 3rd place (boater and non). \$100 overall big fish prize. This may change from year to year as club finances permit (as determined by the club membership prior to the commencement of the tournament season).