



MONTANA BASS FEDERATION NATION

80% TOTAL PAYOUT IN CASH & PRIZES

STATE TEAM QUALIFIER TOURNAMENT AT NOXON RESERVOIR

AUGUST 20 – 21, 2011

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO ENTER

NAME	CLUB	BASS #
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
	ZIP	PHONE

NON-BOATER

BOATER

IF A BOATER THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REQUIRED

BOAT MANUFACTURER	HORSEPOWER	BOAT REGISTRATION #
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ALL BOATERS MUST CARRY AT LEAST \$300,000 LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE

INSURANCE CO.	POLICY #
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ENTRY FEE & SIDE POT \$100.00 ENTRY FEE \$10.00 BIG FISH SIDE POT

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE OFF THE WATER 6:00 PM AUGUST 19, 2011

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MONTANA BASS FEDERATION NATION INC.
MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION & PAYMENT TO: WES TANNER 7955 TOBY WAY MISSOULA MT 59808
DON'T FORGET TO READ MBFN TOURNAMENT RULES AND SIGN BACK OF FORM

ANY BOATER CHECKING IN AFTER 7:00 P.M. WITHOUT PROPER NOTIFICATION (CONTACTING THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR) WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED A BOATER SPOT. CHECK IN & PARTNER DRAWINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE NAUGHTY PINE AT 6:00 P.M.

The following rules shall apply to all Montana Bass Federation Nation tournaments (continued on back)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- These tournaments are open to anyone over 15 years old and if you are fishing for a position on the state team you must be a member of an affiliated MBFN club, a member of B.A.S.S. and in good standing with the MBFN.
- During any MBFN tournament no competitor may operate a boat unless that contestant has documented proof of boating liability insurance (\$300,000) covering the boat being used in the tournament. Proof of insurance must be with the boat being used and must cover the competitors using that boat.

REGISTRATION

- A properly completed and signed official entry form and the entry fee must be received by the MBFN Tournament Director.
- Each competitor must register in person with the MBFN staff at the time and place designated, unless prior arrangements have been made with the tournament director. Registration will be the evening prior to the event.

SPORTSMANSHIP

- Competitors in the MBFN tournaments are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, honesty and integrity towards all competitors and non-tournament people at all times.
- Respect should be directed to all property owners.
- Please keep all litter in the boat and properly dispose of it once you are off the water.
- Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those prescribed by a licensed physician or purchased over the counter) by any competitor during any MBFN tournament will not be tolerated and they will be disqualified.

SAFETY

- Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. During the official tournament each competitor must wear a Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver. This preserver must be worn at all times the combustion engine is operating. This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zipped securely until the combustion engine is shut off.
- Anyone fishing alone must wear a life preserver at all times during the tournament.
- During the tournament a competitor may not use a CB radio, a VHF marine band radio, a cellular, or any other type of communication device for the purpose of locating or catching fish. Competitors are permitted to transmit by radio or telephone only in the event of an emergency. If so equipped, competitors may listen to the marine band weather information.

BOAT AND HORSEPOWER

- Maximum horsepower for all boats in an MBFN tournament is 250 HP. Horsepower cannot exceed the limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard horsepower rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer.
- All boats must be equipped with an approved type of ignition kill switch that must be attached to the driver's body anytime the combustion engine is running.

3. All boats must be equipped with live wells that can adequately maintain a live limit of fish by both competitors.
4. All boats must be at least 15 feet in length and have a minimum of 25 HP.
5. An electric trolling motor may be used for slow maneuvering, however trolling is prohibited.
6. Boats may have extra gas tanks but they must be secured to the boat and rigged to feed directly (18 gal. max.)

TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT

1. The use of grippers in landing bass is prohibited.
2. Dip nets are allowed but cannot exceed 6 feet in overall length.
3. Only artificial baits, scents and artificially scented baits may be used .NO LIVEBAIT or PREPARED BAIT will be permitted during official tournaments.
4. No trolling
5. Only one rod and reel may be used at any one time. Other rods may be in the boat ready for use.
6. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional manner. Anyone guilty of snatching or snagging visible fish will have their catch disqualified.

FISHING AND BOATING CITATIONS

1. Any competitor that is issued a fishing or boating citation during a tournament will have that day's catch disqualified.
2. Any competitor that has been accused of violating written or posted laws (speeding through no wake zones or exceeding lake speed limits) will have that day's catch disqualified if the tournament director finds the accusation to be valid.

TOURNAMENT WATERS

1. Tournament waters will be established by the tournament director
2. Fishing on tournament waters is permitted anywhere except: within 25 yards of another competitors boat which was first anchored or secured in a fixed position with the trolling motor out of the water. Any water within the boundaries posted off limits or no fishing by state or federal agencies will be off limits. Any live bass release area established by the tournament director will be off limits. Only that water open to public fishing will be considered tournament waters.

SCORING

1. Scoring and competitor standings will be determined by the total weight of the competitors legal bass
2. Competitors may bring to the weigh in no more than 5 legal bass. Minimum length of a legal bass is 12 inches, as measured on the federation golden rule. If a competitor brings in more than a limit of bass the largest bass will be removed until the competitor has only 5 bass. That competitor will also be penalized 1 pound for every fish over the legal limit. If a competitor brings in a short bass (less than 12") that bass will be removed and a 1 pound penalty will be assessed.
3. All bass will be released alive after being weighed. For each dead bass presented to the weigh in officials the competitor will be penalized the following: 1 dead fish= 4 oz., 2 dead fish= 10 oz., 3 dead fish= 18 oz., 4 dead fish= 28 oz., 5 dead fish= 40 oz.. The tournament director or weigh in officials will determine if a fish is dead.
4. No fish other than bass may be kept while fishing in a tournament.
5. Competitors who are not in the official checkpoint area at the appointed time will be penalized at the rate of 1 pound per minute to be deducted from that day's catch. Any competitor more than 15 minutes late will lose their entire catch for that day.
6. Ties will be broken by the weight of the competitor's big fish. It is the responsibility of the competitor to make sure they have their big fish weighed. In the event there is still a tie for first place a fish off will be determined by the tournament director.
7. All fishing must cease once you have gotten to the check in point.
8. All competitors must check in at the end of the fishing day before they remove their boats.

LAUNCH (START)

1. If a boater is late for the start, every effort will be made to get the non-boater out on time in another boat or with a tournament director approved fill in.
2. If a non-boater is late for the start, a boater may start alone as scheduled but they must notify the tournament director first.

BOATER / NON-BOATER PAIRINGS

1. All competitors must be present at the pre-tournament meeting unless specific arrangements have been made with the tournament director.
2. Pairings will be done by the tournament director.
3. Any boater that arrives after the pairings have started will go out last both days and will have a non-boater both days.
4. Names of all non-boaters and numbers of boater positions will be placed in separate buckets. If there are more boaters than non-boaters than blank tags will be placed in the non-boater bucket to even them out. The order boaters will draw out of the buckets is determined by the on-site registration sheet,(first to check in, first to draw). A boater will draw one tag from the non-boater bucket and another tag from the boat position bucket (Boater draws their own fate). If a boater draws a blank tag (fishing alone) they can not fish alone again until all boaters have had the chance to fish alone.

BOAT OPERATION AND EXPENSE

1. The non-boater has the right to operate the trolling motor for ½ of the day if they wish (boater chooses their ½). If the non-boater chooses to operate the trolling motor, they are responsible for any damages to the boat that may occur. Any person , who, in the judgment o the officials, operates the boat in such a manner as to unfairly handicap their partner shall be disqualified. At no time may any angler request that their partner not fish. In the view of the large expense involved in operating and maintaining a tournament bass boat, it is suggested that the non-boater share the cost of gas and oil for the competition day.

STATE TEAM QUALIFYING

1. Angler of the year will be the federation competitor with the most points after the designated federation qualifying tournaments. This angler will have their trail fees paid for the next year. (team only)
2. Non-boater of the year will be the federation competitor with the most points as a non-boater after the designated federation qualifying events. This angler will have their trail fees paid for the next year. (team only)

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3. Points system will be as follows: 1 place = 100 points, 2 place = 99 points, 3 place = 98 points, and so on in one point increments until the last federation competitor who weighs a bass. Any competitor that doesn't catch a bass will receive 10 points less than the last competitor that weighed in a bass.
4. Federation anglers that wish to receive team qualifying points and cannot be present at the tournament will receive 10 points less than the last federation competitor present at the tournament, providing their registration and payment is valid.
5. The state team will consist of the top 12 anglers from the angler of the year standings (best 2 of 3 tournaments) after all qualifying tournaments are concluded. The top 6 are boaters and the next 6 are non-boaters.
6. All alternates will come from the angler of the year standings.

ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

1. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the tournament director at a tournament. In the event of a rule violation, the tournament director may impose such sanctions as they deem appropriate, including without limitation, disqualification and forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. Protests must be reported to the tournament director within 30 minutes after the last fish is weighed.
2. Appeals process: Should an angler feel that the tournament directors decision was not fair, the angler needs to appeal within 30 minutes after the penalty was assessed at which time the tournament director will call the members of the tournament committee. (club delegates) over and discuss the violation. The tournament committee will than vote on the issue. The tournament committee's decision will be final.
3. Any appeal or protest involving a tournament committee member, that member will not be involved in any discussion or decisions concerning that issue.

I HEREBY RELEASE THE MONTANA BASS FEDERATION NATION INC., ITS OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND SPONSORS FROM ALL LIABILITY FOR INJURY OR DAMAGE TO MY PROPERTY AND PERSON DURING ANY FEDERATION NATION SANCTIONED EVENT. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CURRENT MONTANA BASS FEDERATION NATION RULES AND GUIDELINES SET FORTH AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM FULLY.

SIGNATURE

DATE