

# 2018 Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Open Tournament Guidelines

Enclosed in both Pro and Co-angler packets!!

1. You will need your own Coast Guard approved life vest and wear at all times the combustion engine is running (both practice and competition). **See rule # 5(i) about inflatable PFD's**
2. You must wear an official embroidered B.A.S.S. patch/logo on front of shirt or a B.A.S.S. hat. Co-anglers will receive a B.A.S.S. hat at Tournament Registration. See Rule #23. Failure to meet logo requirements may result in not being able to weigh your catch.
3. You are required to show the appropriate state(s) fishing license at the official registration. **Co-anglers should have ALL licenses to cover any waters that may be fished during the competition.** Also, we need your cell phone number and information as to where you are staying during the tournament.
4. **Co-anglers** -Please limit your tackle to one large or two small tackle boxes and no more than six rods and reels.
5. Keep fresh **WATER** in your weigh-in bag at all times. Monitor fish throughout the tournament day.
6. If for any reason you must cancel from the tournament, you are required to notify someone on the B.A.S.S. staff as soon as possible.
7. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you contact your next day's partner as soon as possible after you weigh-in each day. Your next day partner name and contact info will be sent to you via text message and printed on your weigh in receipt. Text cannot be received if cell carrier has short code blocking in place. Blocking can be removed by calling your carrier. Also, a pairing board will be posted at registration and at the weigh-in site if you do not weigh in or if you do not have text messaging.
8. Do not pass any information about your partners' fishing locations to your next day's partner.
9. Co-anglers must fish from the back of the boat; you may leave the back to land a fish. There **IS NOT** a line drawn down the middle of the boat, but please respect your Pro. For example, **DO NOT** cast over his line. **See Rule # 6.**
10. **During the course of the tournament day, Co-anglers can only operate the boat in the case of an emergency or an exception from tournament director. See Rule #12**
11. **Pros cannot** tell co-angler not to fish. **Co-anglers** cannot accept money from the Pro not to fish.
12. NO alcohol or drugs are allowed in the boat.
13. We suggest you meet your partner prior to arriving at the boat ramp or marina in the mornings due to limited parking space.
14. **IMPORTANT: Read Rule #3 – “Pre-Tournament Practice” – very carefully. DURING OFFICIAL PRACTICE YOU CANNOT FISH WITH OR RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM ANYONE WHO'S NOT A COMPETITOR IN THE TOURNAMENT.**
15. **Co-anglers** are allowed to practice out of your boat. Your boat must adhere to all rules and you must have proof of insurance with you.
16. **NEW for 2018, only non-penetrating culling clips are allowed for use.**
17. **Anglers can find angler contingency programs at [www.bassmaster.com/angler-incentives](http://www.bassmaster.com/angler-incentives)**