

# Bloomington Normal Bass Club Tournament Rules

Revised 12/2017

1. The rules will stand as printed. If there is any question about any rule, the final decision and/or interpretation will be determined by the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee will consist of all board members present during that tournament. Any protest regarding any Bloomington Normal Bass Club tournament must be received by the Tournament Director, or his designated director, no later than 30 minutes after the weigh-in. The Rules Committee for the tournament will rule on all protests. All protests must be submitted in writing.
2. All draw entries must be in the hands of the Tournament Director, or designee, by drawing time at the club meeting. The drawing of teams will be at the conclusion of the club meeting. Members in good standing may sign up at the ramp.
3. All tournament anglers must be members in good standing of BNBC.  
Membership dues are as follows:
  - a. Junior (under 18) -- \$15
    - i. Any Junior member will require a parent/guardian signature on their entry form before the pairings.
  - b. Individual -- \$20
  - c. Family -- \$25
4. Safety, sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation are expected from each contestant towards all fisherman.
5. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted in the boat during tournament hours. No fishing under the influence. No alcohol is to be consumed during the weigh-in at the scales.
6. All boats should be at the starting point 30 minutes prior to take-off time to allow for check-in with the Tournament Director, or designee.
7. Fishing hours and take-off procedures will be announced at the regular monthly meetings. Live wells and kill switches will be checked prior to take off. If a boat is late for take-off, they must find a member of the Tournament Committee, or competing board member, and have their live well, kill switch, and/or insurance documents checked prior to fishing.
8. Those who fail to appear at the official weigh-in area on time will be penalized 1 pound for each minute they are late. Those who fail to arrive at the ramp within 15 minutes of the ending time will lose all credit for that day.
9. You must stay in sight of your partner at all times. Exceptions to be considered: Emergencies, Restroom, Illness, Weather, and Boat Breakdown. If boat breakdown occurs, anglers may be rescued by another boat, those rescued must be in possession of their own fish only.

10. Only artificial lures are to be used. No live bait of any kind is allowed. Pork rinds, pork frogs, eels, or strips are permitted. The use of an underwater camera is prohibited during tournament hours.
11. Fish length, slot limits, and quantity allowed will be announced at the tournament meeting prior to the event. Fish will be measured from the tip of the nose with mouth closed to the longest point of the tail using the official bump board. Once a bag of fish is turned over to the weigh master, he has the control of bumping the fish and his decision will be final. If an attempt is made to weigh a short fish as determined by the weigh master, a penalty of 25 Classic points will be assessed. Said fish will not count in total weight of the day's catch and the contestant will lose 1 pound per short fish from that day's weight. A contestant may ask for a courtesy bump prior to handing the fish to the weigh master without penalty.
12. The smallest fish or all of the fish in the bag will be measured prior to being weighed.
13. All boats must be equipped with some form of aerated live well capable of sustaining a limit of fish. A re-circulating pump is encouraged to be implemented once the boat is trailered.
14. All fishing must be done from boats. All fish must be landed by contestants within the boat. All boats must stay in the water during fishing hours, unless specified at the meeting. No trailering of boats from one location to another will be permitted unless specified at the meeting.
15. Tournament contestants cannot cast within 50 yards of another contestant's boat which is anchored and the trolling motor up on a spot first without consent of said boat. Tournament contestants must be courteous to other fisherman in regards to their fishing waters.
16. Off-limit areas for a particular site will be determined at the open draw meeting.
17. All contestants must have in their possession a U. S. Coast Guard approved life jacket or vest, and must wear it anytime the gas engine is running. All engines in use in our tournaments must be equipped with an operable ignition kill switch and cord fastened to the operator whenever the engine is running. If found in violation of this rule, the team can be disqualified.
18. Electric (trolling) motors are permitted for moving the boat into and along fishing areas. Trolling is prohibited.
19. No person may fish with more than one rod at a time, but there is no limit on the number of pre-rigged rods in the boat.
20. Boats must have proof of insurance (\$300,000 Liability minimum) for each boat used in BNBC tournaments. Boats 1, 2, and those signing up after the draw will be checked at each tournament. Failure to produce documentation can result in disqualification. Proof of insurance documentation not limited to these boats.

## Scoring, Entry Fees, and Prizes

1. Scoring will be as follows:
  - a. Five (5) Classic points will be given teams participating in each tournament.
  - b. Ninety-five (95) Classic points will be given to the winner, Ninety-four (94) points to second place, Ninety-three (93) point to third place, .....and so on.
  - c. A full pound will be deducted from weight for each dead fish weighed in.
  - d. Total weight of legal fish, minus any dead fish penalties, minus any short fish penalties, minus any late penalties will determine place of finish and points awarded.
  - e. No more than site limit of fish per individuals may be held in the live-well at any one time.
  - f. Culling must occur with each successive fish caught before the next cast is made.
  - g. Big Bass award will go to the team with the heaviest fish for the day. Penalty weight for dead fish does not affect the outcome of this award.
  - h. The points list will determine the top 10 Classic qualifiers.
2. Entry fee for Saturday Tournament trail is \$60 per tournament, per 2-man team, and includes \$5 for the Big Bass Pot, \$2 to cover the cost of the awards, \$1 for Team of the Year, \$1 for Big Bass of the Year, and \$1 for Big Bag of the Year. Entry forms for tournaments can be picked up at club meetings or off the BNBC website [bloomingtonnormalbassclub.com](http://bloomingtonnormalbassclub.com). Entry fees may only be carried over 1 time, more than this will constitute a forfeiture of your entry fee.
3. In the case of a tie, it will be broken by most fish. If still tied, a coin flip determines the winner of that position. Positions 1 and 2 monies will be combined and split equally. Points will be awarded to the tie breaker winner.
4. Team of the Year (TOY) is determined by a team's top 5 scores of the 6 events.

## Classic Tournament

A Classic Tournament will be held at the end of the year for the BNBC Saturday trail. The Classic Tournament has the following guidelines for qualification:

1. Top 10 teams for the year are eligible as described by the points list.
2. Best 5 of 6 scores shall determine the ranking on the list.
3. Those paying entry to 5 of the 6 tourneys will also be awarded a guaranteed Classic position.
4. The Classic is a 2-day event held at an undisclosed site (Tournament Director may disclose site prior to the event, but must notify all members in a timely manner).

5. There will be a meeting the week of the Classic for teams to discuss details of the location, lodging, and travel.
6. All BNBC rules apply to the Classic.
7. Total combined weight, less any penalty weight for both days will determine the winner.
8. The Classic location will be off-limits from the time of announcement until take-off Saturday morning.
9. Each team will pay the appropriate entry fee for the Classic to the Tournament Director and any additional launch fees, etc. to the site as specified at the site.
10. Classic payouts will be announced prior to the tournament.

Note: BNBC will make every effort to acquire reservations for rooms for the Classic. Ultimately, it will be the team's responsibility for lodging, NO EXCEPTIONS.

# Tuesday Night Tournament Trail Rules

Revised 12/2017

Regular BNBC Tournament rules will govern the Tuesday Night Tournament Trail, except as noted below:

1. Life jackets are mandatory and must be worn at all times the gas engine is running. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
2. All anglers competing must be a member in good standing with the BNBC.
3. Tournament hours will generally be from 5:30 PM until 9:00 PM. Any changes will be announced prior to take-off.
4. To qualify for the Tuesday Night Tournament Trail Classic, you must physically participate in eight (8) tournaments.
5. Entry fee for Tuesday Night Tournament trail is \$45 per tournament, per 2-man team, and includes \$5 for the Big Bass Pot, \$2 to cover the cost of the awards, \$1 for Team of the Year, \$1 for Big Bass of the Year, and \$1 for Big Bag of the Year.
6. Tournament payouts are based on the number of participants.
  - a. 2-10 entries—1<sup>st</sup> place=60%, 2<sup>nd</sup> place=40%
  - b. 11-20 entries—1<sup>st</sup> place=50%, 2<sup>nd</sup> place=35%, 3<sup>rd</sup> place=15%
  - c. 21-30 entries—1<sup>st</sup> place=40%, 2<sup>nd</sup> place=30%, 3<sup>rd</sup> place=20%, 4<sup>th</sup> place=10%
  - d. 31-50 entries—1<sup>st</sup> place=30%, 2<sup>nd</sup> place=25%, 3<sup>rd</sup> place=20%, 4<sup>th</sup> place=15%, 5<sup>th</sup> place=10%
  - e. Tournament Big Bass Pot= \$5/boat
7. Scoring will be as follows:
  - a. Five (5) Classic points will be given teams participating in each tournament.
  - b. Ninety-five (95) Classic points will be given to the winner, Ninety-four (94) points to second place, Ninety-three (93) point to third place, .....and so on.
  - c. A full pound will be deducted from weight for each dead fish weighed in.
  - d. Total weight of legal fish, minus any dead fish penalties, minus any short fish penalties, minus any late penalties will determine place of finish and points awarded.
  - e. No more than site limit of fish per individuals may be held in the live-well at any one time.
  - f. Culling must occur with each successive fish caught before the next cast is made.

- g.** Big Bass award will go to the team with the heaviest fish for the day. Penalty weight for dead fish does not affect the outcome of this award.
  - h.** Team of the Year Award will be based on the best twelve (12) event point total.
- 8.** Participants are not allowed to fish said body of water prior to take-off the day of the tournament.

**9. Specific Rules for Lake Bloomington**

- a.** Cannot fish docks within 30 minutes of the end of regulation.
  - b.** Must obey specific lake rules.
  - c.** No wake after dark
- 10.** Tuesday Night Tournament Trail Classic will be announced at the end of the year.
- 11.** Classic participants must make their own lodging arrangements.
- 12.** A substitute team member may fish the Classic, if that member is of good standing with the BNBC and has fished in at least six (6) Tuesday Night tournaments.