



## TOURNAMENT RULES




### LIABILITY RELEASE AND LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

- Each participant must agree to a liability release prior to starting the event. This will be completed on site at the pre-tournament angler meeting.
- Minor participants are also required to provide a liability release signed by a parent or guardian prior to participation in the event. Parent or guardian must be present on day of the event. This must be completed during your online registration.
- Participants will be required to obtain a valid 2016 (or lifetime) Oklahoma fishing license issued by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- Fishing regulations and license costs/requirements can be found on the OWDC website at the following link, <https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/forget1/OnlineSales.aspx>





### VESSEL REQUIREMENTS

- No motor (electric or gas) or wind power will be allowed for the duration of the event.
- Permissible vessel types: Kayak, Canoe, and Stand Up Paddleboard that move under human power.
- Fishing from shore or a boat dock during the event will not be permitted. All fish caught, which are to be considered for judging, MUST be caught while in the vessel.
- Tandem vessels may be used, however, only one participant may fish from the vessel during the event.





## OFFICIAL CHECKPOINTS (Tournament Check IN/Check OUT)

-  A captain's meeting will be held the night before the tournament. This meeting is mandatory for all registered anglers to attend. The idea behind this meeting is to bring awareness of the BBKC Tournament rules and regulations, kayak safety, and to check every angler in. This is also where all anglers will receive their mandatory identifier for photos submitted for judging.
-  If for some reason, you are unable to attend the captain's meeting the night prior to the tournament, you must contact the BBKC, and let them know of your situation, and you will be placed on a list of attendees for the secondary captain's meeting that will be held 1 hour prior to first cast the day of the tournament.
-  No check-in will be required on tournament morning unless you are on the Secondary captians meeting list. There will be an official First Cast time that anglers may not fish prior to. There will be only one official check-in point in the afternoon, and this point shall be designated at the tournament briefing. Failure to check-in at the check-in point in the afternoon will result in disqualification. Fishing prior to the official First Cast time will also result in disqualification. At check-in, all kayaks shall identify themselves by means of the BBKC identifier and proceed immediately to the designated Photo Finish.




## FISHING AREAS & HOURS:

-  All boundaries and fishing hours will be posted on the BBKC website approximately 30 days prior to any BBKC event.
-  Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director for the tournament. Each competitor must obtain this information from the BBKC Tournament Director or any official of the BBKC, any restrictions will be discussed during Captain's Meeting the night prior to the tournament. Any water within these boundaries posted "Off-Limits" or "No Fishing" by state or federal agencies will be OFF LIMITS, regardless of official tournament boundaries. Only water open to ALL public fishing will be considered tournament waters.
-  Competitors may only launch at PUBLIC launch points accessible to all other competitors. It does not have to be a paved boat ramp, but it must be publicly accessible land. No trespassing onto private property.
-  Tournament times will be determined by the tournament director. The tournament will be at least 8 hours allowing for roadrunner starts at every tournament. Members may launch from any public access point on the tournament lake with legal access. Trailering to/from the registration and check-in site is permitted.







## ALLOWED ANGLING METHODS

-  No bait either consisting of or being made from a living organism will be permitted. NO live bait.
-  Artificial lures are required to be used during all tournament hours.
-  No snagging, cast nets, jug lines or limb lines may be used.
-  Trolling is permissible, however, only one line may be in tow from the vessel at any time while towing.


## SAFETY REGULATIONS

-  An approved PFD must be worn at all times during the tournament. Failure to comply with safety rules will be grounds for immediate disqualification. Safety is a number one priority and participants will be observed throughout the day by tournament officials to verify compliance.
-  All vessels must meet minimum safety standards outlined by both state and federal governing organizations. Failure to comply can result in ejection from the event and possible fines to be assessed by Oklahoma State Water Patrol.
-  An emergency contact number will be provided at the pre-tournament meeting by the Tournament Director for participants to use in case of an emergency for the duration of the event.





## GENERAL RULES

-  The preferred tournament measuring board is the “Hog Trough”, but other brands of measuring devices can be used. It is required that you bring any other measuring devices to the pre-tournament meeting for a “courtesy” check for accuracy. At any time, a tournament official may request your measuring board for verification. Each participant must have their own measuring device and cannot share with other anglers.
-  Stringers or any other method of fish retention is not permitted. BBKC 2016 is designated as a CPR (catch photo and release) event and the health and safety of the fish caught should always be considered.
-  Photos submitted to the tournament board for judging will be closely inspected to prevent a single fish from being counted more than once for scoring.
-  Tournament waters will be considered off limits as of 11:59pm on April 15th until take off at safe light April 16th.
-  All participants will be required to attend the pre-tournament meeting to be held on April 15th at a location determined by the Tournament Director.
-  Drug or alcohol use by participants or tournament staff is prohibited during the event and the Tournament Director shall immediately disqualify any person suspected of violating this rule.








## COMMUNICATION

-  The use of electronic communication between different competitors for the purpose of finding and catching fish is prohibited during tournament hours. In case of emergency, competitors should call 911 then notify the Tournament Official.





## QUALIFYING FISH

-  Fish to be considered for judging are required to have been caught within the waters designated as legal fishing waters by the Tournament Director and during legal catching hours of the event.
-  Species of Bass that will be legal for submission are restricted to Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass and Kentucky (Spotted) Bass. White (Sand) Bass will not be considered for judging at anytime during the tournament.
-  All fish caught by anglers are to be CPR and then immediately returned to the water unharmed. Oklahoma has some of the finest fisheries in the US and this is partly contributed to the level of angler care and education seen in our fine fisherman.
-  This will be a 5 fish limit tournament.







## JUDGING

-  All participant fish submissions will be judged to the nearest ¼” rounding down when required.
-  It is highly recommended that each participant highlight the markings on their measuring board to at least the ¼” mark resolution. A Black Sharpie works wonderfully for this, if you have questions about highlighting your board please see tournament staff for recommendations.
-  Competitors must use their own measuring device (no sharing)
-  All fish pictures submitted for judging must have the fish facing to the left with the dorsal fin on top of the picture. The fish must have a closed mouth and the mouth must be touching the measuring board “stop”, the tail fin can be “pinched” and will be scored to the nearest ¼” it crosses.
-  Any photo submitted which does not meet the scoring criteria can and will be disqualified by a tournament official. Be sure you have read and understood the picture requirements prior to take off on the day of the tournament.
-  Tournament staff may check your device at any time.
-  If the judge cannot clearly see the markings, that fish will not be scored. At a minimum 1/4 inch increments need to be visible.

## INCLAMENT WEATHER/CANCELATION POLICY

-  It is the Tournament Director's intention to avoid any delay or cancellation of the event if at all possible. However, if a weather event, which potentially threatens the safety of the tournament participants or event staff, is imminent, all decisions made about a delay or cancellation will be made by the Tournament Director and in the best interest of all parties involved.
-  If at all possible in the event of a cancellation every attempt will be made to reschedule the event for the following day at the original location. If weather or scheduling conflicts prevent the following day from being a suitable option then a viable date, time and location will be determined by the tournament board and posted online and announced in person at the original event.
-  If both days are rescheduled, the following weekend will serve as make-up event.
-  Once registered, no participant will be issued a refund if they are not able to attend the event.

## PROTESTS

-  Tournament rules are subject to the interpretation by the Tournament Director at all times and all decisions made by the Tournament Director with regards to the rules are FINAL.
-  If there is a need for a protest to be filed it must be done in writing and submitted directly to the Tournament Director immediately following the tournament results being made public.
-  Once the Final results have been posted and the award ceremony has commenced all results will be considered final.
-  It is at the Tournament Director's discretion to make changes at any time to ensure the most accurate results possible.
-  Reading the rules is each participant's responsibility. Participants should read and understand the rules prior to start of the event.
-  Participants should contact tournament staff prior, during, or after the event with any questions.

It is with great pride that we have made every attempt to provide a friendly, fun, and safe tournament in our great state of Oklahoma that we can share with not only our friends from here in Oklahoma, but also other participants from outside of our state. We promise to uphold the highest of standards and ask that our participants strive to do the same. If you suspect there has been a possible instance of "cheating" please inform tournament staff or the Tournament Director directly. "Cheating" will not be tolerated and anyone found doing so will be disqualified immediately and banned from competing in future events under the BBKC event coordination. Good luck, and we look forward to hosting you at the third annual Beavers Bend Kayak Classic, April 2016.