

Pennsylvania Striped Bass Association

2024 Rules for All Tournaments

(Effective January 1, 2024)

1. **I/We waive and release all other contestants, sponsors, Tournament Officials, and the Pennsylvania Striped Bass Association from all claims of injury and/or damage incurred in connection with this tournament. I understand that the Tournament Rules Committee will make the final decisions in all tournament matters.**
2. Tournaments are Member tournaments. **Those who are NOT a PSBA member and wish to fish a PSBA tournament must join the PSBA.** THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUTH ANGLERS (under age 16). Youth may fish under the club membership of their host in all Member/Guest Tournaments provided that the entry fees are paid. This means the youth angler points will be awarded each time a youth fishes a tournament.
3. The minimum size for stripers to be eligible for weigh-in in all tournaments is **26" inches in length**. To save stripers, any fish lifted from the water and put in the boat must be in good condition before they are returned to the lake. All stripers that are undersized must be unhooked while the fish is still in the water.
4. Tournament results will be based on the total weight entered for **TWO STRIPERS PER BOAT** for all tournaments. Any unclaimed prizes will go to the PSBA striper fishery. First place will receive a plaque, 2nd through 5th places will receive a certificate. Additional plaques or certificates will be provided upon request, for the cost incurred in doing so.
5. The entry fee for regular club tournaments is **\$30.00 per person**. An optional **\$15.00 "Lunker Pool"** is also available for those who are interested. If you are fishing with a partner(s) and decide to enter the "Lunker Pool", all contestants on the boat are required to enter. Fees must be paid in cash or checks payable to "PSBA".
6. **Big Fish Ladder** (tournament within a tournament"). This year's Big Fish Ladder contest will be a ladder with 20 steps (prizes). Cost to enter the contest is a **one-time \$20.00 fee**, which is good for the entire tournament season. To be eligible, you must sign up for the Big Fish Ladder prior to a tournament starting. Only one fish per contestant per tournament will be recognized for the fish ladder.
7. An optional **"Angler's Choice"** will be available. The fee is **\$10.00 per boat**. Any legal catfish, lake trout or walleye is eligible. Only one fish will be weighed in per boat. Payout will be 75%, with 25% going to the striper fishery.
8. **Registration is Friday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** A mandatory Captain's meeting will be at 8:45 p.m. at the designated boat launch. A boat representative **MUST** be present at all sign-ups and Captain's meetings. In cases of work schedule conflict, vehicle trouble, etc., a team may still register – provided that a phone call is made to a tournament representative prior to **8:30 p.m.** An announcement of that team's status will be made at the mandatory Captain's meeting. *Tournaments will begin immediately after the mandatory Captain's meeting.* The call list is as follows: Jim Tucker (814)-935-6444, Michael Stiffler @ 814-327-0539 or Diane Tucker (814)935-6473.
9. Prize payout will be 75%, with the number of paid places based on the number of paid entries.
10. "Lunker" will be paid out at 75% with 25% going to the Striper fishery.
11. Non-contestants will NOT be permitted on your boat during the tournament hours, except for non-fishing children. Prior approval by the Tournament Committee is required. **No extra poles are permitted.**

12. **The lake is OFF LIMITS** for fishing and taking of bait during registration (Friday 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) and will remain OFF LIMITS until after the conclusion of the mandatory Captain’s meeting. “OFF LIMITS” means your boat is either still on the trailer, or it is on the bank in a no-wake zone. It will be permissible to launch your boat during the “OFF LIMITS” time, so long as you are launching at the registration ramp, and that you proceed directly to the bank. Contestants violating the rules will be disqualified and entry fees will be forfeited.
13. All state fishing rules and regulations apply. Any contestant cited for a violation during the tournament will be disqualified and entry fees forfeited. The Tournament Committee must be notified by the contestant prior to weigh-in on Sunday.
14. **All contestants MUST have lines out of the water at 9:00 a.m. Sunday (10:00 a.m. for the first two tournaments and the last tournament of the season).** Lines may be left in the water till then, but **only fish hooked up prior to 9:00 a.m. will be eligible to weigh in.** Eligible fish may still be fought to the boat after 9:00 a.m. If this should happen, a call must be made to one of the club officers. **During our two open tournaments lines must be out of the water by 11:00 a.m. and signed in by 12:00 p.m.**
15. **The final weigh-in is at 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning** (11:00 a.m. for the first two tournaments and the last tournament of the season) **all contestants must be signed in or standing in line to be signed in by 10:00 a.m. – NO EXCEPTIONS OR YOU WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.** All fish must be in fresh condition with red gills, clear eyes, etc. All protests towards any contestant must be presented to the Tournament Committee in writing by 10:15 a.m. on Sunday morning (11:15 a.m. for the first two tournaments and the last tournament of the season). The Tournament Committee will handle all protests. **The decision of the Tournament Committee is FINAL.**
16. **Heads and Scales of all Stripers weighed in at the tournament must be donated to the biologist until a quota is met in each category of weight and size (except for a youth angler or trophy fish that is going to be mounted).** This helps with the study of striped bass without having to grill net the stripers.
17. During all open tournaments all contestants that catch more than one fish must donate one of their fish to the club. Donated fish will be used for our fish fry at our annual banquet and cash parties.
18. **No alcohol consumption on the premises (Woodcock Valley Lions Club) for sign-in and weigh-in and all trash must be removed, this is due to the policy of the grounds. Anyone caught violating any of these rules will be disqualified and all entry fees will be forfeited.**
19. **All rules are subject to change at the mandatory Captains meeting!**

REV. 3/2/24