

No Limit Big Bass Power Hour Kayak Fishing Tournaments Rules and Regulations – 2024 V1



GENERAL TOURNAMENT INFO

- The No Limit Big Bass Power Hour Kayak Fishing Tournament featuring the Big Bass Power Hour presented by Native Watercraft will pay out \$1000*** every hour for the longest bass caught of that hour during the 8 hour competition! In parallel to the Big Bass Power Hour this will also be a NO LIMIT event by submitting any amount of bass you catch with a minimum length of 14” to the leaderboard throughout the day. The No Limit standings will be tallied at the end of the day, based on total inches of accepted fish submissions.

TOURNAMENT LOCATIONS/DATES

- Tennessee – Lake Chickamauga – March 2nd
- California – Clear Lake – April 6th
- Michigan – Lake St. Clair – April 27th
- South Carolina – Lake Hartwell – May 11th
- Washington – Columbia River – June 15th
- Alabama – Lake Guntersville – June 15th
- Pennsylvania – Susquehanna River – October 19th
- Texas – Lake Fork – November 16th

PAYOUT STRUCTURE AND ENTRY FEES

- The Entry fee is \$130
- All fees are paid on PayPal as you register through the TourneyX Pro App
- Payouts are done via PayPal within 24 hours of the official results announcement.
- If you win over \$599 you will need to fill out a W9 before payment.
- If you win over \$599 you will be sent a 1099 at the end of the season.
- You must be present at CHECK OUT/WEIGH IN to be eligible for points, prizes, or payment, unless an emergency comes up, or stated prior to the event. Not being at Check Out/Weigh In, must be communicated to the tournament director.
- No weigh in location will be required if we do a “virtual” weigh in

- Refunds can be issued however, the TD must be notified by the event registration deadline

Payout structures below are formulated on overall participation of individual events and will vary based on participation entry fees minus applicable operation fees. Payout Structures listed below are to be used as a reference, if an event were to reach stated specific number of anglers

<u>125 Anglers</u>	<u>100 Anglers</u>	<u>75 Anglers</u>	<u>50 Anglers</u>
Hourly Big Bass	Hourly Big Bass	Hourly Big Bass	Hourly Big Bass
\$1000	\$1000	\$700	\$500
No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit
1st \$1,500.00	1st \$1,000.00	1st \$1,000.00	1st \$600.00
2nd \$1,000.00	2nd \$500.00	2nd \$500.00	2nd \$330.00
3rd \$800.00	3rd \$300.00	3rd \$375.00	3rd \$200.00
4th \$600.00	4th \$200.00	4th \$220.00	
5th \$400.00	5th \$125.00		
6th \$200.00	6th \$125.00		
7th \$175.00			
8th \$150.00			
<u>200 Anglers</u>	<u>175 Anglers</u>	<u>150 Anglers</u>	
Hourly Big Bass	Hourly Big Bass	Hourly Big Bass	
\$1000	\$1000	\$1000	
No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	
1st \$3,500.00	1st \$3,000.00	1st \$2,000.00	
2nd \$2,500.00	2nd \$1,600.00	2nd \$1,500.00	
3rd \$1,500.00	3rd \$1,200.00	3rd \$1,000.00	
4th \$1,000.00	4th \$1,000.00	4th \$800.00	
6th \$800.00	6th \$800.00	5th \$600.00	
7th \$700.00	7th \$600.00	6th \$500.00	
8th \$600.00	8th \$400.00	7th \$400.00	
9th \$500.00	9th \$300.00	8th \$250.00	
10th \$400.00	10th \$200.00	9th \$200.00	
11th \$300.00	11th \$175.00	10th \$150.00	
12th \$200.00	12th \$150.00		
13th \$150.00	13th \$150.00		
14th \$125.00	14th \$125.00		
15th \$125.00	15th \$125.00		
16th \$125.00	16th \$125.00		

PARTICIPATION

- When you sign up you agree to the terms of the liability waiver
- GPS/Location services must be ON IN YOUR CAMERA SETTINGS on your phone.

- By Participating in an event, you agree to take a polygraph if requested to do so by the tournament director. Refusing to take a polygraph, will result in a disqualification and a permanent ban from the series
- You will need the TourneyX Pro app, and PayPal. All payments, in and out, will be done via PayPal
- Minors 13-17 years must complete a waiver form signed by the minor participant and their parent or legal guardian. Adult or guardian is not required to compete but may accompany the minor in their own kayak, if they wish. The tournament director/s have final say if an angler can or cannot fish the event
 - Minors under 13 years old may not participate.
- You must launch and take out at an appropriate access point during a tournament, Failure to do so will result in DQ
 - Check the individual event details in TourneyX Pro app for eligible access points
 - You may move to a different launch or access point during competition
- Please CHECK IN and Out on the TourneyX Pro app, as this helps the TD verify that you are fishing and on the water
- Launch- When you embark away from the ramp
 - If you embark away prior to launch time and proof has been provided to the Tournament directors, you will be disqualified
- Lines in- The time you can make your first cast
 - If you cast prior to “lines in” and proof has been provided to the Tournament directors you will be disqualified
- Only ONE casting, spin-casting, spinning, or fly rod and reel may be in use at any one time. A hung lure (one snagged in an overhanging tree or any object) and still connected to the rod and reel, is considered in use and the attached rod and reel may not be set aside while another is used
- Lines out/ Last picture- All pictures must be taken prior to this time
- Last Submission time- All pictures must be submitted prior to this time

STATE LAWS

- All state laws and any regulations specific to the body of water that we are fishing must be followed, whistle rules, and light rules. Fishing in areas deemed off limits or not having a valid fishing license will result in disqualification.
- You must have a valid fishing license for the body of water we are fishing on.
- ***PFM must be a class III “Vest style” and must be PROPERLY WORN this means zippered, clipped or secured at all times while on the water. Inflatable vests are legal but are not considered class III unless they are being worn.***
- ***Belt style Inflatable vests are not permissible and will result in a “DQ” if worn***

PICTURE TAKING AND FISH SUBMISSIONS

- Ketch Products; Un-Hinged Measuring boards are the only permissible boards allowed for picture submissions of fish.
 - Approved boards can be purchased at <https://ketchproducts.com/>
- Manipulating a scoring/measuring device, by bending it, cutting, breaks or other means of altering the board to obtain an advantage in length of a fish, you will be disqualified and not be welcome back in future events.

- You must use a NO Limit ID Card or the Hosting Club's approved ID card. This is available for print on the No Limit Big Bass Tournaments by Native Watercraft Facebook Page in the Files section of the page.
 - The ID card can be in color or Black and White. Incorrect ID card will result in the fish being disqualified. Printable ID card Here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/731488751569337/permalink/1217774289607445/?mibextid=uJjRxr>
 - Tin Tags can also be used and can be purchased here: <https://www.bluefoxgifts.com/blue-fox-tin-tag-aluminum-kayak-tournament-identifier/>
- Your identifier must be present in the picture when submitting a fish to the leaderboard.
 - Identifier code must be completely visible
 - A partially visible code due to glare or image being cut off will result in a denial of the submission and photo rejected
- The fish's mouth must be closed, with the fish facing left. The left side of the fish must be facing up.
 - A deduction of .25" will be taken for an open mouth
 - ANY AMOUNT OF AN OPEN MOUTH WILL RESULT IN A PENALTY
 - A Deformed fish that has a mouth unable to close will still be deducted .25"
 - Tail can be pinched or in a natural position
 - Lip, 100% of the eye, and end of tail cannot be obstructed in the photo, even by your hand or identifier
 - Hand, fingers, gloves or any other foreign object must not be under or in the gill plate in the photo
- 14" inch minimum.
 - Acceptable species
 - Largemouth Bass
 - Spotted Bass
 - Smallmouth Bass.
- Fish must be caught during designated tournament times as stated in the events and in the lake/s we are fishing. Any fish caught prior to the event and turned in for scoring will result in a Disqualification and banned from any future events
- If a penalty brings the total length below 14 inches, the fish will not count
- Fish caught within 1/2" of each other will need to have distinct characteristics that prove they are not the same fish. TD will make final decisions where deemed necessary
- Measurement is to the nearest 1/4 inch, last touched line.
- If the end of the fish's tail is laying in-between measurement lines or not touching the measurement lines of the board, judge's discretion will be used
- ENTIRE fish must be visible in the picture. If the head or tail is cut off, in the picture, the fish will not be scored.
- If a fish has a visibly glossy eye, damaged or odd markings, we ask that the competitor take video of that fish to prove it is alive, showing it going from the board to the water and actively swimming away must be provided to the tournament director upon request.
- Each digital photo must be a first-generation image (not a photo or screenshot of another photo). Violation will result in picture disqualification.
- Fish submission must be done through the TourneyX Pro app
- If the fish's mouth is not touching the fence/bump on the board the fish will be denied
- If one tip of the tail is not laying flat touching the Ketch board, the judges will make the length ruling based on the porting of the tail that is completely laying flat. If both ends of the tail are not touching, the picture will be denied.

- All bass are to be released immediately after photo submission. The fish must be caught, photographed, and released prior to resuming fishing. There is absolutely no holding on to a fish unless preparing to submit it to a leader board. Violation of this will result in disqualification from the event
- Pictures must be submitted to TourneyX Pro app by the last submission time. No adjustments will be made after the last submission time unless needed by the director
 - (Picture angle is very important. Directly overhead centered pictures are preferred. Belly up angle and pictures facing down towards the bump/left are not acceptable. If a judge cannot see the tips of both lips touching closed due to an angle issue, you can/will be penalized for open mouth.)

WATERCRAFT REGULATIONS

- Watercraft propulsion is restricted to paddle, pedal, pole, or electric motor. (See electric motor restrictions, below.) Gas Powered Engines are not permissible **2024 South Carolina Event will not allow motors.**
 - Only 1 motor can be mounted/ utilized during competition. Multi- motor units are acceptable during practice only.
 - If your motor is equipped with a kill switch device, it must be worn when under way. Local and State laws must also be followed regarding kill switches when operating a vessel equipped with a motor
- Unless specifically prohibited in rules of a specific event (see Individual Event Rule Addendums on TourneyX Pro app), use of electric motors in competition is approved with the following restrictions:
 - Electric motor must be attached to the kayak in a safe manner for operation.
 - Competitors must comply with all boating regulations pertaining to motorized kayak/electric-propulsion watercraft registration, use and operating restrictions for the designated fishing area
 - No more than one electric motor may be attached to a kayak regardless of combined horsepower/thrust/power rating
- Vessels must be 9' minimum and shorter than 18'
- Vessels that the manufacturer markets and sells as a kayak, including inflatable kayaks and modular kayaks, Stand-up paddleboards (SUP) and Canoes
- Other watercraft specifically approved as exceptions in advance of competition by the Tournament Director
- Catamaran style personal fishing vessels complying with all other regulations will be eligible
- No "Homemade" Kayaks, Sailboats, Jon boats, pirogues, coracles, rowboats, dinghies, skiffs, float tubes, inflatable rafts, or rigid inflatable boats (e.g., Zodiac), pontoon boats, pontoon-style pond boats, twin-hull watercraft, or similar
- The use of manual or motorized anchor systems is permitted
- By officially entering, contestants agree to submit their kayak to an inspection by the tournament director/s
- Towing, transport or relocation assistance to or from any other watercraft, including "mothershipping," is NOT permitted except in cases of emergency, as when pulling a kayak from a danger zone or restricted area. Once the emergency has ended, the Competitor(s) may resume fishing. Violation will result in disqualification from the Tournament.

FISHING METHODS

- You are only permitted to fish with rod and reel. Fly fishing is permitted
- No intentional foul hooking will be permitted
 - If you are bed/sight fishing, the hook must be in the fish's mouth to be submitted
- Each angler must catch and land their fish inside their kayak **without assistance**
- Unless specifically allowed in rules of a specific event (see Individual Event Rule Addendums on TourneyX Pro app), No wade or bank fishing
 - Wade or bank fishing will result in a DQ
 - No portaging over or around objects. You must be able to paddle, pedal or motor to your spot while remaining in your kayak
 - Wade fishing and Portaging at the Susquehanna River event is allowed. The angler must be tethered to the kayak at all times
- The Angler must be in their kayak when taking your picture and your kayak must be visible in the picture.
 - During the Susquehanna River event, if the fish is caught while wading, the angler does not need to be in the kayak, but the kayak must be visible in the picture.
- Only artificial lures and biodegradable artificial lures may be used.
 - No live bait, Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.
- Trolling is permitted up to 1 rod.
 - More than 1 line in the water will result in a disqualification.

TIEBREAKERS

- Tie breaker during a Big Bass Power Hour goes to the person whose picture was taken first.
- Tie Breaker for the No Limit competition goes to whoever has the biggest overall bass in their submitted fish. If big bass is the same, then the next biggest bass and so on

TOURNAMENT ETIQUETTE

- *Tournament etiquette can be difficult to define within a set of rules as it is a “common understanding” between participants. Courtesy and respect play a large role in Tournament Etiquette as does common sense. All contestants are required to follow high standards of tournament etiquette, sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation and shall conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, event sponsors and the sport of fishing. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following: Any words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition, and compliance with tournament rules.*
- **Traveling over Fishing Grounds**
 - Do not travel through an area where someone is fishing. If you are uncertain which side of another angler is best to pass on, simply ask this other angler, they will let you know which course of action would be appreciated
- **Keeping your distance**
 - If you see an angler fishing in an area, it is not courteous to fish next to that angler in a spot unless they give you permission. Try to keep a minimum of 50 yards between yourself and another angler. When in doubt, ask the other angler
- **LeapFrogging**
 - If an angler is actively fishing a shoreline, do not jump ahead or “leapfrog” the angler.

- Of course, it is unreasonable for an angler to claim an entire shoreline, so using the etiquette guideline for keeping your distance would be safe to apply in this situation.
- **Territory**
 - If you arrive at a location and someone else got there first and is fishing “your spot” it is no longer “your spot” until they leave. Conversely if you leave a “spot” it is then open for others to fish.
 - When in doubt, communicate with the other angler.
- **Noise: Keep It Down**
 - If you are approaching another angler, please try your best to keep quiet while in the area. Last thing you or someone else would want is another competitor to come into an area, banging around and making noises that would potentially spook fish in an area
- **Common Sense**
 - If an angler catches a fish and by the time they are done measuring, photographing and releasing the fish and find themselves slightly pulled off their spot, this does not constitute as the angler leaving their spot and leaving it up for grabs. If there is any doubt in this if the angler is leaving the spot or not simply ask.
 - If you break off and or you yourself is in the process of scoring a fish be aware of your drift and the placement of anglers nearby. You will not want to be unknowingly drifting into someone else’s area when you are distracted
- **General**
 - Be Courteous: Treat others as you would like to be treated. If there is any doubt, communicate with the other angler. If you are too close to another angler and they mention to you that you need to move on, know that the angler is simply making you aware and nothing else. Do not take it personally.
 - Compromise: In the event that two or more competitors arrive at a location at the same time, it might be beneficial to compromise. Communicate with each other and set expectations up front. This can assist in ensuring that all anglers involved have a positive outing and have fun.

Cheating will result in a permanent ban from all future events.