

# Hook & Paddle Bass Mini-Series

## Overview:

Hook & Paddle are expanding our series this year as we look to trial a **3** tournament Bass only mini-series at various locations in New Brunswick. We will make every effort to keep the Hook & Paddle season a competitive and fun series regardless of your angling experience. To stay up to date on anything related to the Hook & Paddle series or to ask questions, please visit the Facebook page – @hookandpaddle <https://www.facebook.com/hookandpaddle> or reach out via our website [www.hookandpaddle.ca](http://www.hookandpaddle.ca)

## Tournament Director's Notes

First, we want to personally thank you for joining Hook and Paddle this season! We want to thank our sponsors for helping make this possible and exciting for you the angler!

### Here are a few thoughts on what you can do on your part to help make this a smooth season:

- Please read the rules carefully and be familiar with them.
- Proper measuring devices - **Ensure your lines are visible, and picture is clear** if the scoring judge cannot read see the measurement due to glare or your lines are not visible, the fish cannot be scored.
- Please be meticulous with your **Catch Photo Release** process. We have provided a comprehensive guide to help you do this the proper way. As well as a video tutorial via this link:
- Please be on time, bring what you need, and make sure you have registered online prior.
- Have fun, after all that's why we are all here! Leave the profanities, drugs and alcohol, cheating and any other unsportsmanlike conduct elsewhere - it will not be tolerated!

## Participation and Eligibility

- The Bass Mini-Series is open to ALL anglers provided they meet the requirements and honor all Rules and Regulations listed below.

- Tournament directors and other persons involved with events are able to participate in events as scoring will be done offsite through the Tourney X scoring app.

## **Sportsmanship**

### **Recommendations for Hook and Paddle Tournaments:**

1. We realize anglers like to pre-fish the tournament locations, which we encourage. But we suggest you try not to fish **24** hours prior within the tournament boundaries as it could affect everyone's success.
2. With regards to sportsmanship, we ask that you refrain from information sharing during the tournament hours to other anglers.
3. Respect other anglers space on the water approx. 10 feet away
4. Ensure you have your fishing license if needed for that tournament
5. Any disorderly conduct, violation of rules, illegal activity may result in your disqualification – please know the rules.

## **Entry fees & Registration**

- Hook & Paddle Bass entry fees are \$30/event
- All tournaments will be conducted through Tourney X Management System. Tourney X will offer registration, photo-submissions, and a real-time tournament leaderboard.
- Entry will be paid online through Tourney X. All participants **MUST** have paid entry fee prior to fishing.
- Registration will close at midnight the day before the event.

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## Launch Point

- These events will be considered shotgun events unless otherwise stated on the event specific information page on Facebook.
- Vessels can launch from suggested launch locations, which will be posted on event page as well as linked on Tourney X
- ABSOLUTELY NO LINES IN THE WATER UNTIL OFFICIAL START TIME.

## Permitted fishing methods/baits/lures

- Artificial and Live baits may be used
- Rod and Reel and Fly Rods are the only devices acceptable
- Fishing **must** be done from inside your vessel, not the shore or docks
- 2 rods/lines in the water permitted pending provincial regulations for that location

## Safety Regulations

- PFD (lifejacket) **MUST** be worn at **ALL** times while on the water. NO exceptions. Violators will be immediately disqualified if spotted not wearing a PFD.
- DRUG and ALCOHOL use during the tournament is strictly PROHIBITED.

## General Rules

- All tournaments will be conducted through Tourney X Management System. Tourney X will offer registration, photo-submissions, and real-time tournament leaderboard standings.
- ALL competitors **MUST** check in **after** the event. Failure to check in will result in disqualification. This is a safety issue as we need to know that all competitors are off the water and safe.
- Identifiers will be released prior to the event.
- Your **5** (Five) LONGEST verified Bass lengths will be totaled for your score.
- Bass UNDER 10" will not be scored and should not be photographed or recorded.
- Any ONE fish can only be submitted ONCE. It is the angler's responsibility to ensure that all fish submitted are different and failure to do-so will result in a disqualification of the duplicate fish. A secondary fish will NOT be allowed for submission.

• NO fish are to be kept on stringers, baskets, ice chests etc. ALL FISH MUST BE RELEASED PRIOR TO RESUMING FISHING.

• Fishing must be done via single person kayak or paired up in canoe within the specified boundaries for each tournament. You can relocate within the boundaries during the tournament hours if you wish.

See locations boundary maps provided on <http://hookandpaddle.ca/locations>

## Judging

- Competitor photos will be reviewed and scored by the Hook & Paddle designated judge. Reviews to be performed by a selected group of anglers as required.
- Photos that do not meet the requirements as provided will not count.
- The Tournament Director will be solely responsible and retain the right to declare any photo as “unacceptable”.
- Winners will be declared, and prizes/awards will be announced by the Tournament Director at the completion of the event.

## Scoring

- All fish to be submitted through Tourney X for verification and scoring.
- All initial scoring will be completed by pre-determined judge(s). Tournament Director(s), Judge(s), or designates will have final say regarding scoring and protests.
- **5** bass limits, only Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass are allowed. Your 5 (Five) LONGEST verified lengths will be totaled for your score. Competitors are responsible for ensuring their 5 fish are culled and are submitted correctly.
- 10” minimum limit. Fish under 10” will not count and should not be photographed
- All fish to be submitted through Tourney X for verification and scoring.
- Fish must be facing left, with nothing under the gill plate and eye visible.
- Mouth to be closed and touching end of measuring board. Event judge(s) must be able to visually see the fish’s mouth touching the bump

board. Any instance where the pre-determined event judge(s) does not believe the fish's mouth is touching or where the photo angle prevents the judge(s) from making a determination a 1" deduction will be incurred. An open mouth is considered when open approximately a ¼" or more. This is at the discretion of the judges of what is open or not. If you want to make sure the deduction is not made, make sure the mouth is CLOSED.

- Recorded lengths are not final until verified by judge.
- The participant with the highest verified total length is the winner, next highest is second, etc
- Fish of similar lengths must be distinguishable between one another, Disqualification of one of the fish will be up to tournament director or predetermined event judge if fish are indistinguishable.
- All fish will be scored by 1/4" increments. A fish must touch measurement line to be counted at that length. If a fish scored is slightly under, the measurement will be rounded down to the nearest 1/4"
- Tail is to lay naturally on board with nothing holding its position.
- A mangled or 'irregular' tail will be measured to the longest of the two tail points
- Nothing can be in the fish's mouth while being photographed.
- Nothing can be used to hold the fish to the measuring board with the exception of the competitor's hand.
- A slight flex in a measuring board resulting from a fish's weight is allowed; however, Competitors are prohibited from deliberately flexing or deforming a measuring board by exerting pressure or reshaping it. Any modification of a measuring board that results in misrepresentation of a fish's actual length is grounds for a competitor's disqualification from the event and may result in subsequent sanctions and penalties

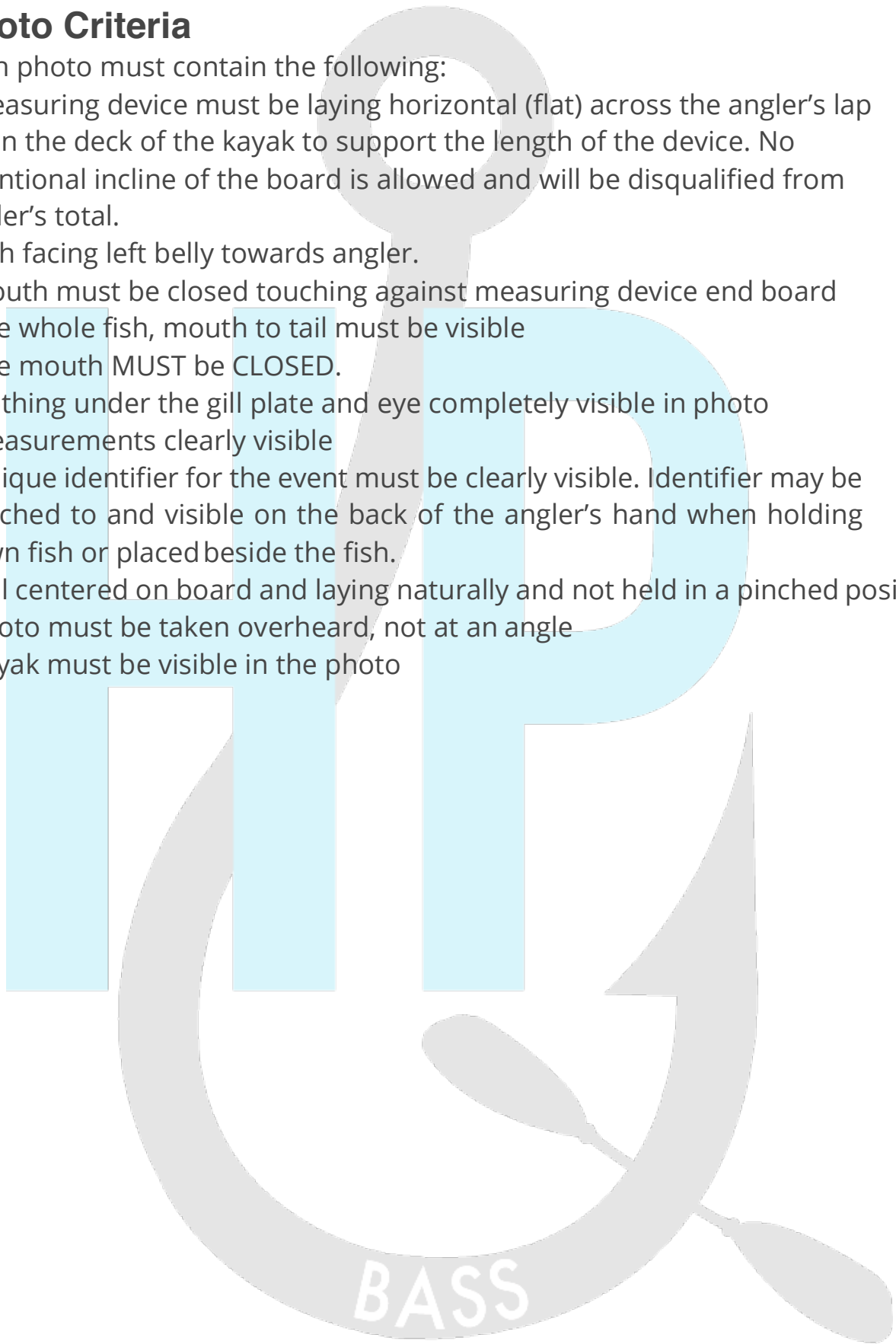


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## Photo Criteria

Each photo must contain the following:

- Measuring device must be laying horizontal (flat) across the angler's lap or on the deck of the kayak to support the length of the device. No intentional incline of the board is allowed and will be disqualified from angler's total.
- Fish facing left belly towards angler.
- Mouth must be closed touching against measuring device end board
- The whole fish, mouth to tail must be visible
- The mouth MUST be CLOSED.
- Nothing under the gill plate and eye completely visible in photo
- Measurements clearly visible
- Unique identifier for the event must be clearly visible. Identifier may be attached to and visible on the back of the angler's hand when holding down fish or placed beside the fish.
- Tail centered on board and laying naturally and not held in a pinched position.
- Photo must be taken overhead, not at an angle
- Kayak must be visible in the photo



## Submission Process

- All Hook & Paddle Bass Tournaments will use the Tourney X app to log catches
- ONLY fish scoring pictures should be submitted.
- If ANY criteria are not adhered to, your photo may not be scored at all, or be penalized with up to a 6" subtraction from your TOTAL score.
- Hook & Paddle is not responsible for failed or corrupt files. (View Tourney X process page for more details)

## Check-In

- ALL competitors **MUST** check in **after** the event. Failure to check in will result in a penalty or disqualification. This is a safety issue as we need to know that all competitors are off the water and safe.
- Check in time to be stated on event page. Late check in will be permitted until **15** minutes after check in time; however, a penalty of 1" per every 5 minutes will be deducted from the competitor's total. After 15 minutes the competitor will be disqualified.

## Rescheduling/Cancellation

- The Tournament Director may delay, reschedule, or cancel the event due to weather deemed unsafe for the competitors.
- The first option will be a delay to be determined by the tournament director.
- The reschedule date for any event is the following day (same time/place/launch).
- If both days are rescheduled, the following weekend will serve as make-up event.
- If canceled or rescheduled, entrants can be refunded or have fee applied to next event.
- Refunds will be issued at 80% of event fee. No refunds within 48 hours of the event.



• No refunds for prepaid entrants will be given for non-attendance regardless of the reason.

### **RULES INTERPRETATION and PROTESTS**

- All rules are decided and interpreted by the Tournament Director and/or designated persons.
- The Tournament Director retains the right to make any changes at ANY time.
- Not having read the rules is NOT an excuse for not knowing the rules.
- Tournament director may consult with the designated persons for any rulings as needed and determined by TD.

### **TIE BREAKER**

In the event of a tie, the following criteria will decide the winner.

1. 1<sup>st</sup> longest fish
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> longest fish
3. Etc. for all entries
4. Coin toss

### **Season Point Scoring**

Rankings determined by combined length on the day for placement.

The following is the point structure for each tournament:

1<sup>st</sup> = 120pts

2<sup>nd</sup> = 115pts

3<sup>rd</sup> = 110pts

4<sup>th</sup> = 105pts

5<sup>th</sup> = 100pts

6<sup>th</sup> = 99pts

7<sup>th</sup> and below – 1pt from previous placement

### Bonus Points

+ 5pts for Biggest Bass

Winner of the series will be determined by highest combined point total from all eligible events.