



# Queen City Kayak Bass Fishing LLC Rules

---



## 1. Participation and Membership

- **You may fish from a manpowered kayak or use a single electric motor.**
- This is a Ketch Board series only. Karbonate or Ketch aluminum boards will be allowed. No hinged boards will be allowed.
- You must sign a liability waiver. This will be completed as you sign up on the Tourney X Pro app.
- You will need the Tourney X pro app, and PayPal. All payments, in and out, will be done via PayPal at qckayakbassfishing@gmail.com
- Under 18 years of age need a parent's signature at each event to compete.
- The tournament director has final say if an angler can or cannot fish the event.
- You must launch at the appropriate ramps during a tournament and must use an event-listed ramp to take out. Failure to do so will result in DQ. We would like you to CHECK IN on the Tourney X app prior to launching, to verify launching location, and for safety reasons. Check-in will help clear up any potential questions about your location.
- If you launch at one ramp, take out, and re launch at a new ramp, please communicate with the judges.
- Membership is a one-time optional \$75 fee. This membership is only required if you are interested in qualifying for the Angler of the Year race, The Championship qualification, yearly awards, team events, Elite Series, or the monthly Online Events. Membership lasts from Jan 1<sup>st</sup>- Dec 31<sup>st</sup> each year. No points or finishes count prior to payment.
- Paying for an event does not mean you fished in the event. We expect angler responsibility and integrity. If you pay, but did not fish in the event, please let us know so it does not count as one of your AOY events.
- We will offer refunds until the launch time of the event. You must contact the director prior to launch time to get a refund.
- We will not be **adding** ramps to a ramp list within 14 days of the event.

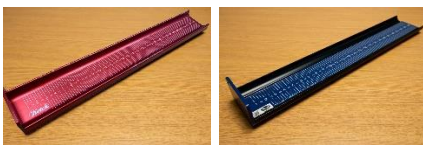
## 2. State Laws

- 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. SC,NC,VA,GAWATERS WILL BE FISHED this season.
- You must have a valid fishing license for the body of water we are fishing.

- **PFD must be a class III and must be worn and fastened at all times while on the water. Inflatable vests are legal, but are not considered class III unless they are being worn. No Belts pfd's will be allowed.**
- **All state and local laws for registering motorized kayaks will need to be followed. You must be able to present registration if asked by the tournament director.**

### 3. **Picture taking and submissions.**

- Unhinged, Metal and Karbonate Ketch Boards are the only legal measuring device. The Ketch X is the preferred ruler.



**You can purchase at <https://ketchproducts.com/>.**

- Your GPS must be ON IN YOUR CAMERA SETTINGS.
- Each digital photo must be a first-generation image (not a photo or screenshot of another photo/video). Violation will result in picture disqualification.
- You must use a QCKBF ID Card. This is available for print under the files tab on the Facebook page. The ID card can be color or Black and White. Incorrect ID card will result in the fish being disqualified.
- **All varieties** of Queen City Kayak Bass Fishing Tin ID cards are legal as well.
- Your QCKBF identifier must be present in the picture. No identifier will result in No fish. Full ID CODE must be visible. Partial ID code will result in the picture not being accepted.
- The fish's mouth must be closed completely, with the fish facing left. The left side of the fish must be facing up. Tail can be pinched or in a natural position. **A deduction of .25" will be taken for an open mouth.** ANY AMOUNT OF OPEN WILL BE A PENALTY. WE WILL NOT HAVE A PARTIAL RULE. Deformed fish will be judged the same way. Judges will be able to penalize more as needed for a mouth that is blatantly left open to gain length.
- 4 fish limits. 12 inch minimum. (Largemouth Bass and Spotted Bass and Small mouth bass. Fish must be caught during tournament times, in the lake we are fishing, which will be stated prior to the event. If found you caught fish prior to the event, and turned them in for scoring, you will be Disqualified and banned from QCKBF.
- If a penalty brings the total length below 12 inches, the fish will not count.
- Fish caught within ½" of each other will need to have distinct characteristics that prove they are not the same fish. TD will make the final decision on duplicate fish submissions.

- Measurement is to the nearest ¼ inch, last touched line. If the fish is laying in-between lines, judge's discretion will be used, but extra length should not be expected. To eliminate any issues, make sure the tail is touching a line.
- ENTIRE fish length must be visible in the picture. If the head or tail is cut off in the in the picture, the fish will not be scored.
- Please avoid having your finger or hand under the hard bone of the gill plate. If we judge your hand or finger under the gill plate with intent to push the fish to the bump, or close the mouth, this fish will be disqualified.
- No restraining devices may be used in your picture, including a hook, tie downs, stringer clip, etc.
- The left eye of the fish must be in the photograph, or the fish will not be scored. 100% of the eye must be visible. If your finger is covering the eye or some of the eye, no score will be given. If your fish has no left eye, or a **damaged left eye**, a video must be taken of the fish moving/swimming away, showing the fish alive. If a video is not provided, the fish will not count.
- If the fish is not touching the bump on the board, a minimum of a 1inch penalty will be given, and any further penalty is at the judge's discretion.
- If the tail is flipped up in the picture, not touching on the ruler, the TD will make the ruling on the last touched line on the board.
- All bass are to be released before the tournament end time.
- If the directors or judges feel, you are trying to gain any advantage by manipulating a scoring device, with bend, cut, breaks, etc. Any manipulation of the board to help increase length, or the fish, you will be disqualified and not be welcome back in the club.
- Pictures must be submitted to Tourney X by the last submission time. It is angler responsibility to find service withing the provided extra time.
- **You may not use the same fish multiple times in any event. 1 day, two days, or online month-long event. Each fish will only be used once in your limit and the duplicate will be removed.**
- You must release your previous catch before casting again. If you are holding fish before casting again, you will be disqualified.
- Small bass submissions are sent to the director via **text/message/email** prior to LAST CAST/Picture time.

(Picture angle is very important. We are looking for overhead, centered pictures. Belly up angle is no good, and pictures facing down towards the bump/left, are no good. 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.)

#### **4. Legal Watercraft**

- No Towing, unless injury, handicap, or loss of paddle/drive system. Towing without these reasons will result in a disqualification of all anglers involved. If you are involved in a towing incident, please inform the judges ASAP.

## 5. 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 fishing, the hook must be in the fish's mouth to be submitted.
- **No trolling is permitted.**
- It is expected that you fish at least 50 yards away from another angler unless you have spoken to that angler. Please make your best effort to not cut anyone off. This is a courtesy rule. If you are not first to a spot, it is no longer your spot.
- Each angler must catch and land their fish inside their kayak without assistance. No wade or bank fishing. If caught wade fishing, or receiving assistance, you will be disqualified. You must be in your kayak when taking your picture and your kayak must be in the picture. No portaging over or around objects. **This rule may be adjusted as needed for river events.**
- Only artificial lures and biodegradable artificial lures may be used. No live bait, preserved bait, or prepared bait will be permitted during competition, with the exception of pork strips or rinds. Violation will result in disqualification from the event.
- 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) is considered in use and the attached rod and reel may not be set aside while another is in use.
- No portaging or dragging around objects. You must be able to PADDLE or PEDAL to your spot. You may not leave the kayak to move around an object.
- **Regular season events have no pre-fishing laws. You may pre-fish from any watercraft, up until 11:59pm the night before the event.**

## 6. Tiebreakers and Terminology

- Ties of the 4-fish limit will be settled with the angler with largest bass finishing ahead. In the case of an exact tie of all four fish, the time submitted will break the tie. The first angler to submit all four bass in question wins. The large bass competition will follow the same rules, the next biggest fish will earn the Big Bass. The small bass pot will split the pot in the event of a tie. The highest finishing angler will win the plaque. An open mouth will add .25 inch in the small bass competition. Small bass will be judged on the director's device, not on Tourney X. This fish will not be counted towards your limit. You will submit this bass via FB messenger or text to the director.
- Season Long awards tie breakers: (You must be a member for season long awards) These are only in the main series.

Big Bass tie is broken by the next big bass.

Small bass is broken by the highest finishing angler in the yearly standings.

Most Top 10s tie is broken by the highest finishing angler in the yearly standings.

The biggest limit tie is broken by the next biggest limit submitted.

Most improved angler- Must have been a 2025 paid member and fished 7 trail events in 2025. Winner is determined by largest gain in AOY standings with the tiebreaker being point differential from 2025-2026. This is in the Main Series only.

### **Terminology**

- TOC – Tournament of Champions
- AOY – Angler of the Year
- Fish Off- a wildcard event to qualify for the TOC. You must qualify for this.
- Launch- When you can pedal/paddle away from the ramp. If you pedal/paddle away prior to launch time, anglers have been informed to get a picture of you and your kayak, you will be disqualified.
- Lines in- The time you can make your first cast. If you cast prior to first cast, anglers have been informed to get a picture of you and your kayak, you will be given a penalty or be disqualified.
- Lines out/ Last picture taken by- the time the picture must be taken before. Once the hour changes, no pictures will count. For example: By 3:00 pm means the last picture must be taken by 2:59:59.
- Last Submission time- all pictures must be submitted in the app prior to this time. For example, Last submission by 4:00pm, means nothing after 3:59:59 will be accepted.

### **7. Payouts and Entry Fee's**

- The Entry fee is \$112.
- Big Bass is included
- Small bass is optional and is \$10.
- The Elite side pot is optional, and is \$75. This is for members only.
- Membership is \$75 and is optional, but needed for TOC, AOY, Fish Off, Yearly awards, Elite pots, team division, and online monthly events.
- All fees are paid on PayPal as you register through the Tourney X Pro App.
- Payouts are done via PayPal within 24 hours of the events ending.
- If you earn over \$599 you will need to fill out a W9 before payment.
- If you earn \$599 you will be sent 1099 at the end of the season.
- You must be present at CHECK OUT/WEIGH IN to be eligible for raffle prizes.
- No weigh in location will be required if we do a “virtual” weigh in.

### **8. Tournament of Champions Qualification (TOC) and Fish Off**

**TOC qualifications break down by series.**

- Main series- Top 25 anglers in AOY points. Must fish 7 main series events. No roll downs. Win and IN if you fish 7 events.
- Must be a paid member\*\*

First Place = 300 points

2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>- Minus 5 points (295,290,285,280)

6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>- Minus 4 points (276, 272, 268, 264,260)

11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Minus 3points (257,254,251,248,245

16<sup>th</sup> and lower, Minus 2 points

- You must submit a fish to earn points. No bonus points for participation, big bass, small bass, etc.
- Only your best 7 finishes will be scored toward the TOC. Those 7 scores will be added together for your total points score. In the event of a tie, the total inches caught during the seven events scored will determine the AOY/TOC standings.
- The top point earner is crowned the AOY. We will only count your Top 7 events.
- The top 25-point earners in the main series will fish in the TOC. The top 3 in that event will cash (60%/30%/10%) You will auto qualify if you win an event, and fish 7 qualifying events.
- Anglers finishing in places 26-30 in TOC standings will qualify for the fish off.
- If you fish seven events, and finish 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> at least once you will qualify for the Fish Off, regardless of final standings. (Membership required)
- The winning angler of the fish off will earn an entry into the TOC!!!
- The TOC Lake will be a 2-day event with a multi launch format on Smith Mountain Lake.
- The TOC Lake will be OFF LIMITS starting October 24<sup>th</sup> 2026
- The Fish Off Lake will be drawn randomly from QCKBF list of lakes Thursday before the event.
- If only one angler attends the event, you will have 8 hours on the drawn lake to catch a limit. If you catch a limit, you will qualify for TOC. No limit, no qualification

## 9. Online Events

- All the rules above must be followed.
- Must be a paid member. \$75.
- NO point system or championship qualification.
- We will run two events per month. One for all North Carolina public waters and public access points, and one for all South Carolina public waters and public access points.
- Only North Carolina, and South Carolina public waters are legal. Lakes that split state borders will be allowed. Any lake that splits NC and SC waters will count towards both NC and SC online events. If a lake splits another state, GA for example, those fish will count for the SC monthly no matter where they are caught in the lake.

- You must legally launch at the appropriate water during a tournament. Failure to do so will result in DQ. **Your ramp/launch and water must be PUBLIC.**
- Entry fee is \$45 per tournament and includes big bass.  
Paying out \$32 per entry.

2-10 anglers, Winner takes all.

11-20 anglers top 2 paid out 70% 30%

21-30 anglers top 3 paid out. 50% 30% 20%

31-40 anglers, top 4 paid out. 50% 30% 20% \$100

41-50 anglers, top 5 paid out 50% 30% 20% \$150 \$100

51-60 anglers, top 6 paid out. 50% 30% 20% \$225 \$150 \$100

**Big bass wins a free entry into the next online event.**

#### **10. Team Division**

- The Team Division is back for 2026. This is for the main series only.
- You must be a paid member.
- You must be entered into the trail event before you can enter the team side.
- Entry is \$450 per team for the full season.
- One partner for the season, and both partners must fish to earn points.
- Each angler will submit two bass per event.
- Each event will pay the winning team.
- TOC point system is the same. 7/9 events will count.
- TOC event will bring the top teams and they will fight for the running 2026 team purse.

2-10 Teams, we will take Two teams to the TOC

11-15 Teams, we will take Three Teams.

**16-25 Teams, we will take Four Teams.**

**26-35 Teams we will take Five Teams.**

SPORTSMANSHIP • All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, sponsors, QCKBF, QCKBF sponsors, and the sport of fishing as well as QCKBF's efforts to promote the sport. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following: o Any words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules. Anglers agree to a lie detector test by fishing any QCKBF event.

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

I started this club because I love fishing tournaments. The tournament directors will compete alongside all the anglers for money, prizes and AOY, etc. Our identifier numbers will be given at random from the other anglers, or the Tourney X app the morning of the tournament. We will not score our own fish. Our pictures will be available for all anglers to see. Tournament director (Vincent Ferreri) will have final say in judging pictures. Any concerns should be brought up prior to payout that day. **This is a live document and will be updated as needed.**