

1. Participants:

Tournaments are open to anyone over 18 years of age. Anyone less than 18 years of age must be accompanied in the boat by someone over 18 years of age. Anglers currently fishing the Elite Series of B.A.S.S. or the FLW Tour Events are not eligible to participate in any BASSQUEST SML event, either as an angler or as a substitute. BASSQUEST SML is open to all boat makes, models and motors up to 250 Hp.

2. Membership:

Membership is \$15.00 per year per person. **Kids under the age of 16, fishing with a parent or guardian, receive a free Membership.**

3. Tournament Entry Fees:

Entry fee for the 6 qualifying tournaments and championship is \$125.00 per boat per tournament, with an optional \$10.00 Big Bass Pot.

4. Tournament Director:

BASSQUEST SML tournament director decisions are final.

5. BASSQUEST SML Teams:

A team consists of two anglers. You can fish solo. All **teams** must fish Five of the Six qualifying tournaments to be eligible to fish the championship.

6. Substitutes:

In the case where one team member cannot make the tournament, a substitute will be allowed and all points will be retained by the team. A substitute can **only be used two times** during a season. Substitute must be a member of BASSQUEST SML. Your declared partner must fish in four of the six qualifying tournaments to be eligible to fish in a BASSQUEST SML Championship.

7. Ties:

Ties for Points Champions will be broken by the team that has the heaviest total weight for the season. Ties for all place finishes will be broken by big bass.

8. No Live Bait:

Only artificial lures can be used. The use of pork trailers is permitted.

9. Trolling:

Trolling with the use of a combustible engine as a method of fishing is prohibited. A team found to be doing this would be disqualified for that tournament and put on probation for the remaining season tournaments.

10. Boat and Motor:

Boats must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment and must have a motor within rating limits. There is a maximum horsepower limit of 250.

11. Short Fish Penalties:

All fish brought to weigh-in must be 14 inches in length. Any fish not 14 inches in length will be culled from bag.

12. Limits:

There is a 5-fish limit (per team or when fishing alone) at each tournament. Exceptions: State laws prevail when fishing on any body of water (size and limits). Anyone bringing in more than a 5-fish limit will have their sack culled to the 5-fish limit starting with their big fish first. All culling must be done on the water – Not on the bank.

13. Dead Fish Penalty:

For each dead fish a 1 pound penalty will be deducted from your total weight. A dead fish will not be weighed-in as big fish. Tournament director will make final decision if fish is dead or not. Fish that appear altered or mangled shall be the tournament director's decision to weigh or not to weigh the fish.

14. Weigh-in/ Check In:

Teams that are late will not be allowed to weigh fish. Teams must be inside no wake bouys at the mouth of Parkway Marina by the end of tourney time. Any team not inside the bouys by tournament ending time will not be allowed to weigh fish and disqualification will be given. Tournament Director decisions are final.

15. Registration:

Teams may pre register by phone with credit card by calling 540-721-5017 until the day prior to tourney. Registrations will be taken at ramp and will then be cash only. Takeoff positions for teams that pre-register will be determined by draw morning of tournament. Teams that register at ramp will then be given take off number in order they are received, after teams that pre-registered. All teams are required to be at the ramp 30 minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Any questions please call tournament director.

16. Weigh-in procedures:

Each team must present his or her own catch to the weigh-in official. No other person shall then handle the fish except a weigh-in official. No person other than weigh-in officials may touch the scales; weigh-in basket or any part of the weigh-in equipment.

17. Live well Inspection:

Boats must have a live well, either built into the boat or portable. Live wells must have some type of pump or circulator to keep fish alive. Prior to boat launch Tournament Official will check all live wells.

18. Life Preserver:

During all BASSQUEST SML tournaments, contestants are required to wear Coast Guard approved life preserver with kill switch lanyard attached any time combustion engine is running, failure to do so will result in disqualification.

19. Sportsmanship:

All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation. Any verbal or physical altercation will not be tolerated and all teams involved will be disqualified at tournament directors discretion. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs shall be allowed in the boats during the tournament hours extending through the close of the weigh-in.

20. Off-Limits:

Straight line from buoy to buoy across the mouth of Parkway Marina, contestants not allowed to fish inside buoys. Any team fishing in the off-limits areas will be disqualified from the tournament. Teams may not fish closer than 50 yards to another competitor who is anchored with the trolling motor up unless given permission. If permission is given to one, then all may fish same water. Having a non-contestant sit on a hole for you shall be cause for disqualification.

21. Refunds and Cancellations: No Refunds will be given after payment is received. If for some reason tournament has to be rescheduled all entry fees will be applied to rescheduled date.

22. Leaving Your Boat:

Competitors shall remain with the partners in the boat at all times during the tournament. Except in the event of sickness or brief excursions for "nature calling", a severe storm or other such hazards. If for any reason a team decides to leave the tournament waters early, competitors must try to contact the director, prior to leaving the tournament. If you have boat trouble, one member must remain with the disabled boat. The other team member may board another competitor's boat with that day's catch and bring fish to weigh-in. Please contact the tournament director prior to doing so.

23. Polygraph:

Polygraph test will be given at each event. All Polygraph results are final and failure of polygraph will result disqualification. All teams will be required to take a Polygraph test upon request of Tournament Director. Refusal to do so will result in immediate disqualification and lifetime ban from fishing any BASSQUEST SML events in the future. Anyone caught cheating in any tournament event will be immediately barred from fishing in any BASSQUEST SML event. We reserve the right to have a random truth verification test performed at any time. You may not use a cell phone to gain an advantage over the rest of the competitors.

24. Protest:

All protest must be submitted in writing to Tournament Director before the close of weigh-in. Verbal protest will not be accepted.

27. State Rules:

All State rules and regulations must be followed. The Tournament Director shall determine the penalty for breaking a State rule or regulations.

28. Insurance:

All members will carry liability insurance on any boat they might use during any BASSQUEST SML event. Failure to do so or reporting of false information will result in disqualification. Participants must include the company name and either the policy number or the name of the agent binding the coverage on the membership form.

29. Refusal of Membership:

BASSQUEST SML reserves the right to refuse membership or entry into any BASSQUEST SML event.

