

FULL RULES



Addendum to the normal KBS Rules for just the Kayak Bass Series School Trail (KBSST) Online Tournaments:

1. All KBSST Divisional Online Tournaments can be fished from Land, Kayak or Boat. All anglers must follow local and state regulations and laws.
2. A bump Board (Hawg Trough) will be the only measuring device and follow rules for KBS in measuring (see CPR Rules).
3. A signed waiver form must be signed properly and sent back to KBS Home Office before and participant can fish any Online Tournament.
4. Anglers that make the cut for the National Championship will be required to follow the normal KBS rules. Pre-fishing can be done from Land, Kayak or Boat.
5. Eligibility, Students from 7th grade to 12th grade and from Public, private or home schooled are eligible. If a student is graduating in May or the beginning of the KBSST Season, you are still eligible to finish the KBSST Trail and compete in the National Championship and Divisional AOY's for yourself and your Schools Team.
6. Divisional AOY's will receive a trophy and a scholarship award donated to the school from the KBS and presented to the angler/student by the school and school team. The scholarship award will be based upon participation in that division.
7. Students in each Division will receive trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for all online events. We will take your best 3 scores from the four (4) Online Tournaments (dropping one of your lowest scores) to give your overall AOY points for that Division. Schools ranking in a Division will be based on the best five (5) students from the schools overall Team. Schools will also receive a Divisional Trophy and award based upon participation in that Division.
8. The top ten schools in each Division will be able to send five (5) students to the National Championship.
 - a. Schools that attend the National Championship that place will receive trophies and donations from the KBS based on participation of the Nation.
 - b. Students that also fish the National Championship will be fishing as a team and individually. They will receive trophies and scholarships according to their overall scores. Scholarships will be donated to the schools and presented to the students by the school and schools fishing team.
9. Awards, Trophies and Donations as follows based on participation;

Note: The following is based on 100 schools and 2000 students. Growth Projections show this being 10 times this size in 2018 with 10 times the trophies, awards and donations. Schools can also start turning in their submissions for funding from the KBS for 2018 in 2017. Email your request to terry@kayakbassseries.com. Funding cap for 2018 will be \$1,000.00, funding will increase with participation.

- A. Each Divisional online tournament will have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place trophy awarded to the students. Total one hundred and eight (108) trophies.
- B. Each Division will have one (1) AOY (Angler of the Year) Student. These students will receive a trophy and a \$1,500.00 scholarship from a donation to the School from the KBS. Total nine (9) students.

- C. Each Division will have one (1) School that will win their division and receive a Divisional Trophy and \$2,500.00 donation to their School/Fishing Team from the KBS. Total nine (9) schools.
- D. The student with the highest points at the National Championship will receive a \$10,000.00 scholarship from a donation to the School from the KBS. Total one (1).
- E. The School that wins the National Championship will receive \$10,000.00 donation from the KBS to the School/Fishing Team plus a National Championship Trophy. Total one (1)
- F. The National Championship schools five (5) angler team will each receive a \$1,500.00 scholarship from a donation to the School and a Gold Medal. Total five (5).
- G. The 2nd Place National Championship School/Fishing Team will receive a \$5,000.00 donation from KBS and a 2nd Place trophy. Total one (1).
- H. The 2nd Place National Championship schools five (5) angler team will each receive a \$750.00 scholarship from a donation to the School/Fishing Team and a Silver Medal. Total five (5).
- I. The 3rd Place National Championship School/Fishing Team will receive a \$2,500.00 donation from KBS and a 3rd Place trophy. Total one (1).
- J. The 3rd Place National Championship schools five (5) angler team will each receive a \$500.00 scholarship from a donation to the School/Fishing Team and Bronze Medal. Total five (5).
- K. A Bar-B-Q lunch will be provided to all the KBSST and School Coaches/Assistants on both days of the tournament from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Meal tickets will be provided.

Official Rules for all KBSST Online Tournaments, The KBSST will follow the normal KBS Rules at the KBSST Championship. Effective January 1, 2017

1. RULES AND PENALTIES: (i) rules for special tournaments may differ from those contained herein and (ii) these rules may be changed by KBS immediately upon notice by KBS to its members, which notice may be published on the KBS Internet site at www.kayakbassseries.com or KBS Facebook page. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director or his/her designee at a tournament. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director or rules committee may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate by them, including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and entry fees and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. Subject to the appeal process set forth in rule 23, below, the decision of the Tournament Director, his/her designee, or the rules committee shall be final in all matters. Except for very serious rules violations, as determined by KBS, such as the no-information and off-limits rules and any rules that might lead to disqualification of an angler from participation in any KBS event. Any rules violations must be reported to tournament officials within 24 hours of the final flight check-in on the day of the alleged violation. Penalties for rules violations may include the following: (a) Reduction of competition hours as determined by the Tournament Director (b) Loss of one or more fish caught in potential violation of rules or regulations. All bass under question must be marked and verified through I-Angler Tournament App. If not verified the entire catch may be disqualified. (c) Loss of catch for the day of the violation (d) Disqualification from the tournament in question (e) Disqualification from future KBS events, which may be from a specific number of events or for a specific period of time up to or including a lifetime disqualification (f) Any different or additional penalties determined by the Tournament Director including, but not limited to monetary fines and/or reduction of points.

2. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY: (i) All anglers (members and non-members) are eligible for any KBS event. Proof of age to the satisfaction of tournament officials is the responsibility of the potential competitor. Any candidate for competition who, in the judgment of the Tournament Director, is disabled in such a manner as to unfairly hinder themselves from fair competition may be granted access to equipment in any event to make that person eligible to compete. (ii) A properly completed pre-printed and signed official entry form (attached to these rules) must be provided to the KBS tournament administrative at the first physical event or prior to the first day of competition. Tournament entry fees must be received by the KBS Tournament Department on or before the Friday (one week before each physical event) or in cash at the Captain Meeting, Online tournaments can be paid any day up to the tournament day. All events

are paid online at I-Angler Tournament App unless paying at the Captain Meeting. Late fees of \$25.00 will apply to KBS Opens for non-members. The Tournament Director reserves the right to discontinue acceptance of applications prior to deadline and also the right to extend the acceptance date. DEPOSITS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE REGARDLESS OF DATE OF CANCELLATION. ANY BALANCE OF THE ENTRY FEE PAID IN EXCESS OF THE DEPOSIT WILL ONLY BE REFUNDED IF PROPER NOTIFICATION IS MADE TO THE KBS TOURNAMENT DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO THE BALANCE DUE DATE. While a sponsor may pay the entry fee, competitors agree to use any and all official products provided by KBS in Open Series events and the KBS Classic and or Championship. (iii) The preferred method for tournament registration is on-line at www.ianglertournament.com.

- a. By registering for any KBS Competition, the participating angler (“Competitor”) agrees to fully and completely comply with (a.) all KBS Rules specified in (a.) these *KBF Competition Rules Standards*, (b.) the *KBS Competition Rules Addenda*, and (c.) the *KBS Event Participation Terms and Conditions*. **All Divisions of the KBS has adopted the KBF Rules with the only changes to these rules being the Addendums.**
- b. Anyone can fish any KBS Open or KBS Online Tournament with or without a Membership.
- c. Only Members of the KBS get awarded points towards AOY of each Division. Only members can qualify for KBS Classic or fish the KBS Elite Trail.
- d. **I-Angler Tournament App Registration** — All KBS Competitions are conducted using **I-Angler Tournament App**. Each angler who wishes to participate in such an event must sign up as a **I-Angler Tournament App** user before the first day of competition.
- e. Anglers who desire to compete in a KBS Online Events are required to sign up for the event and pay the entry fee on **I-Angler Tournament App**.
- f. For all meet-up KBS Competitions (e.g., KBS PPENS, KBS YOUTH and KBS ELITE TRAIL, CLASSICS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS), **I-Angler Tournament App** registration and use is strongly recommended but not absolutely required. If an angler does not have Internet access, he may register and pay the Entry Fee for at the Captains Meeting the day before the tournament.
- g. **Entry Fees** — Entry fee amounts, registration deadlines, late fees, and refund or transfer restrictions are specified on the *KBS website and here in the Competition Rules and Addendums* for each Competition. *Late fees for KBS Opens and KBS Elite Trails are \$25.00 and for the KBS Youth is \$5.00.* **KBS Members pay no tournament late fees...ever**

3. PRACTICE AND COMPETITION: (i) There will be no off-limits period for any tournament unless specified by the Tournament Director. (ii) There will be an official practice period immediately prior to the first day of competition. Three official practice days will begin at 12:01 am the Wednesday prior to the start of competition. No competitors will be allowed on tournament waters after registration until the first day of competition, except under rule 3(iii). Unless otherwise specified, all official times are time zone specific to local host community. The competitor must know and observe these dates. During practice and competition, a competitor can only have the assistance or advice of another competitor for the purposes of locating or catching bass on tournament waters. Competitors may only fish with other competitors during practice and competition. Flying over tournament waters, other than a ticketed commercial airline, is prohibited during official practice and competition unless approved by the tournament director. The use of drones for the purposes of locating or catching fish or to gain a competitive advantage is prohibited in both official practice and competition. During the official practice competitors are not allowed to live well or keep any bass unless they have permission from tournament officials. No practicing at night, defined as beginning at 30 minutes after local sunset and ending 30 minutes before local sunrise, not including running to and from a fishing location. In practice and competition, when running in low light conditions, running lights should be in operation. (iii) During the official practice and during the tournament, a competitor may not snorkel, “skin dive” or “scuba dive” in the tournament waters. (iv) No competitor may buy or barter a fishing location from any other competitor for use during any competition day. Once daily cuts are determined by tournament officials, competitors not making the cut are no longer considered in the tournament. Competitors making cut may not receive information under rule 3 (ii). (v) During the official competition days of the tournament a competitor may not make cell calls for the purpose of locating or catching fish on tournament waters. Cell phones may be used for emergency situations and uploading catches. Competitors are allowed to call lockmasters for locking purposes only. Competitors are allowed to use smart phones for global maps, weather, power generation, tidal

charts, notes, etc., however using smart phones during competition to log into daily tournament blogs or social media is not permitted. (vi) A designated tournament official must be granted access to the competitor's kayak at any time during the official practice or competition days. Failure to grant such access may result in immediate disqualification. (vii) Each competitor agrees to report to the Tournament Director immediately any violation or infraction of any tournament rules. Failure to report violations, suggestions to another competitor that they violate these rules or false verification of weigh-in forms may be cause for disqualification. Official protests must be filed in accordance with Rule 1. All parties of interest will be provided a copy. By his/her signature on the official tournament entry form, each competitor agrees to submit to a truth verification test and abide by its conclusion should he/she be accused of any rule violation. The KBS Tournament Director, rules committee, or such person designated by the Tournament Director, shall have the discretion to determine the need for a truth verification test. The KBS Tournament Director or his/her designee shall be responsible for selecting an independent expert to administer and interpret the results and establishing, in consultation with the expert administrator, the scope of the questions which may be asked during the test. The KBS Tournament Director or his/her designee shall have sole responsibility selecting the location, date, and time of the test nearest KBS headquarters with respect to all concerned parties schedule and travel cost. The competitor shall make himself/herself available at the location selected by the Tournament Director and shall cooperate in all respects with such test. Anglers taking a truth verification test may be responsible for any and all costs incurred. Random truth verifications tests may be administered on site during the course of a KBS Open Series Event.

4. REGISTRATION: (i) Each competitor must register in person with official KBS staff at the time and place designated in the schedule of events. Failure to register in person during the prescribed hours may result in a \$50 fine or disqualification. It shall be each competitor's responsibility to either check the schedule of events for registration time and location or obtain times from the KBS Tournament Department. (ii) The Competition dates and hours and the number of fish scored are identified here within the rules for every event. KBS events are either one or three days. KBS Meet-up Tournaments are conducted in either one or two-day formats. In a one day format the top five bass of total catch will be the score, in a three-day tournaments, the number of fish scored each day is specified in the Addendum, and each Competitor's final score is the aggregate score from the first two-days with the last day starting over. (iii) Pre-Tournament Check-in — Each angler participating ("Competitor") in a meet-up Tournament is responsible for reviewing the schedule of events in each *KBS Competition Rules and Addendums* for pre-event check-in times and location. Each Competitor must check in with official KBS Competition staff at the time and place designated in the schedule of events for verification of eligibility, signing of waivers, and rules acknowledgement. Late check-in and registration process (if permitted), event-specific instructions, and event schedule are specified on the *KBS website and here in the Competition Rules and Addendums*. (iv) Captains Meeting Attendance — Official KBS identifiers for meet-up Competitions are distributed at a Captains Meeting on the evening before the Competition Day. Competitors unable to attend the Captains Meeting must contact the tournament director for that event to pick up an Identifier wristband and go over rules before that angler can qualify of the event.

5. SAFETY: (i) Safe kayak conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. During the official practice and competition, each competitor must wear a Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver at all times during an event. This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely, and stay on even during wade fishing. Inflatable life vest indicators should be checked daily. Violation of this rule may be reason for disqualification. Inflatable PFD's are allowed as long as U.S. Coast Guard regulations are met. The Coast Guard requires that inflatable PFD's must be worn at all times. (ii) Radar units permanently mounted in the kayak, subject to approval by KBS, may be approved for competition. (iii) Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten or cancel any part of an official tournament day because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather. Weather delays on full field days will be changed to Online event or a make-up event. Full fields may be carried over to cut days. (v) B.A.S.S. reserves the right to impose boat speed limits during any or all tournaments. (iv) IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, COMPETITORS SHOULD CALL 911 FIRST AND THEN NOTIFY TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (v) COMPETITORS ARE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE KAYAK AND SEEK SAFE SHELTER IN BAD WEATHER WHERE DANGER MAY BE IMMINENT.

6. SPORTSMANSHIP: Competitors in KBS tournaments are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. (i) Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those purchased over-the-counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any competitor, during the official practice or during the tournament, will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this and all future KBS tournaments. No alcoholic beverages or prohibited drugs shall be allowed in the kayaks during the official practice or competition days. (ii) Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors who may be on tournament waters. Any act of a competitor, which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote fisheries conservation, clean waters and courtesy, may be reason for disqualification. (iii) All competitors are bound by the prevailing statutes and regulations of the various states in which they fish. Some regulations may differ from these rules resulting in fines, citations or other penalties at the discretion of law enforcement and may or may not result in tournament penalties. Competitors are responsible for research of fishing and boating regulations.

7. ANGLER CODE OF CONDUCT: Anglers participating in any KBS-sanctioned event shall observe this code of conduct and the applicable rules for the specific event in which they are participating. Anglers shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a professional manner that demonstrates integrity, honor and respect toward fellow competitors, tournament staff and the general public and does not reflect unfavorably on KBS, its members, officers or representatives, tournaments or sponsors. Anglers are frequently in the public eye and are considered role models by young people; therefore, it is imperative that tournament competitors demonstrate good sportsmanship in fishing. Sportsmanship is defined as fair play, respect for opponents and polite behavior while competing in the sport. (i.) Following are examples of unacceptable behavior by competitors in KBS events that will be cause for penalties as outlined in this document.

- Heated public disagreements with KBS officials, other competitors and fans and volunteers during an event.
- Public attacks through media, including social media, upon the integrity of KBS rules or officials.
- Public comments that an angler knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of KBS, B.A.S.S. officials or its sponsors
- Displays of anger and displeasure for reasons related to fishing competition where members of the public, including other anglers, spectators and the media, are present.
- Publicly questioning or criticizing a tournament official or official decision, ruling or penalty except through the proper channels.
- Abuse (physical, verbal, threatening or slanderous) of tournament officials, volunteers, fellow competitors or others connected with a KBS event.
- Offensive or slanderous comments with racial, cultural or sexual overtones regarding event officials, event personnel or fellow anglers.
- Intentionally interfering with a fellow angler's ability to compete. Any disqualification, suspension or other disciplinary action imposed by any tournament or fishing organization may result in disqualification from competition and rejection of an application for participation in a KBS tournament.

(ii.) Chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or crimes involving moral turpitude, may be grounds for disqualification from competition and for rejecting any application for participation. Any angler who violates any of the provisions of the Sportsmanship Rules or the Angler Code of Conduct may be subject to fines, reduction of points, forfeiture of tournament winnings, suspension from competing in individual KBS sanctioned events, permanent ban from competition or any combination thereof deemed appropriate by KBS.

8. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Use of landing nets and grippers for landing bass is accepted during tournament competition. During practice and competition no more than one artificial or biodegradable artificial lure may be attached to a line at one time. One lure is defined as a single manmade device designed to attract and/or catch one fish at a time. Adding trailer hooks, plastic trailers, blades, etc., to a single lure is acceptable. If multiple fish are caught on a single manmade lure, on a single cast, all fish are considered legal and may be added to the daily catch subject to scoring rules. No "live bait," "dead bait," or "prepared bait" will be permitted during official practice and competition, with the exception of pork strips or rinds. Any umbrella-type rigging, harness, or other device designed to hold more than one lure at a time – with or without hooks – is not allowed. Such rigging, harness, or device cannot be added to a single lure as described above. Traditional twin arm spinnerbaits or buzzbaits are allowed. Trailer hooks and plastic trailers must be on the main hook of the bait; only spinner blades can be affixed to the arms. The head on the main stem may be hinged. On these twin arm spinnerbaits or buzzbaits, no more than two wires, with a maximum length of 6 inches, may extend off the main arm or body of the lure at the line tie point. The "head and hook" portion of the lure must be even or trail behind where the blades attach to the wires. KBS officials have the sole authority to determine whether a lure is

considered a single lure as defined above. Only ONE casting, spin casting or spinning rod (10-foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reel may be used at any one time. A hung or snagged lure that is not in or on the water is not considered in use and may be set aside while another is in use. Other rigs as specified above may be in the kayak ready for use; however, only ONE is permitted is use at any given time. If a competitor breaks his line while setting the hook or retrieving a fish, he is allowed to make an attempt with the rod being used or with his hands to secure the visible line and land the fish for it to be counted as legal. He may NOT hook the line with another lure, rod and reel, or other device. No competitor may intentionally snag or foul hook a bass to be counted in their daily catch. Anyone guilty of snatching or snagging visible fish will have their catch disqualified. When visually fishing for bedding bass, to be counted as a legal fish, all bass must be hooked inside the mouth. Competitors, including those who have been “cut” from competition in an event, are allowed to share baits and tackle with one another at any time.

9. KAYAK POWER: Only paddle or peddle (human power) is allowed during competition/tournament days. You may use trolling motors during practice only.

10. KAYAK IDENTIFICATION: Prior to each day’s start, each kayak may be given an inspection check by a tournament official.

11. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS: Tournament waters shall be established by the Tournament Director for each tournament. Each competitor must obtain this information from the KBS Tournament Department. Any water within these boundaries posted “Off-Limits” or “No Fishing” by state or federal agencies as well as the live-bass-release area established by the Tournament Director will be OFF-LIMITS and will be announced at the Tournament Captains Meeting or listed on the website or Facebook page. Only that water open to ALL public fishing will be considered tournament waters. Waters deemed off limits by authorities or tournament officials should be treated like a wall. No kayak or casting behind that boundary while fishing. All angling must be done from the kayak, you are allowed to wade fish as long as you are tethered to your kayak within 15’ or less. Competitors wishing to change fish habitat by placing any object in the tournament waters may do so if such action does not violate state or federal regulations. Prior to the tournament registration, any questionable areas must be brought to the attention of tournament officials to be considered tournament waters and may be announced in the briefing for all to hear unless determined otherwise by tournament officials. Tournament officials reserve the right to restrict or enhance tournament waters based on conversations with local authorities.

12. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINTS: There shall be only one official check-in point in the afternoon, which points shall be designated at the tournament briefing. Failure to go through check-in the afternoon may result in disqualification. At the time of check-out, all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformity with all rules set forth by the Tournament Director. At check-in, all anglers shall identify themselves by means of the risk ban and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area.

13. COMPETITION PERIOD:

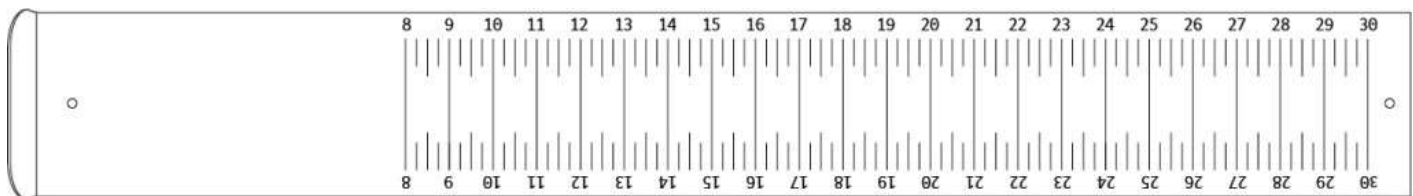
- a. Competition start and end dates and times are stated on the *KBS website (under schedule)* for each event. No Competitor may begin fishing before the official Competition Start Time on any day of competition or submit fish photographed after the official Competition End Time. Under no circumstance will a fish photographed outside of the official Competition Start and End times be considered for scoring.
- b. Check-in — Competitors at meet-up Tournaments (e.g., KBS OPENS, KBS YOUTH and KBS ELITE TRAIL) who have already submitted digital photos by upload to I-ANGLER TOURNMAENT APP, must be in the Judges Check-in Line no later than 4:00 pm (unless otherwise specified at Captains Meeting).
- c. Early Check-in — Competitors who could not upload their photo submissions to I-ANGLER TOURNMAENT APP must report to weigh-in station with enough time to get help uploading catches. No submission will be approved after 3:00 pm no matter what the circumstances.
- d. Emergency Competition Termination — In the event of emergencies, such as weather conditions that pose an imminent threat to Competitors, the Tournament Director may terminate Competition before the scheduled

Competition End Time. An *Early Termination Announcement* with an Adjusted End Time will be broadcast to Competitors via Email and Group Text Messaging and will also be posted on the KBS website and I-ANGLER TOURNAENT APP and media sites, The Announcement will specify a report-in time and location. If safe to do so, upon receiving the Announcement, Competitors should make their way to the specified location at the time identified.

- e. Competitors are required to stop fishing as soon as they receive the Early Termination Announcement. No fish *caught* after the Adjusted End Time time may be submitted for scoring; however, to accommodate those seeking shelter immediately, Competitors have up to 15 minutes after the Adjusted End Time to take a photo of the fish caught before the Adjusted End Time. Only photos with time stamps 15 minutes or less after the Adjusted End Time, verified by the photo time stamp on the Competitor's camera or camera phone, will be eligible for scoring regardless whether the Competitor was in cell range and received the Announcement at the Adjusted End Time.
- f. Continuing to fish when bad weather rolls in can be hazardous. It's up to the Tournament Director to decide whether to let the Competitors "tough it out" or pull the plug early. If the TD shuts down the competition early, he will send emails and texts announcing an "early quit time" to all competitors. *No fish caught after the TD's early quit time is eligible for scoring.*
- g. What if you catch a nice fish just seconds before the "early quit time" text; can you high-tail it to shelter before taking a photo? Yep, that's fine. You have 15 minutes to get to safety and take the photo. THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT YOU CAN KEEP FISHING FOR FIFTEEN MORE MINUTES.
- h. Okay, but what if an angler is out of cell range and doesn't get the "early quit time" message until much later? *It doesn't matter whether the angler gets the word immediately or hours afterwards; the TD's official "early quit time" is what counts.* Some anglers will choose to fish in areas with no or poor cell reception, and they may not get the text or email until they're on their way back to HQ at the originally planned time. If they fish through the storm and catch some decent fish after the "early quit time" they are going to be disappointed. Those fish don't count. Competitors who choose to fish in areas with poor cell reception must understand this is one of the risks they're taking and decide for themselves if the rewards outweigh the risks.

14. FISHING TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. All bass must be caught on rod, reel, line and hook with artificial lures only. No traps, snares, set lines or other methods of fishing other than rod, reel and line are permissible, even if legal under state game laws.
- b. Each Competitor must have a Hawg Trough, the only acceptable measuring device. "Hawg Trough" is a specific brand of measuring device manufactured by Hagen's. It does not refer to any other rounded or flat measuring board. Hawg Troughs may be shortened only by removing inches from the upper end opposite the fence. For instance, one may be shortened by cutting it off at the 26-inch mark in order to fit crossways between the kayak gunwales. However, it may not be broken, snapped, or cut apart and then reassembled at any point between the two ends. A crack that does not separate the Hawg Trough into pieces and does not affect the accuracy of the Hawg Trough may be repaired and reinforced for use



- c. Each competitor must have a mobile phone with camera or a digital camera with memory card and/or download cable to submit digital photographs.
- d. Nets and grippers (e.g., Fish Grip, Boga-Grip) may be used for landing bass during tournament competition, but grippers must not remain attached to the fish in photos.
- e. Only artificial lures and biodegradable artificial lures may be used. No live bait, preserved bait, or prepared bait will be permitted during competition, except for pork strips or rinds.

- f. Only ONE casting, spin-casting, spinning, or fly rod and reel may be in use at any one time. A hung lure that is not in or on the water is not considered in use and may be set aside while another is in use. Other rigs as specified above may be in boat ready for use; however, only ONE is permitted in use at any given time.
- g. If a Competitor breaks his line while setting the hook or retrieving a fish, he is allowed to make an attempt with the rod being used or by hand to secure the line and land the fish to be counted as legal. He may NOT hook the line with another lure, rod and reel, or other device. If a Competitor loses his rod and reel while landing a bass, he MAY use another rod and reel to retrieve the lost outfit. If that rod and reel is verified to be the lost outfit that and the bass is still hooked, it may be landed, photographed, and submitted as a legal fish.
- h. Competitors are allowed to share baits and tackle at all times.

15. PHOTO STANDARDS: Digital photographs of bass submitted to judges for scoring must meet these criteria:

- A. Legible. Photo must be clear enough to read identifier, including required ID codes and marks, and judge the length accurately. **After carefully examining photo details and cross-referencing other photos submitted for scoring by the same angler in the same event, if the event judge is NOT able to verify with 100% confidence that the KBS Identifier are valid for both the competitive event and the competitor, then the photo will be denied.**
- B. Official KBS Identifier (Wristband) placed where it does not cover the bass' eye or prevent measurement verification. An image of the unique identifier on a smart phone is not acceptable.
- C. Competitor's kayak clearly visible.
- D. Facing left on a Hawg Trough, left side of the fish visible, dorsal fin toward the top of the photo.
- E. Mouth OPEN OR CLOSED with jaw and/or lips touching the Hawg Trough "fence." Position camera lens directly over the center of the bass' body to aid judges in determining that bass' mouth is closed and in contact with the fence. Photos judged to have been taken deliberately at an angle in order to make the fish appear longer may be disqualified at the Tournament Director's discretion.
- F. Tail centered and in a relaxed, un-pinched condition and its tip in contact with the Hawg Trough. Regardless whether or not fingers are squeezing the tail, if the tip is less than 50% as wide as the base, or the longer lobe of the tail is compressed over 50%, that tail will be considered "pinched" and should be spread before photographing to avoid a point deduction.
- G. To confirm that the fish is alive, the bass' eye must be uncovered in the photo. Photos of bass that appear to be dead, mutilated, frozen or similarly damaged will be disqualified without scoring. Photos of bass that appear to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered in ways that increase their length will be disqualified or approved for scoring at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- H. No restraining device, clip, or band may be used to secure the fish being photographed. Securing the fish with any portion of a hand under the fish's gill flap is prohibited.

16. SCORING: Tournament standings, contingency awards and final winners shall be determined by the length of each competitor's catch during the competition days of the tournament. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted, Redeye or Shoal bass will be weighed. The limit shall be 5 of the above species and varieties per day, unless otherwise specified by tournament officials. An angler may catch as many during the tournament hours but only the five best will be used to determine the total length. The official minimum length for bass shall be determined by the Tournament Director and announced at the Tournament Briefing if changed, the official minimum is 10". Only bass as described above which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line measured on a Hawg Trough will be legal (see CPR rules). Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited only at the discretion of tournament officials. Bass must not be stringered at any time during the tournament.

- a. Judges will evaluate each photograph to ensure that (a) the digital file was created within the official Competition Start and End Times and that (b) it complies with Photo Criteria outlined in Rule 10, above.
- b. Tournament standings, contingency awards and final winners shall be determined by the aggregate length of each Competitor's catch during the tournament competition day(s).
- c. In a CPR tournament, unless a bass is hooked to a restraint device, they are not considered "in possession" by Competitors, so minimum length WILL BE 10" for photo submissions, and Competitors may submit as many photos as they wish.

- I. Unless otherwise stipulated in the KBS Competition Rules and Addendums, in one-day tournaments the scores of the five longest bass will be combined to determine the aggregate score.
 - II. Unless otherwise stipulated in the KBs Competition Rules and Addendums, in two-day tournaments, the scores of the five longest bass of Day 1 and the five longest bass on Day 2 will be combined to determine the aggregate score.
 - III. Exceptions to these daily creels will be stipulated in the *KBs Competition Rules and Addendums* for each event.
- d. Bass length is determined by its tail touching or crossing a quarter-inch line on the Hawg Trough. If it falls short of a line, the length is rounded down to the nearest 1/4-inch mark that the bass' tail actually touches or crosses. Pinching the tail or angling the fish to achieve additional length will not result in a higher score and may result in deduction in length, as described in Section 11.F, below.
 - e. In the event of an exact tie in aggregate score, ties will be broken according to the time that the competitors' last fish photo was officially entered into I-ANGLER TOURNAMENT APP for scoring or was checked in by the Judges. Should the last fish photo submission times be identical, then both Competitors' highest single-bass score will be compared, and the higher score will determine the outcome. If both Competitors' highest single-bass score, too, is identical, then the second highest single-bass score of both Competitors will be compared, and so on until the tie is broken by the highest single-bass score.
 - f. At every KBS tournament, judges strive to be fair, consistent and objective, applying the following standards in approving or disqualifying photos, and in accepting or adjusting lengths.

Item	Criteria	Penalty
Photo	Blurry photos will be scored at the highest mark of which there is no doubt	n/a
Photo	Photo that is too blurry to judge at all	DQ
Photo	Photo appears to be second-generation (photo of a photo)	DQ
Photo	Photo submitted before or after event date and time limits	DQ
Photo	GPS photo tag or other evidence indicates photo was uploaded out of tournament "permitted waters" zone	DQ
Photo	Multiple digital photos unintentionally submitted of the same bass	DQ
Photo	Multiple digital photos intentionally submitted of the same bass; fraud	Ban
Orientation	Bass is positioned with the head pointing to the right	DQ
Orientation	Bass is positioned with dorsal fin at bottom of photo, pelvic and anal fins upward	DQ
Identifier	Tournament Identifier missing, counterfeit, or incorrect for the event or competitor	DQ
Kayak	Competitor's kayak not visible in photo	DQ
Mouth	Fish lip or mouth clearly not touching Hawg Trough fence (the upright end plate)	DQ
Mouth	Unable to ascertain with certainty that fish lip or mouth is touching Hawg Trough fence	1"

I-Angler App	Not uploading all the correct info	DQ
Eye	Eye covered or not visible in photo	DQ
Bump Board	Incorrect bump board	DQ
Phone	Tampering with phone date, time stamp and or location	DQ
Body	Restraining device, stringer, tape, or clip of any kind is attached to bass or being used to secure it.	1"
Body	Any portion of a hand or fingers under the fish's operculum (hard gill flap)	DQ
Body	Body off-center or curved so that one lobe of the tail extends 1/2 inch or more past the other lobe	1"
Tail	Fingers are pinching the tail lobes together, or even without being constrained by fingers or a restraint the tail tip is 40% or less as wide as the tail base.	1"
Tail	Tail lifted off the Hawg Trough; fish flapping tail so its tip is not in contact with the board	DQ
Fish	Any other fish than the species or varieties approved for the Competition	DQ
Fish	Fish appears to have been snagged, snatched, or hooked in the body rather than mouth	DQ
Fish	Fish appears to be dead, mutilated, frozen, mangled, or otherwise damaged so that it may not to have been taken according to the rules, or eye is covered so the condition of the fish cannot be ascertained.	DQ
Fish	Bass appears to have been mashed, mauled, or otherwise altered to increase its length	DQ

17. LATE PENALTY: Competitors who are not at the official check-in point by 4:00 pm and have turned in their wristband and signed in will lose one inch per minute until 4:30 pm at which time all fish are disqualified. There shall be no excuse for tardiness, and in no case, shall a competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." After proper recognition at the check-in point, competitors will be allowed ample time to proceed to the weigh-in site; however, all fishing must cease upon check-in. After the tournament begins, fishing the tournament waters is prohibited except during tournament hours. Exact starting and check-in times will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. It is each competitor's responsibility to confirm check-in times each day.

18. TIES: In case of a tie the largest fish of that day's catch will determine the tie, who caught the bass first (not submitted first) will win the tie breaker and so on to the second fish. Same with Big Bass side pot.

19. RULES VIOLATIONS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE: An appeals committee will be established by KBS, which shall be comprised of one KBS official and two anglers, one a competitor on the competition and one that is not. Appeals for penalties assessed under Rule 1 (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f) must be presented in writing 48 hours from the time and date of ruling to the Tournament Director. Appeals hearings shall take place within seven (7) business days, if possible, from the date of receipt of the written appeal. All parties must make themselves available at prescribed time of hearing. If competitors admit to a rules violation, they may not file an appeal of either the finding that they have violated the rules

or the penalty imposed for the violation. Decisions of the appeals committee shall be final. Competitors are allowed to compete while under appeal. Field sizes after cuts would include any appealing angler making the cut for the next round of competition for that event. Final standings will not be official until all appeals hearings are final and ruled upon. However, all standings above that of any appealing angler, as well as any adjusted final standings may be declared official. Standings, including points and monetary awards, may be adjusted after appeals final ruling and all affected anglers shall comply with all details of the final ruling.

20. PATCHES AND/OR SIGNAGE: Anglers are encouraged to wear their own clothing which may bear patches, logos and other signage promoting the angler's sponsors. KBS may, however, restrict the use of patches, logos, signage, etc. that promote or advertise products which are, in KBS's sole judgment, in competition with the products or services of official KBS sponsors, or which are, in KBS's sole judgment, in poor taste. KBS will provide as much advance notice as possible to the competitors in such instances.

21. AWARDING OF PRIZES, PAYOUTS AND ENTRY FEES:

- a. **Prizes and payouts** are subject to change based on participation (lower value for less entries and higher value for more entries). Final payout will be adjusted based on entries and sponsorship commitments
- b. **Prizes will be processed as quickly as possible.**
- c. **Prizes** that require processing (e.g. kayaks, paddles, propulsion units) may require additional processing or delivery time. This is done to allow contestants some flexibility in picking the prize they want rather than win an awesome prize and be dissatisfied with the model, color or style. There will be some limitations on picking specific features and model availability, but this method is much better for the overall return on investment for sponsors and contestant satisfaction.
- d. **Entry Fees** for the KBS will be \$55.00 for online events, \$125.00 for KBS Opens and \$200.00 for the KBS Classic. KBS Youth will be \$15.00 for online events, \$30.00 for KBS Youth Opens and \$50.00 for the KBS Classic. KBS Elite Trail will be \$125.00 for KBS Elite Trail Opens and \$200.00 for the KBS Elite Trail Championship.
- e. **KBS Online tournaments** will be \$55.00. The first \$10.00 of the entry fee will go towards the KBS Classic payouts. Guaranteed payouts for the online tournaments will be as follows;
 1. 5 to 19 entrants – One place paid – at 19 entrants the payout would be \$642.00
 2. 20 to 29 entrants – Two places paid – at 29 entrants the payout would be 1st \$684.00 and 2nd Place \$294.00
 3. 30 to 39 entrants – Three places paid - at 39 entrants the payout would be 1st \$724.00, 2nd Place \$368.00 and 3rd Place \$225.00
 4. 40 to 49 entrants – Four places paid - at 49 entrants the payout would be 1st \$825.00, 2nd Place \$445.00, 3rd Place \$260.00 and 4th Place \$124.00
 5. 50 to 59 entrants – Five places paid - at 59 entrants the payout would be 1st \$955.00, 2nd Place \$515.00, 3rd Place \$300.00, 4th Place \$140.00 and 5th Place \$80.00
 6. 60 to 69 entrants – Six places paid - at 69 entrants the payout would be 1st \$1,090.00, 2nd Place \$580.00, 3rd Place \$325.00, 4th Place \$170.00, 5th Place \$109.00 and 6th Place \$55.00
 7. 70 to 79 entrants – Seven places paid - at 79 entrants the payout would be 1st \$1,200.00, 2nd Place \$660.00, 3rd Place \$350.00, 4th Place \$200.00, 5th Place \$135.00, 6th Place \$95.00 and 7th Place \$55.00
 8. 80 to 89 entrants – Eight places paid - at 89 entrants the payout would be 1st \$1,300.00, 2nd Place \$710.00, 3rd Place \$390.00, 4th Place \$220.00, 5th Place \$160.00, 6th Place \$110.00, 7th Place \$90.00 and 8th place \$55.00
 9. 90 to 99 entrants – Nine places paid - at 99 entrants the payout would be 1st \$1,300.00, 2nd Place \$750.00, 3rd Place \$450.00, 4th Place \$250.00, 5th Place \$200.00, 6th Place \$150.00, 7th Place \$110.00, 8th place \$95.00 and 10th Place \$55.00
 10. On the average of 50 anglers per online event would be \$10,000.00 extra towards payouts at the KBS Classic for the Top Ten plus KBS Classic entry fees also going towards the Top Ten payouts. This should make the KBS Classic payout in cash \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 plus prizes.

- f. **KBS Youth** will following the same payout structure above for the KBS Online events with respect to entry fee amounts.
- g. **KBS Opens** will be \$125.00. Guaranteed payouts for the KBS Opens will be as follows;
1. 5 to 19 entrants – One place paid – at 19 entrants the payout would be \$2,000.00 plus prizes.
 2. 20 to 29 entrants – Two places paid – at 29 entrants the payout would be 1st \$2,200.00 and 2nd Place \$800.00 plus prizes.
 3. 30 to 39 entrants – Three places paid - at 39 entrants the payout would be 1st \$2,400.00, 2nd Place \$1000.00 and 3rd Place \$625.00 plus prizes.
 4. 40 to 49 entrants – Four places paid - at 49 entrants the payout would be 1st \$2,550.00, 2nd Place \$1,225.00, 3rd Place \$780.00 and 4th Place \$500.00 plus prizes.
 5. 50 to 59 entrants – Five places paid - at 59 entrants the payout would be 1st \$2,900.00, 2nd Place \$1,400.00, 3rd Place \$850.00, 4th Place \$550.00 and 5th Place \$305.00 plus prizes.
 6. 60 to 69 entrants – Six places paid - at 69 entrants the payout would be 1st \$3,300.00, 2nd Place \$1,650.00, 3rd Place \$960.00, 4th Place \$670.00, 5th Place \$370.00 and 6th Place \$250.00 plus prizes.
 7. 70 to 79 entrants – Seven places paid - at 79 entrants the payout would be 1st \$3,750.00, 2nd Place \$1,900.00, 3rd Place \$1,055.00, 4th Place \$750.00, 5th Place \$420.00, 6th Place \$325.00 and 7th Place \$175.00 plus prizes.
 8. 80 to 89 entrants – Eight places paid - at 89 entrants the payout would be 1st \$4,225.00, 2nd Place \$2,000.00, 3rd Place \$1,150.00, 4th Place \$825.00, 5th Place \$480.00, 6th Place \$360.00, 7th Place \$210.00 and 8th place \$175.00 plus prizes.
 9. 90 to 99 entrants – Nine places paid - at 99 entrants the payout would be 1st \$4,700.00, 2nd Place \$2,200.00, 3rd Place \$1,270.00, 4th Place \$915.00, 5th Place \$525.00, 6th Place \$390.00, 7th Place \$235.00, 8th place \$200.00 and 10th Place \$175.00 plus prizes.
- h. **KBS Youth** will following the same payout structure above for the KBS Opens with respect to entry fee amounts.
- i. **KBS and KBS Youth will have AOY's in each Division.** Anglers can go for any division and multiple divisions. You must fish the KBS Opens and or the KBS Youth Opens in that Division to qualify for AOY in that Division. We take up to the top four of the five tournaments (4 online and 1 open in that Division) for AOY in that Division. If competing for more than one Divisional AOY the same rule applies for each Divisional AOY. KBS Divisional AOY winners will receive a trophy, \$500.00 cash award and custom AOY rod from Terry Manley. KBS Youth Divisional AOY winners will receive a trophy, cash award depending on participation.
- j. **KBS Elite Trail AOY** will be calculated from your top 3 events out of the six KBS Elite Trail Opens. You must fish a minimum of 3 KBS Elite Trail Opens to qualify for KBS Elite Trail AOY and the KBS Elite Trail Championship. Only one AOY and one KBS Elite Trail Champion will be awarded for the 2017 season.
1. **Entry fee will be \$125.00 at each KBS Elite Trail Tournament and payouts as follows;**
 1. One (1) place paid for each 10 members. 2 through 10 will be one place paid, 11 through 19 two places paid and so on. The same payout structure will remain the same at the KBS Elite Trail Championship.
 2. 15% of each entry will be held back for the winner of the KBS Elite Trail AOY and KBS Elite Trail Champion. 66% of that 15% going to KBS Elite Trail AOY and 37% of that 15% going towards KBS Elite Trail Championship.
 3. The entry fee for the Championship will be \$200.00 with 100% payback to the KBS Elite Trail Championship winners.
 4. 10% of each KBS Elite Trail Open will be held back to cover cost of I-Angler Tournament App, Trophy for AOY and Trophy for KBS Elite Trail Champion. The rest will be paid out at 100%.

Example: With 20 anglers at each KBS Elite Trail Tournaments there should be \$11,250.00 guaranteed for all six (6);

- \$2,500.00 take-in minus 15% toward KBS Elite Trail AOY and Championship. This leaves \$2,125.00. \$247.00 for KBS Elite Trail AOY and \$128.00 towards KBS Elite Champion for each tournament.
- 10% for the trophies and I-Angler Tournament App leaves \$1,875.00 payout, 1st Place winner would receive \$1,125.00 and 2nd place winner would receive \$750.00.
- With six (6) tournaments you would have \$1,482.00 going to the KBS Elite Trial AOY plus trophy.

- \$768.00 plus entry for the KBS Elite Trail Championship of \$4,000.00 for a total win at the KBS Elite Trail Championship of \$4,768.00 plus trophy, 1st place would receive \$3,000.00 and 2nd place would receive \$1,768.00 and possibly the KBS Classic Championship too for a total of over \$29,000.00 going to one angler.

k. **KBS Youth Divisions** will be based upon participation and 100% payback minus \$4.00 for I-Angler Tournament App plus prizes. If we have five (5) or more participate in each Division an AOY trophy will be awarded and a cash prize based on participation.

22. PENALTIES:

- a. Failure of digital photos to conform to photo requirements will result in deductions of one inch or more in length for each infraction. Multiple violations may result in disqualification of the entry altogether.
- b. A minimum 1/2-inch deduction will be enforced for a photograph of a bass with its mouth open 1/8-inch or more.
- c. Competitors who have not already submitted their digital photos and are not in the Judges Check-in line by the Early Check-in deadline, as described in Rule 12, shall be penalized at the rate of ONE inches per minute late; to be deducted from the total length of his/her catch that day. Any Competitor more than 30 minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness, and in no case, shall a Competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." After proper recognition at the Judges Station line, Competitors will be allowed ample time to submit their photos; however, all fishing must cease at the official Competition End Time.
- d. In the event of a rule violation, the Tournament Director or a rules committee may impose such penalties as deemed appropriate by them, including without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of entry fee and prizes, and prohibition from participation in subsequent KBS tournaments. Subject to the appeal process set forth below, the Tournament Director's decisions on violations are final.
- e. Penalties for rules violations may include the following:
 - i. Reduction of score (length) as determined by the Tournament Director
 - ii. Loss of catch for the day of the violation
 - iii. Disqualification from the tournament in question
 - iv. Disqualification from future KBS events, which may be from a specific number of events, a specific period of time, or may be a lifetime ban or disqualification.
 - v. Any different or additional penalties determined by the Tournament Director including but not limited to monetary fines and/or reduction of Competitor of Year points.
- f. Each Competitor agrees to report to the Tournament Director immediately any violation or infraction of any tournament rules. Failure to report violations, or suggestions to another Competitor that they violate these rules, or false verification of weigh-in forms, may be cause for disqualification.
- g. Following review, a determination by KBS Management or conviction of cheating or fraud will result in permanent revocation of KBS Membership, suspension from all Kayak Bass Series competition and KBS-affiliated events, tours, and series, and banning from all KBS Forum privileges, and the findings will be publicized via social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter), all participating kayak fishing forums and any other channel available for dissemination of such information.
- h. All participants acknowledge that the use of Voice Stress Analysis (VSA) may be necessary to settle disputes and entry constitutes acceptance of this requirement and agreement to abide by its conclusion. Any Competitor refusing a VSA will be immediately disqualified from all future challenges and banned from any future participation in any KBS-affiliated event.
- i. The Tournament Director, rules committee, or such person designated by the Tournament Director, shall have the discretion to determine the need for a truth verification test. The Tournament Director or his designee shall be responsible for selecting an independent expert to administer and interpret the results and establishing, in consultation with the expert administrator, the scope of the questions which may be asked during the test. The Tournament Director or his designee shall have sole responsibility selecting the location, date, and time of the test nearest KBS headquarters with respect to all concerned parties schedule and travel cost. The Competitor shall make himself/herself available at the location

selected by the Tournament Director and shall cooperate in all respects with such test. Competitors taking a truth verification test may be responsible for any and all costs incurred.

- j. Random truth verification tests may be administered on site during the course of a KBS OPEN Series Event.

23. SALE OF PRIZES: No prizes won participating in KBS OPEN Series Events may be sold on KBS forums or any affiliate Website, Facebook page, or event page for a period of one full year. Violation of this rule will result in ineligibility for all future events and forfeiture of qualification status.

24. WAIVERS AND RELEASES:

- a. **Name and Likeness Release** - By registering for this Kayak Bass Series Events, the Competitor grants to Kayak Bass Series, LLC the right to use all photographs, likenesses, stories, accounts, details of Competitor contributions, exploits, interviews, bloopers, and information pertinent to the Kayak Bass Series Events, as well as any video footage, photographs gathered at the Event, for marketing and promotional purposes. This release is granted without expectation for additional compensation upon submission of Event Registration.
- b. **Waiver and Release of Liability** - As a condition of participation in a Competition, and by virtue of registering for the Competition, each Competitor agrees to accept the terms and condition of the Kayak Bass Fishing Waiver and Release of Liability Agreement (below). This Agreement absolves Kayak Bass Series, LLC, its officers, staff, and volunteers from responsibility and threat of litigation in the case of injury, loss, or death sustained by a Competitor in the Event. Registrants under the age of 18 must have their waiver/release form signed by the parent or adult guardian who will accompany them throughout competition. A printed copy of the Kayak Bass Fishing Waiver and Release Form (below) is available for down load or print and will be available at each event and must be signed and on file with Kayak Bass Series, LLC before a registrant is eligible to compete.