

# **CENTRAL VALLEY BASS CLUB**

## **ARTICLE AND PURPOSE**

### **ARTICLE:**

It is the foundation of this club to share a common desire among anglers in the pursuit of warm water Game Fish ( Bass etc.). We will strive to enhance ourselves in fellowship, and camaraderie with each other and the community. We will attempt to preserve the future of our sport by our support, and participation in conservation of our warm water fish and their habitat.

### **PURPOSE:**

- 1.) To stimulate public awareness of Bass and warm water fishing as a major community sport.
- 2.) To bring into light the importance of "Catch and Release" fishing on major species of fish.
- 3.) To offer our State Agencies our information and organized physical, moral, and political support.
- 4.) To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to lobby for adequate water standards.
- 5.) To bring attention to potential criminal wrong doing associated with our sport.
- 6.) To enhance our angling skills, promote and encourage youth fishing through organized activities.
- 7.) To promote fishing and outdoor activities as a means of support for family and community.
- 8.) To accommodate the competitive nature among anglers by way of contests (bass tournaments).

**CENTRAL VALLEY BASS CLUB**

**BYLAWS**

MEMBERSHIP:

There shall be no limitation on the number of members in CVBC unless a limitation is added to these Bylaws by majority vote of all active members and amendment.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

- 1.) Prospective member voluntarily expresses a genuine interest in club membership.
- 2.) Prospective member has read, understands and agrees to adhere to our Article, Purpose, and Bylaws.
- 3.) Prospective member agrees to make every attempt to participate in club activities, tournaments, and meetings,
- 4.) Prospective member agrees to promote and participate in positive relationships with fellow members, and not allow inappropriate, rude, illegal or unsafe behavior to take place at anytime during our club activities.
- 5.) Prospective member agrees to be a willing participant of “Catch and Release Only” Bass fishing.
- 6.) Prospective member will be and maintain a membership in good standings with B.A.S.S.
- 7.) Prospective member will only be accepted as a member of CVBC by a majority vote of active members present.
- 8.) New Membership will not become active until the New Member has paid dues, and provided The information as is needed by the club officers, ie: contact info, B.A.S.S. number, and boat insurance policy information (if participating as a boater).

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

***	National Federation fees:	\$30.00
**	State Federation fees:	\$10.00
*	CVBC Fees:	\$20.00

Total Annual Membership Dues:        \$60.00

(If a member is voted in after October 1<sup>st</sup>, dues are good through the next year.)

05/2014

## CVBC TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Entry Fees: The entry fee of \$25.00 per person must be paid at the meeting prior to the tournament. Any entry fees paid at the boat ramp on the day of the tournament will include a \$5.00 late fee. No refunds will be given unless agreed upon by tournament committee. Any non-refunded monies will carry over to the next points tournament.

This \$25.00 entry fee is paid to winning teams as follows: \$11.00 1<sup>st</sup> Place / \$8.00 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

2. Participants: Any paid member in good standing over the age of 16 years.
3. Sportsmanship: Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, intoxication, violation of these rules, or violation of Oregon fish and game laws will be disqualified.
4. Safety: The use of or possession of Alcoholic beverages or recreational drugs is not permitted at any time during a Central Valley Bass Club tournament. Safe boating procedures and conduct must be observed at all times by all contestants. All contestants must have the USCG Approved life vest on and fastened when the outboard (gas) engine is running. All other USCG safety requirements will be observed. Any boat equipped with a tethered “kill switch” shall have it in use / attached to the driver when the boat is in motion utilizing the outboard (gas) engine. Anchor light will be turned on in night tournaments, and all navigation lights must be on from blast off to the first fishing spot in any club tournament. All contestants should have the phone number of the Tournament Director and Club Officers available to call in the event of emergency or boat break down that might prevent making it to weigh in on time.
5. Tournament Draws: All CVBC tournaments are Team Tournaments, Draw format. Boater and Co-Angler fish together as a team for a 5 fish limit. A draw will be held at the meeting prior to the tournament to determine fishing teams and blast off order. It is the luck of the draw who you fish with, even if it is two tournaments in a row.

If a co-angler is not chosen to a team due to lack of boats, then they will go on a waiting list and if any spots become open due to other members canceling out, or another boater entering the tournament late, they will be given priority placement. If unable to fish in a tournament, then they will be given priority at the next draw for the next tournament and not be left out two tournaments in a row.

If a member who is a boater enters the tournament late, and there are members who are Co-anglers on the waiting list, the boater is obligated to take the Co-Angler that is not assigned a boat.

Late entries, both Boater and Co-Angler may occur up until the Wednesday before the date of the tournament. After this day no further late entries will be accepted. Period !

After that Wednesday any previously entered boaters who find themselves without a Co-Angler (due to luck of draw or even last minute cancellation by your Co-Angler), may now either fish solo OR invite a guest to fish as Co-Angler. It will be the responsibility of the Member Boater to see to it their guest understands and abides by our Club Tournament Rules. All guests may fish for BIG FISH only and may enter and win money for the Big Fish pot only.

They may not include any fish they catch into the weigh in bag of the Club member (boater).

6. Pick Tournaments: Each member may have one tournament each year that they can pick their partner. This may only be used once by each member and the TD will keep track of any members who have used their pick. Each of these members will still score their points in their respective category for Angler of The Year points (Boater / Co-Angler).
7. Married Teams: It is accepted practice that Married Members, S/O or “Same Sex Partners” may choose to fish together as a team and not enter the draw. If however, the boater member withdraws, the Co-Angler may not then enter onto the wait list for the tournament. If the Co-Angler withdraws, the boater is still obligated to take a Co-Angler from the wait list.
8. Tackle: Only artificial lures may be used. No prepared or live bait is permitted except Pork style strips or rinds. Only rods and reels are permitted. Any number of rods may be in the boat but only one rod may be in use per participant at any given time as per Oregon Fishing Regulations.
9. Permitted Fishing Waters: All water accessible by boat except the following: 50 yards of another tournament boat predetermined by the “first come” rule, waters posted by state and local agencies and private postings recognized by the club. Contestants may fish along with another boat but maintain the 50 yard minimum distance apart. Private posting on the tournament waters will be announced at the pre-tournament meeting at the ramp. Boats may not be trailered during tournament hours to another location.
10. Fishing Hours: To be announced at the club meeting before the tournament. Contestants must check in no less than 20 minutes prior to blast off for boat safety and live well check by a tournament official to compete. CVBC does not have a Pre-Fishing cut off time on tournament waters.
11. Pre-Tournament Meeting: There will be a pre-tournament meeting at the ramp 10 minutes before blast off time. The blast off time is to be announced at the club meeting prior to the tournament. This meeting is for last minute safety briefing, water hazard updates, and time coordination with the Tournament Director. Any contestants late for blast off shall locate a tournament official (call him, or find him on the water) to have live well checked and be briefed, before fishing, or any fish caught will not qualify at weigh in.
12. Teams: All teams of fishermen must remain together in the boat throughout the tournament hours and cannot leave the boat to push into a fishing spot. It is allowed for one or both to leave the boat to push free from obstructions, be it trees, brush or bottom, so long as it does not allow them access to a fishing area that would not have been available without doing this. It is also permissible for one or both fishermen to leave a boat for using the restroom, or for the purpose of mechanical repairs to the boat.

13. Penalties: Contestants who are not in the official checkpoint area for weigh in at the tournaments end will be penalized 1 lb per minute off of the team's total weight. This includes any BIG FISH weight.

A 1 lb. penalty will be assessed for any fish weighed in that is under the 12 inch min length.

A 1 lb. penalty will be assessed for any fish that is deemed to be dead by the T D.

*A dead fish is one that cannot swim or remain upright on its own power.*

Any contestant that weighs in more than the maximum bag limit of 5 Bass, will be penalized the weight of their biggest fish. This fish will not be allowed for BIG FISH purposes. You are not allowed to cull fish at the weigh in.

Any fish that is suspected of being "enhanced or altered" in some way to make it weigh more, will be held aside. At the end of weigh in this suspect fish will be inspected by the Tournament Director and two other Club officials. If it is determined by these officials that the weight of the fish has been altered by artificial means the team is disqualified and **both** members of the team will be subject to punitive actions.

14. Live wells: An aerated containment large enough to sufficiently support a teams daily catch is a requirement for all tournament boats entered. Portable live wells are permitted as long as they are fully functional for the purpose intended.
15. Bag Limits: The bag limit is 5 fish in the boat at one time for two contestants. All tournament fish to be weighed in must be 12 inches in length or longer as determined by a belly board. No culling of dead fish at any time is allowed. Culling of live fish (releasing smaller fish / keeping the bigger 5 fish) may be done during a tournament, but not at weigh in site or at the time of weigh in.
16. Weigh ins: The weigh ins are conducted by the TD and any other member that wishes to assist. One person records and the other handles the scale. Every effort will be made to keep this fair to all members. The weights will only be taken by the Clubs scale. If a contestant wishes to challenge the weight they are given they must speak up at the time of weight. If a contestant wishes to weigh a fish for BIG FISH, that contestant must choose only one fish from his bag to weigh for BIG FISH. This one fish only will be weighed separately for this purpose. After the weigh in all fish must be released away from the weigh in site.
17. Ties: The tie breaker will be the largest single bass among the two tied contestants. If still tied, the second largest fish will be used. If one of the contestants has already returned fish, then this is not possible and the two contestants will have to share the winnings and both score same points. In the event of a tie for BIG FISH the same rule applies. Second fish is used if both contestants still have their bag of fish available to weigh. If not it ends a tie and money is split.

18. Complaints / Challenges: Any complaints / challenges about the results, or other contestants behaviors during the tournament must be filed in writing within 30 minutes of the end of the weigh in. This must be given to the TD or another Club official. The TD and TWO other club officers will rule on the complaint in a timely fashion and their decision will be final. (Any senior club member may substitute in the absence or lack of club officers.) If it is agreed that a contestant or team has violated the Tournament Rules of the club, or is in violation of Oregon Fishing Regulations, or USCG regulations, that TEAM will be disqualified for the tournament. Any future complaints against one of these members for the same violation could result in further punitive actions.
  
19. Damage, Theft or Injuries: If any of these occur, they are the sole responsibilities of the individual. “Central Valley Bass Club and its Officials” will not be held responsible for any damage to property, theft of property or personal injury that might occur during a club tournament. All members with boats are required to carry \$300,000 minimum of liability insurance and documented proof of this must be provided upon joining CVBC and with each years membership renewal dues. All members are expected to act safely. All members who own boats are expected to obey the USCG safe boating regulations, Accidents can happen when fishing, and it is expected all members understand this and enter tournaments knowing this.
  
20. Mechanical Breakdowns: In the event a contestant experiences mechanical failure on a boat it is that teams responsibility to be at the weigh in on time. Common procedure is to fish your way back to the weigh in site, and then remain in that area until weigh in. Call the tournament director or another tournament official if you are unable to make it safely back to weigh in site and help will be sent to you after weigh in, unless your situation is emergent in nature. If another contestant chooses to assist you during the tournament, this is a courtesy and not a tournament requirement. It is still the responsibility of all contestants to make the weigh in on time to not be penalized. If for any reason a contestant must leave the fishing waters before the weigh in time, it is required of them to call the TD or another club officer to notify them you are leaving the area. In the spirit of good club sportsmanship you should still try to come to the weigh in even if you did not catch any fish.

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ANGLER OF THE YEAR:

The points members earn at each of the years tournaments will be totaled towards an Angler Of The Year award. There will be individual awards for both the Boater, and Co-Angler of The Year. Each member needs to declare at the start of the year (before the first tournament is fished) if they will be fishing as a Boater or a Co-Angler for the season.

The points earned at each tournament will be totaled throughout the year for each member as follows:

<u>Boater</u>		<u>Co-Angler</u>	
1st.	105 points	1st.	105 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	104	2 <sup>nd</sup>	104
3 <sup>rd</sup>	103	3 <sup>rd</sup>	103
4 <sup>th</sup>	102	4 <sup>th</sup>	102
5 <sup>th</sup>	101	5 <sup>th</sup>	101
6 <sup>th</sup>	etc	etc	etc

Anyone who participated in a tournament but did not weigh fish will be awarded 50 points.

A participant will not be disadvantaged if they fish in a different category (boater / co-angler) if asked to do so to promote greater participation at a tournament. They will still score points in their declared category.

At the end of the season, each members lowest scored tournament will be a throw out score. Only ONE score is thrown out before they are totaled.

The winner of Angler of The Year in each category will receive a cash prize and trophy at our annual banquet.

BRAGGING RIGHTS TOURNAMENT:

Each year at the end of our season, the last tournament will be our Bragging Rights Tournament. All members in good standings will be eligible to fish the bragging rights tournament.

There will be no cash prizes. The winning team will receive free tournament entries to all club tournaments in the following year.

Overall BIG FISH Award:

Each year at the beginning of the season, before our first tournament, every member may pay an entry fee of \$10.00 for the Overall BIG FISH pot. This pot of money can be claimed by the first member angler (Boater or Co-Angler) who catches a Largemouth Bass of 6 lbs. or more / or catches a Smallmouth Bass of 5 lbs. or more. This fish must be caught during a club points tournament and weighed in on the clubs scale. (or another clubs if it is a multi-club event). This cannot be won during the Bragging Rights tournament as it is a non points tournament. If the tournament is a two day event, and someone catches fish of these sizes each day, then it will be the overall largest fish of those two fishing days that wins and not just the first one caught.

Until this pot is won by someone, the money continues to rollover, year to year or as long as needed. Once it has been won by someone, all members must then pay the \$10.00 entry again if they wish to re-enter the pot. This must be paid before the next points tournament is held. The pot then starts again to accumulate.

Post Season Qualifiers:

For N.W.C.C. The purposes of qualifying for the Northwest Club Classic, the contestants who fish will be the AOY point leader from the year before. 2 top non-boater and 2 top boaters. The club will pay entry for both teams.