Cumberland Bassmasters Bylaws and Tournament Rules

BYLAWS



**1.0
NAME OF CLUB:
The club shall be called "Cumberland Bassmasters" of Fayetteville, NC.**2.0 PURPOSE:  **The Cumberland Bassmasters of Fayetteville is a local, non-profit bass fishing club. The club was formed to engage in competitive bass fishing among our members for the purpose of sharing knowledge about the sport, sportsmanship, and fair play on and off the water. We compete for fun and to improve our skill as bass anglers. The club has both novice and experienced anglers of all ages. We are located in Fayetteville, North Carolina.**

**For the novice bass angler, being a member of Cumberland Bassmasters is an excellent way to learn about bass fishing and greatly improve your angling skills. All members are willing to help each other and share their knowledge and experience with you. The experienced bass angler can also benefit from being a member. You will always have someone to fish with, you will have an opportunity to share what the sport has given you with others and promote the sport of bass fishing. Plus, even the experienced angler can learn something new from others.**

3.0 MEMBERSHIP: The number of members of the club members will be no more than 25. Total membership may change based on the club's needs.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP: To become a club member a person shall:

A: Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.

 B: Be recommended by any active member at any meeting.

 C: To be voted on by membership. Vote shall be done as a group by a show of hands or by secret ballot, to be determined by board members. The affirmation must be UNANIMOUS.

D: An active member's family (i.e.: brother, sister, parent, etc) has first preference over anyone who may be on a waiting list.

E: In the event of a prospective member not being known to any active club member, the board of directors may chose to hold an interview with that person.

F: Must be at least 18 years of age.

G: All prospective anglers that want to join will be voted on during the night they attend the club meeting-No Waiting Period.

H. New member points will start the night of the vote.

**4.1 PAST MEMBER REINSTATEMENT:**

**A. Must have left the club in “good standing”.**

 **B.  Must meet the requirements of Section 3, 4 and 9.**

5.0 MEMBERSHIP DUES: The amount of the annual dues for membership shall be determined by the club.

A: $40.00 for membership dues. Additional tournament entry fees are required ($30) for tournament and optional $5 extra for big fish/lunker). **There is also a $5 optional Winner take all side pot. New members, based on when they join will pay a pro-rated amount of dues by quarter.**

B: Due’s, which are not received by the first tournament of the year shall be considered delinquent and you will not receive points for any tournament or meetings while you are delinquent.

**C. All guests will pay $5.00 guest fee. Immediate family members under 18(See 4.0 D) may fish with the club without paying guest fees. Any other family member may fish only two tournaments without paying a $5 guest fee or joining the club.**

6.0 OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIIBILITY: The officers and their duties shall consist of, but are not necessarily limited to the following.

A...President: Presides over all the meetings and directs all official business. He/she appoints members to committees and is an ex facto member of all committees. He/she will supervise all club functions and will have the last say in any club matters.

Update any rule changes and send them to the web master to be updated on our website.

B...Vice President: Acts as a program chairman assists the president in his duties and presides in the absence of the president.

C...Secretary: Maintains accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the president.

D...Treasurer: Collect and distribute all monies, maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the board of directors.

E...Tournament Director: Shall be responsible for enforcing tournament rules and procedures; acquire permits from the Public Access Board of North Carolina, or any other state in which Cumberland Bassmasters Club intends to hold a tournament, for ramp and tournament use. The Tournament Director is also required to take attendance records. He\she is also responsible for typing out tournament standings and results also will preside over any meeting at which both the president and vice-president are not present.

F...Webmaster: Will take care of website (updating stats, pictures, info, etc.)

7.0 ELECTIONS: The election of officers will be held annually at the November meeting. Elections shall be by simple majority vote of all members present. Elections for each officer shall be separately in order as listed in section 6.0.

7.1
Eligibility to vote: Each member is entitled to one (1) vote. Member must be in good standing at the time of elections. Proxy votes ARE NOT permitted.

7.2 Term of Office: The term of office is for two one year, which shall begin at the commencement of the DECEMBER Meeting.

7.3Vacancies of Office:

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked and election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office.

7.4 Removal from Office:

Any officer may be removed at any time during the normal term of office due to misconduct or any other infraction of Article 9.0, following an investigation by the board of directors and a 2/3-majority vote by the membership.

7.5Eligibility for Holding Office:

To be eligible to hold office a member must: A: Have been a member for 6 monthsB: Have shown an active interest in all club activitiesC: Been in good standing at time of elections.

**8.0
MEETINGS:
Regular monthly meetings shall be held on predetermined times each month and will be open to all officers and club members capable of attendance. Any club business may be discussed and voted upon, so attendance is strongly encouraged.**

8.1
Special Meetings:

**Special meetings may be called to order by the officers at anytime during the month, after the proper notice is given to all members, to address critical issues or circumstances and will be conducted in the form of a regular monthly meeting excluding calls for new and old business and Treasurer's report.**

 **8.2
Attendance:**

**ALL members are strongly encouraged to attend meetings. All voting takes place at these meetings... if you wish a say in the business and future of the club, attend and vote.**

**9.0
REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP:
Any of the following infractions of club bylaws will be grounds for removal from the club membership. No refunds of any matter will be allowed.

A: Failure to pay dues

B: Any action, which would dishonor or disgrace this club or its members.**

**10.0
METHOD OF AMENDING BYLAWS:**

**The club bylaws will be amended at the November meeting by a majority vote by the membership present; all written proposed amendment can be presented at any meeting but will only be voted on at the regular November meeting. These changes will take effect for the new fishing year. These changes will be provided on our website.**

Cumberland Bassmasters Tournament Rules and Procedures

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**11.0
TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:
Club tournament committee will consist of the Tournament Director, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.**

 **12.0
TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:
The Club members will vote on tournament locations, dates and ramp site during the Decembers Club meeting. Due’s must be paid prior to voting on nest calendar year tournament dates and locations or be ineligible to vote until dues are paid prior to the 1st tournament of the year.**

 **13.0
TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION or POSTPONEMENT:
An executive board meeting must be called by the club president or, in his absence, the club vice-president to change a tournament date or location. If a decision is made to change a tournament in any way, all club members MUST be notified. At the launch site, the tournament director may delay the starting time in the event due to weather or mishap; he can declare a trailer tournament if he deems it necessary in order to protect the safety of the contestants.**

**13.1**

**Only 8 (1) one day tournaments will be scheduled from March-October, with (2) two additional floating tournaments to be scheduled within that time frame, but no more than (2) two tournaments in one month.**

**14.0
TOURNAMENT PROCEEDURES:
Tournaments will begin at Safe Light, unless another time has been determined prior to the tournament date. All members must be made aware of the time change prior to the date of the tournament.**

 **14.1
All tournaments will be started by a numbered draw, which will take place at the club meeting. If we do not have a club meeting the draw will be at the ramp.**

 **14.2
All fish will be measured in accordance to state law.**

14.3
Boat drawing or assigned highest number in tournament starting draw will be the official starter for that tournament.

 **14.4
The starter will signal the first boat to depart, wait fifteen (15) seconds and then signal the next boat to depart and so on. There will be a fifteen (15) second wait between all departing boats.**

 **14.5
There will be a "No Wake" zone from the launch to approximately fifteen (15) yards beyond the starting boat, so as not to swamp any other boat.**

 **14.6
All boats MUST have a functioning aerated live well. A fish type bubbler is acceptable, the aerator must circulate and aerate and replace old with fresh water in your live well/cooler. All live wells will be checked before the start of all tournaments. The tournament director will automatically disqualify any boat with a non-functioning live well.**

 **14.7
All club regular tournaments end 3:30 pm unless a time change has been approved. Sunday floating tournaments will end at 2:30.You must be at the boat launch site by tournament end time or you will lose one (1) pound of weight per minute late, or be disqualified if more than fifteen (15) minutes late. The TX director’s time is the only time, and will be announced before the first TX begins.**

**14.8
Only artificial baits may be used at our tournaments. Pork is allowed. The tournament director will disqualify any club member in possession of any live or dead bait.**

**14.9
No boat shall fish within 50 yards of any anchored boat, or 25 yards of another fishing vessel. An anchored boat is defined as having the anchor in the water and the trolling motor out of the water.**

 **14.10
Anyone caught cheating (planting fish, sharing fish, etc.) will be removed from the club, no questions asked, and will further be subject to Internet publicity concerning that matter.**

 **14.11
Club Tournament Fee’s**

1. **$30.00 for tournament fee**
2. **$5.00 for big fish (Optional)**
3. **$5.00 for side pot (Optional)**

 **d. If paying by check, leave the Payment to blank on the check.**

**14.12**

**Tailoring:**

**Tournament director has the option to declare a tailoring tournament or change ramp location, if a situation should require him/her to do so. I.e. not enough parking Ect.**

**A. A Trailer tournament is where all contestants leave the designated launch area by car or boat. If tailoring, a contestant must launch at an area on the chosen tournament body of water that can be reached by boat from the regular launch site during normal pool.**

**B. You will not leave the launch site until the first boat has been blasted off.**

 **15.0
BOATS AND BOAT SAFETY:**

 **15.1
Boat must have proper state registration**

 **15.2
Boat trailer must be properly registered.**

 **15.3
All boats must have proper safety equipment.**

 **15.4
All tournament contestants must have the proper fishing license for any state a tournament is fished in.**

 **15.5
Boat must meet all Coast Guard requirements for a boat of its size.**

 **15.6
Only bass (Largemouth, Small mouth and Kentucky Spots) will be weighed. All bass must be weighted in club bags. NO EXCEPTON. Once fish have been given to tournament director they then become property of Cumberland Bassmasters.**

15.7
Any infraction of sections 15.1 through 15.5 will be grounds for immediate disqualification.

 **15.8
Any infraction of the state boating and fishing laws is grounds for disqualification.**

 **15.9
No drugs and/or alcohol are to be present in your boat during a club tournament.**

 **15.10
If caught with drugs and/or alcohol during a tournament it will be recommended that violators be removed from the club.**

 **15.11
Some members have cell phones with them during tournaments. A list of members with cell phones will be available for every member for safety reasons.**

 **15.12
All members are required to wear their life vests zipped and snapped and kill switch attached (if equipped) while the big motor is in gear.**

**16.0
GENERAL TOURNAMENT RULES:
All members are expected to show good sportsmanship at all tournaments. All members fishing in club tournaments should be more courteous towards our own members when passing each other, or who is fishing.**

**16.1
All tournaments will be a maximum of 5 fish limit and will follow the state size limits for the body of water being fished with a club minimum of 12”.**

**16.2**

**When a participant has caught a sixth (6th) legal fish, he must stop fishing and cull (release) a fish.**

**16.3
Trolling is allowed only with the electric motor. There will be only one line per person in the water at all times.**

**16.4
The use of landing nets is allowed in all club tournaments.**

 **17.0
PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE:
There is no cutoff date for pre-tournament fishing, unless otherwise determined and discussed before practice begins.**

 **18.0
OFFICIAL END OF TOURNAMENT:
A tournament will be declared official once tournament points and purses have been given out. No protests will be accepted after that time.

19.0
LEAVING WATER EARLY:
A member who has begun a tournament but decides to leave the tournament site due to weather, illness, mechanical problem or emergency, must first check out with another participating member or leave a note on tournament director’s vehicle.**

 **20.0
TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN:
All boats must be in sight of the boat ramp at tournaments end time, not around the bend, and a tournament official must be able to see, and identify, your boat. See "tournament procedure" section 14.7 for more information.

21.0
WEIGH-IN:
Any club member or participant bringing in a dead fish shall be penalized .50 pound per dead fish. If the fish is moving while on the scale and later die’s while being put back into the water that member or participant will not be penalized.**

**21.1
A courtesy check of the length of bass will be made if requested before submitting your catch for weigh-in. Any short fish (less than 12 inches long *or the legal limit for that body of water*) weighed in will result in a one (1) pound penalty plus the longest of the short fish.**

**21.2
All club member or participant's largest fish will be weighed for a possible lunker award. If the biggest fish is dead, it will not be deducted any penalties until final total weight.**

 **21.3
In the event of a tie by two or more members or participants, the tie will be broken by the following.**

 **A. 1st Place: 1st & 2nd Place money will be split between both**

**Members.**

 **B. 2nd Place: 2nd & 3rd Place money will be split between both members.**

 **C. 3rd Place: 3rd Place money will be split between both members**

 **21.4
The weight determined by the tournament director or his assistant is the "official" weight.**

 **21.5
If the tournament director needs assistance he may ask a member of the club to assist.**

 **22.0
DISQUALIFICATION:
If the tournament director or the tournament committee disqualifies a member at a tournament, that member has a right to appeal. In the case of an appeal that member will meet with the tournament committee and the members involved. All matters will be resolved at the ramp.**

**22.1
Disqualification means loss of all points and prizes for that tournament.**

**23.0
TOURNAMENT POINT SCORING:
The scoring year will begin at the first regular monthly club meeting held in December. Tournament scores will be based on the total weight in accordance with club rules. Each participant will automatically receive 10 points for each meeting and tournaments attended. Only legal fish will be weighed. Angler will receive one (1) point for every 1/10 ounce *pound*.**

**24.0 Banquet:
An annual banquet will be held each year. Place and time to be determined by club members. The VP of the club is responsible for organizing this event.

25.0 Awards
The following awards will be given out each year.**

 **A. Winner of each regular tournament will be awarded $20.00 or plaque.**

**B. Big fish over 5 lbs will be awarded a plaque or $20.00.**

**C. Angler of the Year. Angler of the year will be club member with highest number of points for the year. If a tie still exists there will be two co-anglers of the year. A.O.Y will receive a plaque or trophy and $150.00 cash award. In the event of a tie, money will be split between both members.

D. Big Bass. Big Bass will be club member who has the highest weighing bass for the season. If a tie exists it will be split between both members. Big Bass will receive a plaque or $20.00.**

**26.0 Top Six Fish Off**

**The top six fisher man by points at the end of the season will participate in a six man tournament the next year. This fish off will be at a regularly scheduled tournament event and will be a tournament within a tournament. This six man tournament sight will be selected by the year ending champion. The top six will be represented by only the top six finishers in points. There will be no substitutions for filling slots if any of the top six members cannot make the tournament. If a top six finisher cannot participate in the tournament, then the finishing position will be determined by his or hers points in the event. If more than one cannot participate we will use the regular season point standings to determine their final finishing places in the six man tournament.

These and all rules and procedures of the Cumberland Bassmasters Club may be revised at any time to help alleviate any problems that may arise.
In the event that a rule's intent is not clear due to a typographical error of these online rules, the typo will be cured and the rule made clear again.**