



## Spring Open Bay Bass Tournament

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please read all the rules and regulations carefully if you have any questions ask ASAP do not wait till day of tournament.

1. Entry: All anglers must complete and sign:

1. Tournament Entry Form
2. The Liability/Release Waiver
3. Provide Proof of Insurance ("Entry Documents")
4. Download the iAngler Tournament app. On your cell phone or device, you will use for pictures.

Entries not completed by all team members will not be accepted. All completed Entry Documents must be received by San Diego Anglers ("SDA") on or before March 28, 2025. Entry fees must be received by SDA on or before March 28, 2025. Because the tournament will be strictly limited to fifty (50) Boats & 25 Kayaks. Failure to comply with these deadlines will cause an entry to be rejected. Teams may withdraw from the tournament at any time. However, only PARTIAL REFUNDS of entry fees will be given after March 25, 2025. After March 25, 2025, if a team withdraws from the Tournament \$150 of the entry fee plus any Jackpot money will be returned to the team. \$50 will be retained by the OBB Tournament.

FURTHERMORE, THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ANY PHOTOS TAKEN DURING THE TOURNAMENT MAY BE USED IN FUTURE PUBLICITY.

TEAM CONTACT PERSON WILL BE TEAM ANGLER #1

2. **Starting Time:** The official starting time of the Tournament is approximately 6:15 A.M. (safe light) on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at Shelter Island Launch Ramp. The official ending time of the Tournament is 2:00 P.M.(PST) on Saturday, March 29, 2025.
3. **Controlled Start:** Boats may not leave staging area prior to release by Tournament officials. There will be a Horn to start tournament.
4. **Boat / Kayak Check In:** Checks will begin at approximately 5:00 A.M. At that time, tournament identifiers (streamers, wristbands, etc.) will be provided to each team. Boats / Kayaks may not launch until cleared by tournament personnel. Trailered boats may line up in advance of Check In by forming a single-file line in the lot. Public access to the boat ramp MAY NOT BE IMPEDED.

Slip boats must check in with Tournament officials at the boat launch. (Boats that are too large for the Launch Ramp Area Please contact Tournament Director by March 28th to arrange Check-in location better

suited for your vessel.) Ken Pucillo between 8:00am – 7:00pm at (619) 244-1951 or [sdatournaments@gmail.com](mailto:sdatournaments@gmail.com)

5. **Boundaries:** The fishing areas shall be limited to those waters of San Diego Bay. Outer boundary is a line drawn between buoys #9 and # 10 and extending to Zuniga Jetty on the east and Point Loma on the west and inside San Diego Bay. EXCEPTIONS: No fishing within restricted Naval areas or 100 ft. of bait barges.
6. **Team Competition:** A team consists of no more than 2 anglers per boat. One angler may enter as a team but must pay the full team entry fee. No spectators or crew may be aboard a team boat. The team must have at least one person over 18 years old.
7. **Bait:** Live Bait (sardine, anchovies) can be purchased after the start of the tournament from the bait barge. Small quantities of cut or frozen bait will be allowed on the boat (1 pound of cut or frozen bait per boat). Live ghost shrimp will be allowed (No more than 50 per boat). Please read Rule 9 below.
8. **State Regs:** California Department of Fish & Wildlife regulations apply, EXCEPTION: No chumming allowed. U.S. Coast Guard Regulations apply. Anglers are responsible for knowing USCG & CDF&W regulations.
9. **Chumming:** No chumming allowed. Chumming is defined as placing any material in the water, other than on a hook, while angling, for the purpose of attracting fish to a particular area in order for fish to be taken.
10. **Species:** Calico Bass, Sand Bass & Spotted Bay Bass, minimum of 12". (Yes 12") since this is a catch and release tournament Bass starting at 12" or larger will be counted. Remember to be gentle with all fish and try to minimize the amount of handling and time out of water Catch, Measure, Release. Halibut must be at least 22 inches. (Optional halibut jackpot) Halibut will be weighed in at the OBC and must be done so prior to end of tournament. 2PM
11. There is no anchoring on fishing spots, this includes electronic anchoring i.e., Spot Lock.
12. Measured fish total inches. Prizes are based on the TOTAL inches caught by your teams top 5 bass (any combination) of species Spotted Bay Bass, Barred Sand Bass or Calico Bass. All fish must be measured properly with one of these 3 Tournament approved Trough Style Measure boards. Hawg Boards, Ketch Boards or the Hobie Ketch board from Fast lane Sailing Center. All bass must be uploaded to the iAngler App by 2pm. Halibut Weigh Station will be at the OBC at the Shelter Island Launch Ramp area. Halibut Weigh-In starts at 1:30 P.M. Anglers weighing in a Halibut must be in line no later than 2:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS.

Once HALIBUT are weighed, they must remain in possession of the OBB Tournament until the end of the weigh-in unless released by Tournament officials. No fish will be given back prior to the final weigh-in. In the case of a tie, the first Halibut weighed is the winner.

Any Halibut weighed shall be subject to identification markings and any other inspections the tournament officials deem necessary, including organ removal. Fish under legal size will not be accepted at weigh-in. Illegal fish must be removed from Tournament area immediately.

### **13. DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:**

Participants must use their own Smart Phone or digital camera for recording scoring fish.

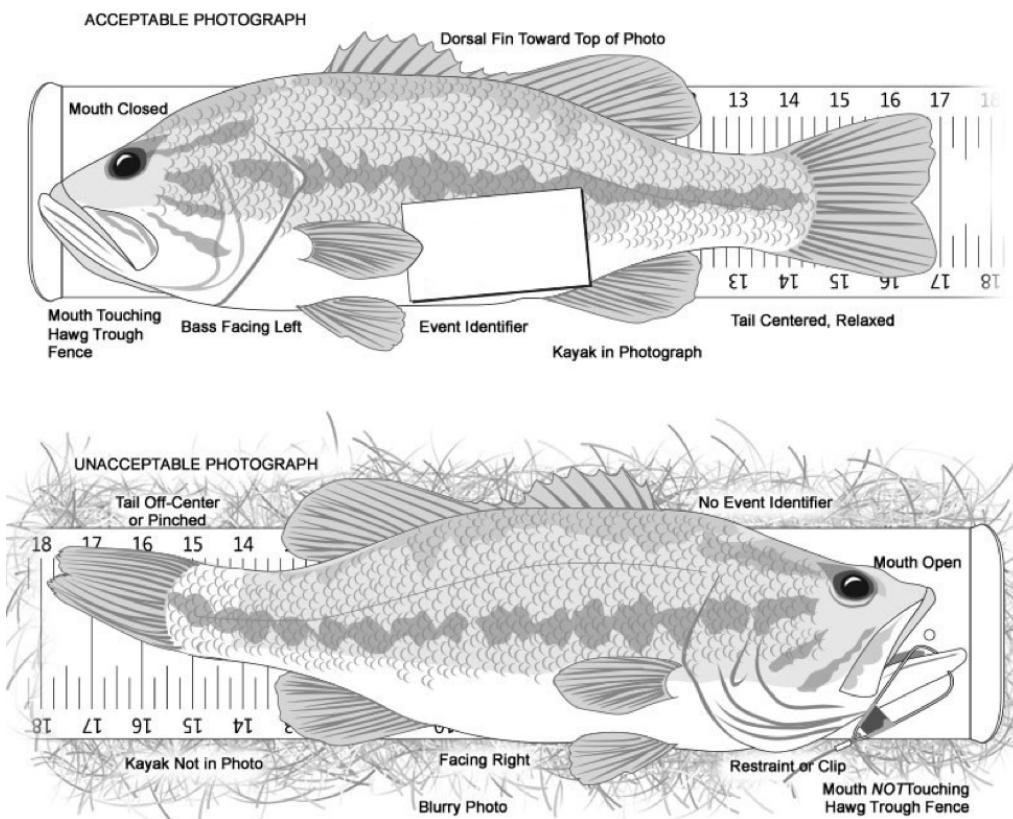
All photos shall be uploaded into the iAngler Tournament application by 2pm. No other means of entering photos are accepted.

This means NO fish entered after 2pm will count if you have an issue with the app. submitting your fish you need to bring that to our attention at the time of catch not at the end of the tournament. do not submit and resubmit because you think it didn't though, we are only a phone call away. Remember we have North Island Naval Air Station and Lindbergh Airport on both sides of the bay you may lose connection with your phones from time to time. Also, there are practice apps available on this site so learning how to submit a fish is your job practice and get familiar with the app before the tournament. this will NOT be an excuse as to why you didn't turn in your fish before 2pm.

#### 14. PHOTO STANDARDS:

Digital photographs of fish submitted to judges for scoring must meet these criteria:

- A. Legible. Photo must be clear enough to read 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 marks in the photo are valid, then the photo will be denied.
- B. Competitor's watercraft clearly visible
- C. Team Number on Tag or on back of hand that has only 3 to 4 fingers spread out behind the Gills holding the fish in place in the Middle of the fish but not covering more than Half the fish from top to bottom.  
HINT Judges Need to see the top half of the fish.
- D. Fish, as depicted below:



- i. Facing left on a measuring device, left side of the fish visible, dorsal fin toward the top of the photo
- ii. Mouth completely closed with jaw and/or lips touching the "fence." Position camera lens directly over the center of the fish's body to aid judges in determining that fish' 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.
- iii. Tail centered and its tip in contact with the measuring device.

iv. To confirm that the fish is alive, the fish's eye must be uncovered in the photo. Photos of fish that appear to be dead, mutilated, frozen or similarly damaged will be disqualified without scoring. Photos of fish 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.

v. Securing the fish with any portion of a hand under the fish's gill flap is prohibited.

vi. All photos become property of the San Diego Bay Anglers

## 15. SCORING:

A. The tournament is a catch, photo, and release format.

B. Fish length is determined by its tail touching or crossing a quarter-inch line on the measuring device. If it falls short of a line, the length is rounded down to the nearest 1/4-inch mark that the fish' tail actually touches or crosses. Angling the fish to achieve additional length will not result in a higher score and may result in deduction in length. If a fish is submitted and rejected, it cannot be resubmitted. The judge's decision is final and not subject to debate. Any attempt to discredit judges or San Diego Anglers via social media or any other methods will result in immediate DQ and no refunds permitted.

C. In the event of an exact tie in aggregate score, ties will be broken according to the highest single -fish score will be compared and the higher score will be determining the outcome. If both Competitors' highest single-fish score, too, is identical, then the second highest single-fish score of both Competitors will be compared, and so on until the tie is broken by the highest single-fish score.

D. Grading criteria: 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	<b>n/a</b>
Photo	Photo that is too blurry to judge at all	<b>DQ</b>
Photo	Photo appears to be second-generation (photo of a photo)	<b>DQ</b>
Photo	Photo submitted before or after event date and time limits	<b>DQ</b>
Photo	GPS photo tag or other evidence indicates photo was uploaded out of tournament "permitted waters" zone	<b>DQ</b>
Photo	Multiple digital photos unintentionally submitted of the same fish	<b>DQ</b>
Photo	Multiple digital photos intentionally submitted of the same fish; fraud	<b>Ban</b>
Orientation	Fish is positioned with the head pointing to the right	<b>DQ</b>
Orientation	Fish is positioned with dorsal fin at bottom of photo, pelvic and anal fins upward	<b>DQ</b>
Watercraft	Competitor's watercraft not visible in photo	
Mouth	Fish lip or mouth clearly not touching measuring device fence (the upright end plate)	<b>DQ</b>
Mouth	Unable to ascertain with certainty that fish lip or mouth is touching measuring device fence	<b>1"</b>
Mouth	Mouth slightly open, but less than 1/8 inch	<b>0"</b>
Mouth	Mouth open 1/8 to 1/4 inch, even if it appears to be structurally unable to close completely.	<b>0.5"</b>

Mouth Mouth open 1/4 to 1/2 inch, even if it appears to be structurally unable to close completely. **1.0"**

Mouth Mouth open wider than 1/2 inch, even if it appears to be structurally unable to close completely. **1.5"**

Mouth Fish gripper left in mouth as long as it does not appear to be increasing the measurement and is authorized for that event. **2"**

Body Restraining device, stringer, tape, or clip of any kind is attached to fish 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 Tail lifted off the measuring device; 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 Fish appears to have been mashed, mauled, or otherwise altered to increase its length **DQ**

#### **16. PROTEST:**

All protests must be submitted in writing, 30-minutes before the end time of tournament. All protests will be reviewed by members of the San Diego Anglers Tournament. Directors, All decisions will be final and are not subject to appeal.

17. **Disqualification:** The officials may disqualify any team for unsportsmanlike conduct, crossing Tournament boundaries, violations of the rules and regulations, or for any other reason deemed necessary. The decision of the officials is final.
18. **Cancellation:** The Tournament will be held on the date specified regardless of rain. In case of fog, the start time may be delayed until visibility is safe. In the event of strong wind, (small craft advisory, gale, storm warning) or military closure of the Bay, the Tournament fishing will be rescheduled on: "To Be Determined". If we have to cancel again for this date, the tournament will be cancelled and 90% of the entry plus all jackpot money will be returned.
19. **Prizes:** It is the prize winner's responsibility to claim awards in a timely manner. The San Diego Anglers will not be responsible for the availability, delivery, or utilization of prizes once they have been awarded. Any prize not claimed and picked up within 30 days of the Tournament shall become the property of the San Diego Anglers. All prize winners are responsible for all applicable taxes.
20. **Protests:** Any protest must be submitted to an OBB Tournament official by 3pm on the day of the tournament. Or by start of presentation of Awards. Which come first.

**TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION IS CONFIRMATION THAT THE TEAM HAS READ, UNDERSTANDS, AND AGREES TO THE RULES AND WILL ABIDE BY THEM.**