

Sherwood Bass Club Rules

1. Sherwood Bass Club (SBC) will have eight regular (two-man team) tournaments. Tournaments will be from January to September (no tourney in August) on the 3rd Saturday of the month. All tournaments are safe light until 3:00 pm. The club classic tournament is held on the second Saturday in October.
2. Club's annual membership fee will be \$30.00 per person for the January and February tournaments. You must fish either the January or February tournament to get the \$30 membership. SBC will not accept membership and/or entry fees for later tournaments in January or February. Starting in March, the membership fee will be raised to \$60 per member through the end of the season. Membership fee by months: January- \$30, February- \$30, March thru September- \$60. Each regular tournament requires an entry fee of \$100.00 per boat. There will be an optional \$10 Big Bass pot with 100% payback. The entry fees will pay out at 70/30 (each tournament/SBC Classic). Club payout will be as follows: 19 boats or less- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place; 20-25 boats- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place; 26 boats or more- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th place. Classic entry fee is \$100. This includes the \$10.00 Big Bass fee. Any and all ties will split the money of any and all tied places.
3. Each contestant must register and pay an entry fee to a club official 15 Minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Anyone is eligible to fish with the Sherwood Bass Club as long as you do not make a living or primary income from fishing tournaments and/or sponsorships and you are not listed as a Professional on a circuit website.
4. At registration on tournament day, each team will be assigned a starting position in the order of paid entry. Before the start of the tournament, a club officer will call the official time and livewells must be verified that they are empty.
5. Late arriving members will be allowed to compete as follows: Immediately locate another club member prior to fishing and pay entry fee. That member will verify that livewells are empty. SBC will not allow a non-member to fish if they arrive late.
6. There will be a five fish limit per boat. Sixth fish must be culled immediately. Sherwood Bass will measure all fish with a "Gator Grip Golden Rule Board" (mouth closed and tail pinched.)

7. All Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and State laws will apply at all times. No fishing within 50 yards of another contestant, or marina gas pump. A competitor may not use a CB radio, a VHF marine band radio, a cellular phone, or any other type of communication device for the purpose of locating and/or catching fish during tournament hours. These devices may be used for emergency purposes or contacting a lock and dam for locking purposes. All angling must be done from the boat. Contestants must not depart from the boat to land a fish. Boat must remain in tournament waters during the tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat. Both competitors must remain in the boat at all times, except in case of dire emergency. (Should a mechanical breakdown occur, another tournament contestant and one member from the disabled boat may bring the disabled boat's catch in.) In such an emergency, competitors may be removed from their boat to a boat operated by other competitors, or a rescue boat so designated by tournament officials. If a competitor must violate any of the above conditions due to an emergency or any other reason, his/her catch of the day shall not be counted in the tournament. Trailering of boats during tournament hours is prohibited.

8. Only largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass may be weighed in. A minimum of 12" in length will apply, except when AGFC or lake limits are greater. Fish presented at weigh-in measuring less than the legal tournament length will not be accepted and the team will be penalized one pound per short fish. Each legal dead fish weighed in will be penalized a half-pound. If the dead fish is the big bass of the day, the dead fish penalty will not apply to this award but will be deducted against total weight.

9. A team will be disqualified, if more than 5 fish are brought to the weigh-in site. Failure to be within no wake zone of the official check-in site at the end of tournaments results in disqualification.

10. If any fish at weigh-in is mauled or white-eyed, the club official shall have the right to reject that fish for weigh-in. In order to support "Catch & Release," all boats must have an aerated livewell(s) and all live fish will be released. Anglers will be allowed to use their own bags but must monitor the amount of people in the weigh in line. A longer than expected weigh in line will not excuse dead fish. Only dead fish may be kept after the tournament.

11. Life jackets are required to be worn anytime the boat is on plane. The Sherwood Bass Club will not be responsible for any claims of injury or damage incurred in connection with one of its tournaments. No alcohol or controlled substances can be used during tournament hours.

12. NO trolling or live bait are allowed during tournament hours. Members must NOT catch or land a fish while out of their boats.

13. **Members at the Annual Meeting at the conclusion of the season** will vote for the tournament schedule submitted by the tournament schedule committee. Committee will be appointed by the club officers prior to the November meeting. Sherwood Bass will not fish the same body of water or river pool for two consecutive months. When the Arkansas River is on the schedule, there will also be an alternate lake site listed. If the flow on the river is 100M or more Club officers will notify members the Thursday before the tournament if the alternate is needed. (Lake Dardanelle, Pine Bluff Harbor, and Dumas are acceptable river alternates.) Also at this meeting, members will vote for new officers and rule changes for the upcoming season and pay out the Classic money to all members who qualify and fished the classic. Pay out will be according to the team's weight by ounce.

14. All teams that have fished a minimum of five tournaments during the current calendar year will be eligible to participate in the Sherwood Bass "Classic." Teams are allowed 1 tournament buy in before the September Tournament. Buy in money will go straight to the classic. The 1 buy in is to assist a team in achieving enough tournaments entered to qualify for the Classic only (must enter 5 of 8 tournaments). Zero (0) points will be awarded toward AOY for any events a team did not fish.

15. The Classic location will be drawn from the original tournament schedule (that was voted on at the annual meeting) on the Thursday before the Classic tournament date. On the "Even number years", the classic will be drawn from the River tournament sites and on the "Odd number years" the classic will be drawn from the Lake tournament sites. Lake Dardanelle will be considered a river location only. The Classic will launch according to the final standings. The Classic site is off limits for pre-fishing.

Classic - 2 day format - must average 25 teams on the year

All teams that fish 5 of the 8 tournaments will qualify. Day one will pay each team's weight by the ounce. Day one Big Bass will pay 10% of the Classic entry. The Top 10 teams in total weight for the year at the conclusion of the September tournament will qualify to fish the 2nd Day of the Classic. That means they are predetermined before the start of the Classic. These Ten teams will carry over their weights from the 1st Day. They will also be paid by the ounce for their 1st Day weight, like all qualified anglers. The combined weights of both days will determine the Classic winners. Payout for the 2nd Day will be as follows: 1st - \$1000, 2nd - \$600, 3rd - \$400, 4th - \$200. Big Bass of the 2nd Day will pay \$100.

Classic - 1 day format - average 24 teams or below on the year

All teams that fish 5 of the 8 tournaments will qualify. We will pay each team's weight by the ounce. Big Bass will pay 10% of the Classic entry. The team with the most weight will be the classic champion and receive a bonus of \$500.

16. Sherwood Bass Club will use a points system to determine the standings of teams throughout the year. The winning team of each event will receive 100 points. The 2nd place team will receive 99 points and on down until we reach the final team that weighs in fish. Teams that do not weigh in, but did fish the tournament, will receive 1 point less than the lowest finishing team to weigh in fish. The worst scoring event (can include 1 event not fished in which zero (0) points were earned) of each team will be dropped from the total score at the end of each season. The best seven (7) scores of the eight (8) possible tournaments will count towards that team's AOY overall final score.

17. A team's total points at each tournament are accumulated throughout the year for award purposes. If individuals from separate teams fish together, this will establish a new team. Teams are allowed a Youth Substitution for any tournament through the year, excluding the classic. A Youth Substitute is defined as any youth angler that has not graduated or has just graduated but not started college the fall after graduation. Upon Graduation from the 12th grade or starting college in August the youth angler will no longer qualify as a Youth Substitute. Awards for "Big Bass of the Year" and "Team of the Year" (most points as a team for best 7 or 8 club tournaments) will be presented at the club's **annual meeting**. Fish caught during the Classic are not taken into account for "Big Bass" or "Team of the Year". The "Team of the Year" will receive a \$500.00 cash prize, two embroidered jackets, and two trophies.

18. Decisions will be made by a majority vote of all members present. In case of a tie, the president or presiding officer will vote to break the tie.

19. The president or presiding officer will make all final decisions. If the club officers are not able to attend a tournament, then someone will be appointed as director of the tournament, and their decision will be final.

20. POLYGRAPH: All contestants are subject to polygraph testing. Failure to submit is grounds for disqualification. Any contestant who has failed a polygraph test for cheating in a bass tournament and/or has been disqualified for cheating in a Bass Tournament is not eligible to compete in the Sherwood Bass Club Tournaments. Polygraph testing is performed at the discretion of the tournament director.