



HOSTED BY



Iowa Games Big Fish Classic – BASS KAYAK DIVISION

- Check-in Begins at 5:30 am – Emerson Bay State Park Ramp on West Okoboji Lake
- 7:00 am anglers begin fishing
- Payout periods will be every two hours (7:01-9:00am, 9:01-11:00, 11:01-1:00, 1:01-3:00 with last weigh-in at 3pm)
- Each angler is allowed to submit 3 (three) pictures of a fish during each period
- Top three payouts per period plus overall big fish award



1. INTERPRETATION & ENFORCEMENT

- All Federal, State, and Local laws, rules, markings, orders, and warnings must be followed and will supersede these rules at all times. Violation of any laws will be cause for disqualification.
- All violations of laws will be turned over to the proper authorities for investigation and possible prosecution. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating, harassment, wildlife violations, illegal drug use, and any other illegal activity.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed during the tournament.
- Special Rules and amendments may be announced, added, or omitted for special circumstances or clarification at the judgement of the tournament director(s).
- Interpretation and enforcement of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament director(s).
- Decisions of the tournament director(s) are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.
- Each contestant agrees to report any rule violation to the tournament director(s) immediately upon discovery of the violation. Failure to report violations may be cause for disqualification.
- The violation of a tournament rule may result in, but is not limited to, total length penalty, short fish penalty, the loss of length to a particular time in the tournament day, the loss of length for the entire day, the loss of the longest total one-day catch, the loss of the longest bass for the day, disqualification from the entire tournament and/or ineligibility to participate in future Iowa Kayak Anglers tournaments.

2. PAYBACK & PARTICIPATION

- Payback will be a value of 81.25% of the total entry fees and is based on the number of paid entries for each tournament. The entry fee covers payouts, angler T-shirt and administration costs.
- All participants must have paid the full entry fee to be considered a contestant.
- The Big Fish Award (Bass) is a separate prize eligible to all contestants.
- For the bass kayak division, there will be payouts for the top three fish per 2-hour period plus an overall big fish award. If there is no fish entered in one of the top three spots, any unclaimed prize monies will be divided among those that measured/placed in that pay period.
- Any person's participation in the Big Fish Classic is at the sole discretion of Iowa Games, Midwest Game Fish and IKA officials.
- All contestants must have a valid fishing license for the waters they fish. Random checks will be conducted at each tournament. Failure to provide proof of a valid fishing license within a reasonable amount of time when requested

by the tournament director will result in disqualification for that day and any preceding days in which the license was required for the tournament.

- All competitors must accept a liability release (waiver) while registering online.
- Iowa Games, Midwest Games Fish and IKA reserves the right to designate, limit, or expand the number of open positions in the tournament field.
- All entries MUST be made according to designated registration guidelines. Entries must be paid in full for angler to be considered registered.
- **Sample payouts per period (4 periods 7:01-9:00, 9:01-11:00, 11:01-1:00, 1:01-3:00) Based on 30 entrants**
 - 1st: \$341.25
 - 2nd: \$97.50
 - 3rd: \$48.75

3. INFORMATION GATHERING

- The purchasing of, or bartering for, information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters is not permitted during the tournament.
- During official tournament days, contestants may not solicit and/or receive information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters from anyone except other anglers confirmed in the tournament and through publicly available sources.
- The purchasing of, or bartering for, fishing locations from another contestant is strictly prohibited and will be cause for both contestants to be disqualified from the entire tournament. This includes sharing information for the purpose of sharing or pooling winnings.

4. PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

- Pre-fishing ends at 4 P.M. the day before the tournament
- Contestants may not enter tournament waters for any reason after the start of the pre-tournament meeting and in between weigh-in and launch of multi-day events except during official tournament hours.
- Testing equipment on tournament waters after the start of the pre-tournament meeting is NOT permitted for any reason.

5. PRE-TOURNAMENT (RULES) MEETING

- It is mandatory that all contestants, or their representatives, attend the pre-tournament (RULES) meeting.
- Check-in hours and locations will be announced for each individual tournament.
- Contestants not present, or represented, at the pre-tournament meeting will forfeit their entry fee and not be entered in the tournament.

6. SAFETY

- Safe boating must be observed at all times.
- Each contestant is required to wear a fastened U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device at all times during tournament hours.
- All Kayaks must be equipped with an emergency whistle and 360 degree light (if operating vessel before or after daylight hours.)
- At the discretion of the tournament director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions.
- Competitors may leave their boat and seek shelter in bad weather or when danger is eminent.
- Competitors are expected to use sound judgement and are accountable for his/her own actions when faced with a potentially dangerous situation. (i.e. Lightning, excessive wind, pleasure boaters, hunters, etc.)

7. SPORTSMANSHIP

- All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, sponsors, Iowa Games, Midwest Game Fish, IKA, IKA's sponsors, and the sport of fishing and IKA's efforts to promote the sport.

8. COMMUNICATION

- The use of mobile communication devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., to communicate between contestants during tournament hours is prohibited unless there is an emergency, or it is non-tournament related. Communication between contestants may resume at the completion of the tournament.

9. KAYAK REGULATION

- Minimum of 9 feet in length.
- No "Homemade" Kayaks will be permitted.
- Each kayak must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment.
- By signing the entry form, contestants agree to submit their kayak to an inspection by IKA personnel.
- Your kayak can be paddled, pedaled or powered with an electric trolling motor

10. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS

- Fishing is defined as rod and reel in hand with attached line and lures.
- All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner.
- All lures must adhere to state regulations.
- Only artificial lures may be used, with the exception of pork trailers and biodegradable soft baits.
- Alabama rigs and similar umbrella-type rigs are considered to be one lure, and are limited to a maximum of five wires with a maximum of five spinners, five lures and three hooks (single or treble) unless state regulations are more restrictive, in which case state regulations prevail.
- Only ONE fishing rod may be used at a time.
- Each cast must be completed before another cast is allowed and there can never be more than one lure from one rod in the water at any time.
- Trolling as a method of fishing is NOT allowed.
- All bass caught while sight-fishing must be hooked inside the mouth. Once released, if the Bass returns to the bed, it may not be caught again.
- No fish are to be kept on stringers. Fish Grips are acceptable to temporarily hold fish in the water while preparing to take your photo.
- All fish must be released before fishing may be resumed.

11. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

- Restrictions, designated launch points, official tournament waters, and other location mandates may be issued for individual events.
- Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by kayak except areas posted or otherwise designated as "off-limits," "no boats," "keep out," "restricted," "no trespassing" or "no fishing" (or similar language or markings intended to restrict public access), commercial property owners and/or local, state or federal officials, or within 25 yards of a contestant's kayak (unless given permission by that angler).
- All fishing must be conducted from inside the kayak.
- At no time may a contestant leave the kayak to land a fish or to make the kayak more accessible to fishing waters.
- The cutting of trees, bushes and/or logs after the start of the pre-tournament meeting and/or the removal of official local, state or federal barricades at any time to make an area more accessible by kayak is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification from the tournament.
- The use of cables, ropes, chains or any type of block and tackle system to maneuver a kayak into fishing waters is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification from the tournament.
- In the event of equipment failure or emergency, the tournament director(s) must be notified as soon as it is safe to do so. Always contact 911, emergency services, and contacting tournament personnel after reaching safety.

12. TOURNAMENT DAY CHECK-IN

- Check-in begins at 5:30 am – Emerson Bay State Park Ramp on West Okoboji Lake
- Designated first cast time will be announced at the Pre-Tournament Meeting if applicable.
- Failure to go through kayak check-in, in the morning and check-in the afternoon for weigh-in, may result in disqualification.

- All fishing must cease upon entering the weigh-in area until the official start of the next day or until Final weigh-in has concluded.

13. LATE PENALTY

- All anglers must check in within 2 hours after the close of designated fishing hours or at a specific time as determined by Tournament Officials. The days catch will be forfeited by the contestant if he/she fails to report back at the appointed time.

14. SCORING

- Scoring is determined by length using 1/4 inch increments of each contestant's catch during each tournament day via the Catch, Photograph, and Release (CPR) method.
- Each competitor will be provided with an identifier for the tournament.
- Each angler is allowed to submit 3 (three) pictures of a fish during each period (7:01-9:00, 9:01-11:00, 11:01-1:00, 1:01-3:00)
- The top 3 in each payout period will be the winners
- Rounding will be down and to the nearest ¼ inch.
- Only largemouth, spotted, or smallmouth bass are accepted species.
- All fish must measure a minimum of 12 inches, unless otherwise specified for individual events.
- Bass presented for weigh-in that fail to measure the prescribed length limit will not be counted.
- All fish entries must adhere to strict photo criteria to avoid penalties or disqualifications.
- Each contestant's catch must be presented according to the specific method designated for the Big Fish Classic.
- Any one fish may be submitted only once.



15. MEASURING DEVICE

- Ketch Boards are the only board we will allow for tournament use, it can be any variation of the ketch products.
- Contestants must bring their own measuring device.
- Your measuring device may be inspected by IKA staff at any time before, during, or after the tournament.
- Anyone found to be using a measuring device that is determined to be not legal will be disqualified from the tournament.
- Ensure the markings on your measuring device are clearly marked and can be seen by the scoring official.

16. PHOTO CRITERIA

- It is the angler's responsibility to ensure their photos can be downloaded for tournament scoring purposes.
- Each fish photo must include all the following criteria to avoid penalties or disqualification:
 - The entire Bass, from the tip of the lip to the end of the tail
 - Laying with the tip of the lip at the beginning of the Ketch Board
 - The mouth of the Bass must be closed

- The tail of the Bass may or may not be pinched
- Bass must be facing to the left, tail to the right, belly toward the angler
- Measuring device markings must be clearly visible
- Assigned identifier must be visible
- One overhead photo shot frame (not shot at an angle)
- Fish must be clear of any holding devices including fishing lure
- Lip, eye, and tail cannot be obstructed in the photo, even by your hand

****All criteria above must be met, or the photo may not be scored****

17. TIES

- The largest one-day catch for the tournament will break ties. If a tie remains, it will be broken first by total number of fish legally submitted, then by longest fish, followed by next longest fish until all fish have been accounted. If a tie still exists, the tournament director(s) will divide cash, prizes, and points amongst the anglers involved in the tie.
- Big Bass ties will be broken by who caught the big bass first.

18. PENALTIES (for Reference Only)

- Penalties are subject to change depending on individual events.
- Late Penalty: 5 inches
- Lip not touching board: No score