

EAST TEXAS HAWG HUNTERS



BASS CLUB

2018 BYLAWS & CLUB RULES

Article I...Membership

SECTION 1... *Minimum Number of Members*

The club shall begin with and maintain at a minimum of at least six members that are at least 18 years of age or older.

SECTION 2... *Requirements for Regular Membership*

To become an East Texas Hawg Hunters Club Member, a person shall;

- Voluntarily express a true interest in becoming a member and supporting the clubs purpose.
- Pay the annual membership dues
- Membership can be canceled for flagrant rule violations, any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the club, or by recommendation of the officers with a 2/3 majority vote of the members present at the next meeting

SECTION 3... *Membership Meetings*

The East Texas Hawg Hunters Bass Club shall hold all Club Meetings on the Tuesday before the tournament. Members will receive 10 points towards AOY for each meeting attended. Use of "group" text messages and website will update any changes made the week of the tournament...

SECTION 4... *Membership Duration*

Membership will be by the calendar year

Article II...TBF Membership/Tournament Fees and Information

SECTION 1... Membership Fees (Two Options)

- Club Membership is \$40 (ETHH Membership Only)
- **TBF Membership (if chosen by the club will be an additional \$65)**
- **Tournament Held April 14th and 15th... (Southeast Texas This Year)**

SECTION 2... Insurance Requirements

- **All members fishing the Texas Bass Federation must carry the liability insurance requirements made by the Texas TBF...\$300,000.**

SECTION 3...Open Seat Policy

- ETHH club members, that have an open back seat, will be required to draw for possible non-boaters in the club.
- ALL TBF Members will be required to “open up” their back seat for TBF non-boaters (at the State Level)

SECTION 4... Tournament Fees

- Tournament Entry Fees will be \$40 per person (with optional \$10 Big Bass Pot)
- Tournament Entry Fees “can” be paid even if the member will not be in attendance. The angler will be scored as “zeroing” for the event and will receive the appropriate points awarded for the tournament finish...This CANNOT however count towards a tournament “fished” for Championship Qualification purposes...

SECTION 5... Big Bass Fees

- Big Bass will be paid at each and every event through the optional \$10 Big Bass Pot...Dead fish and late penalties will/do apply. Tournament Director has final determination on the legality of a fish in question.

SECTION 6... Guests

- **GUESTS** will be allowed to fish with the club (1) once without having to pay the \$40 dollar club membership...**GUESTS** will be eligible for tournament winnings, but will not factor into the points race for the season...**GUESTS** must fish from the same boat as the member...**GUESTS** are not allowed to fish in any **TEAM** tournament events. ETHH Club Members will be allowed to bring only (1) guest per tournament/calendar season...

Article III...Tournaments

SECTION 1...*Team Tournaments and Individual Tournaments*

- The ETHH Bass Club will offer a unique blend of Team Tournaments and Individual Events...Each season at least 1 of the events will be in team format.
- Guests **will not** be allowed to fish in team tournaments.
- All participants MUST be a member in good standing with the ETHH Bass Club. Members will be responsible for choosing a partner or asking for someone else to help find a partner.
- Points for both team partners will be the same.

SECTION 2...*All Regular Season Tournaments Will Be One Day Events*

- All Regular Season Tournaments will be one day events.
- Tournament hours will be determined and set forth by the Tournament Director.

SECTION 3...*Tournament of Champions Tournament*

- Criteria for members to qualify for the Tournament of Champions...Members must **“physically” fish in a minimum of 5 regular season events AND finish in the top 75% of the clubs AOY standings for the current year...**
- Tournament Director has the option to make this tournament a (2) day event...
- Tournament hours will be determined and set forth by the Tournament Director.

Article IV...Tournament Payout Scale

SECTION 1...*No One Catches a Fish*

- Should no one catch any fish...All entry fees will be placed in the Championship Fund.

SECTION 2... *Only One Person Catches a Fish*

- Should **ONLY** one person bring a fish to the scales...ALL money will be awarded to the winner.

SECTION 3... *Payout for Tournaments (85 % paid back)*

- Payout for ALL tournaments:
 - 1-9 Boats=100% to 1st place
 - 10-14 Boats=60% to 1st place and 40% to 2nd place

- 15-19 Boats=50% to 1st place and 30% to 2nd place and 20% to 3rd place
- 20-30 Boats=50% to 1st place and 25% to 2nd place and 15% to 3rd place and 10% to 4th place

SECTION 4... Payout for Championship

- Payout for Championship-TBA

Article V...Tournament Point System

SECTION 1...Addition of Bag Limit Weight

- The ETHH Bass Club will use a 100 point scale **plus** weight of catch for calculating points for each tournament and for the season. First place will receive 100 points and the points will decrease by “one point” per place. (sample shown below)

1 st Place	100 pts. plus weight of catch
2 nd Place	99 pts. plus weight of catch
3 rd Place	98 pts. plus weight of catch
4 th Place	97 pts. plus weight of catch

SECTION 2...Results of Zeroing

- Any individual not weighing in a fish will receive **15 less points** than the last place that weighed fish.

SECTION 3...AOY Point System

- Angler of the Year (AOY) points will be determined by the total number of points accrued throughout the entire season...**Anglers will be able to drop one tournament.**

SECTION 4...Recognition

- At the conclusion of the season, the club will recognize the AOY, the top six in the standings for the year, and the winner of the tournament of champions.

Article VI...Club Rules

SECTION 1...Laws

- Federal, state, and local laws must be observed during tournament hours. This includes all club rules. Failure to abide by federal, state, and local laws or club rules will result in no weight allowed for the tournament in which the infraction occurred. Any contestant who displays poor sportsmanship, and/or brings unfavorable publicity to the sport of bass fishing or the ETTH Bass Club will be disqualified and shall forfeit all entry fees and/or prize money.

SECTION 2...Disqualifications

- Individuals disqualified for violating sportsmanship rules will forfeit their club membership for the balance of the year and only be considered for reinstatement upon reapplication the following year. *Reinstatement of a previously disqualified member requires a 2/3rd majority confirmation of the members.*

SECTION 3...Unsportsmanlike Behavior

- Any member displaying unsportsmanlike behavior may be barred from the club and all associated activities upon the signing of a petition by 10 members in good standing and a majority of the members of the Advisory Committee. These signatures can be collected electronically. *The above mentioned reinstatement rules apply.*

SECTION 4...Pre-Fishing/Off Limits

- There will be no "official" off limit times for all Regular Season Events/Tournaments...The Tournament Director reserves the right to place an official off limits period for the Tournament of Champions...

SECTION 5...Hiring of Guides

- An individual will be **INELIGIBLE** to fish any tournament if they have hired a guide on a tournament lake within 30 days prior to tournament date.

SECTION 6...Payment of Entry Fees

- All tournament entry fees must be paid prior to contestant participating in tournament...Fees will be accepted up to 15 minutes prior to official start time.

Article VII...Tournament Rules

SECTION 1...Tournament Director's Decisions

- All Tournament Director Decisions are final. A protest for rule violations must be made to the Tournament Director prior to money being awarded to the winning individual(s). If it is a problem regarding the weight of a fish or bag of fish, the protest must be made prior to the fish in question being returned to the lake.

SECTION 2...Laws (Federal, State, and Local)

All Federal, State and Local laws apply including Length limits for all species of Bass. Species will be determined by Tournament Director.

SECTION 3...Safety

- **Life Jackets must be worn while the boat is on plane with kill switch attached.**

SECTION 4...Daily Bag Limit

- The limit will be five bass per individual/or team...Any individual or team who possesses more than the tournament limit at any time will have their catch for the day disqualified.
- **Exception to this rule:**
 - ***Summer Months...Limit would then be 3 bass per individual/team***
 - ***Paper Tournament...All fish will be measured and released...Formula weight chart will be provided to each participant.***

SECTION 5...Dead Fish

There will be an 8 ounce (.5 lb.) penalty for dead fish. No dead fish will be returned to the lake, we must preserve a positive impression to the public.

SECTION 6...Short Fish

- Any short fish brought to the scales to be weighed will be penalized 1 pound and fish will not be counted toward total weight. All fish will be measured on a "Professional Ruler accepted by the club". You may check your close fish on the official bump board before turning the bag over to the tournament director for official weighing.

SECTION 7...Angling Respect

- Respect must be given to the other anglers regarding their fishing areas, no fishing within 50 yards of another angler without their permission.

SECTION 9...Methods of Fishing

- No live bait or trolling with big motor. Only the use of artificial lures will be allowed for tournament purposes.

SECTION 10...Prohibited Acts

- No alcoholic beverages consumed until weigh-in is final. No illegal drugs will be tolerated.

Article VIII...Tournament Morning Procedures

SECTION 1...Inclement Weather Conditions

- The Tournament Director has ruling in dangerous conditions (weather related, low water conditions, etc.)

SECTION 2...Official Sign up Time

- Sign up time will begin **45 minutes** prior to tournament start time.
- Members must be in good standing with entry fee to participate in the tournament.
- Anyone not signed up 15 minutes prior to start time may not enter the tournament.

SECTION 3...Mandatory Live Well Checks

- **ALL** participants must have their live wells checked by one of the clubs' officers.

SECTION 4...Take Off Procedures

- Draw Format...participants will draw a number the morning of the event for take-off...Boats will be released in sequential order...**Tournament Director will have the "official" time and will start the tournament at safe light.**

SECTION 5...Trailerling

- Trailerling is allowed, **BUT** members cannot leave until their number has been called.

SECTION 6...Tournament Hours

- Official stop times will be given by the TD during morning of the tournament. Also e-mails and texts will be sent prior to the event to let everyone know the proper tournament times.

SECTION 7...Tournament Weigh In Procedures

- Members should be in the weigh-in line no later than **20 minutes** after the tournament stop time. Members late to weigh-in will receive a 1 pound penalty for every minute late...Upon reaching 15 minutes late; the member will be disqualified from the tournament.

Article IX...Club Advisors

- **President (Stephen Cooksey-903-391-5307)**... Manages the ETHH Bass Club...Establishes locations for monthly meetings and provides the monthly agenda... Manages the account set up for the ETHH Bass Club and the TBF. Manages Web Page and keeps track of tournament results and point totals for the year.
- **Vice President (Roy Patterson-903-948-8337)** Collects entries at the Tournaments and prepares the payouts at the Tournaments. Assists with tracking tournament results and keeping up with point totals for the year.
- **Tournament Director (Shane Jones-903-724-4451)** Organizes and executes all aspects of the Tournament including launch decisions, weigh-in, and disputes. All TD decisions are final.
- **TBF Sponsor/Tech Advisor (Chase Calloway-903-394-3000)** This position will serve as a backup to ANY club advisor. In addition, this position will take care of all TBF affiliation responsibilities as well as manage the Facebook Page/Website.