

TABC Youth Division Rules and Regulations

1. These rules shall remain unchanged throughout the tournament season. Interpretation and enforcement of TABC Youth Division rules shall be left exclusively to the tournament director. The Tournament Director's decisions are final in all matters. Federal, State and Local water body authority laws and rules must be obeyed at all times.
2. Participation & Eligibility: Tournaments are open to individuals, male or female thru age 17. They must be a member/family member in a club that is a member of TABC. The club they belong to must be in good standing with TABC for the year they are fishing. Eligible tournament participants must be accompanied by one of the following; a) Active TABC adult family member/legal guardian b) Active TABC member of his/her club. c) TABC Board Member.
3. Liability Waiver: Upon any of the TABC Youth Tournaments, contestants release Texas Association of Bass Clubs officials and sponsors from liability of accidents, losses or thefts. Constants are responsible for knowing and understanding these rules. The boat owner must show proof of \$100,000 general liability insurance covering him/her and their passengers. A copy of their current insurance coverage needs to accompany the tournament registration form.
4. Divisions: (Age as of January 1st of Tournament Year)
 - Division I: Ages up thru 9
 - Division II: Ages 10 thru 14
 - Division III: Ages 15 thru 17
5. Division I may fish the bank or in a boat. Only this division may come back to shore if they need to and go back out during the tournament. They may weigh in any combination of three (3) legally caught fish in conjunction with the Texas Parks & Wildlife regulations. They may fish with live or artificial bait. Please allow the youth to catch the fish. The adult is merely there to teach them how to fish. Their awards will be age appropriate.
6. Adult can fish for fun and weigh in a big fish if they choose to. However, it will not count towards the youth's total weight.
7. Scoring Fish: Division II & III; Adult Assistance is allowed ONLY for boat operation and netting of the fish. Each participant may weigh-in three (3) fish (per day), a minimum of 14 inches in length, or the lake regulations per the TPWD. Measurements will be on a tournament board with mouth closed and tail compressed. Any contestant weighing in a fish not complying with legal fishing regulations for the tournament lake, will be assessed a penalty of that fish plus the weight of their largest fish. Any dead fish weighed in will be penalized .50 pounds. Any contestant bringing more than three (3) fish to the weigh in will be disqualified. If there is a tie in weight, the largest bass between the two contestants will settle ties for prizes. However, equal points will be awarded to each contestant. If the contestant does not check in at the appropriate weigh in time, their weight will not be counted for the day. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Guadalupe Spotted Bass can be brought to weigh-in.
8. Culling: No more than a maximum of three (3) fish may be in the live well at any time. No culling of dead fish per TPWD Regulations.
9. Entry fee and Registration Entry fee is \$5 for Division I, \$30 for Division II, \$60 for Division III. Registration form and proof of current boaters insurance may be mailed to TABC P.O. Box 1163 Liberty Hill, TX 78642. Entry fees must be postmarked at least 15 days prior to the tournament date. All early entries will be put in a drawing for a \$25 gift card. Entries postmarked less than 15 days before the tournament will be charged a \$10 Late Fee.
10. All boats must meet US Coast Guard and State Regulations.
11. Safety: During tournament competition a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket (PFD) Type I-II-III or V, must be worn and properly fastened any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear. The kill switch must be attached to the driver with a lanyard. No Type III inflatables may be worn by contestants. All participants under the age of 13 will be required to wear a USCG PFD as required by the State of Texas while on board the boat.
12. Tackle and Equipment: Intentional snagging of fish will not be allowed. Trolling with the aid of combustion motor is not permitted. Only artificial lures may be used. No live bait or prepared bait permitted with the exception of pork rinds and Berkley Gulp. Liquid and aerosol attractants are allowed. Only one (1) rod may be used at any one time. The use of underwater cameras is not allowed during competition.
13. Permitted Fishing Waters: No tube, bank or wade fishing allowed. No fishing is allowed within 25 yards of another tournament boat without mutual consent. Only contestants (and boat operator) may be in the boat during the tournament hours. Hole sitting, or having a non-contestant sit on a hole for you shall not be tolerated. Contestants must be able to get the boat into the fishing area without getting out of the boat. Navigable waters are the only waters to be fished during the tournament. Contestants cannot leave the boat to land fish. For safety purposes off-limits will be established at each tournament launch site (boat ramp).
14. Guides: The use of Guides on the tournament lake, or the gathering of any outside information about the lake is not permitted 30 days prior to any TABC Youth Division Tournament.
15. Championship Points-Division I thru III: Championship points will be based on a pure points format beginning with fifty (50) points for first place and descending down by one (1) point per place. In each event "First Place" will receive 50 points, e.g., 1st Place = 50 points, 2nd Place = 49 points, etc. This procedure will be followed for all Division I, II & III contestants fishing the tournaments.
16. Championship Qualification-Divisions I thru III: The Championship will be held on a Lake TBD and will be fished by the Top 8 in each division.
17. Big Bass-Divisions I thru III: An additional 5 points will be awarded to each division contestant that has the Big Bass of the Tournament.