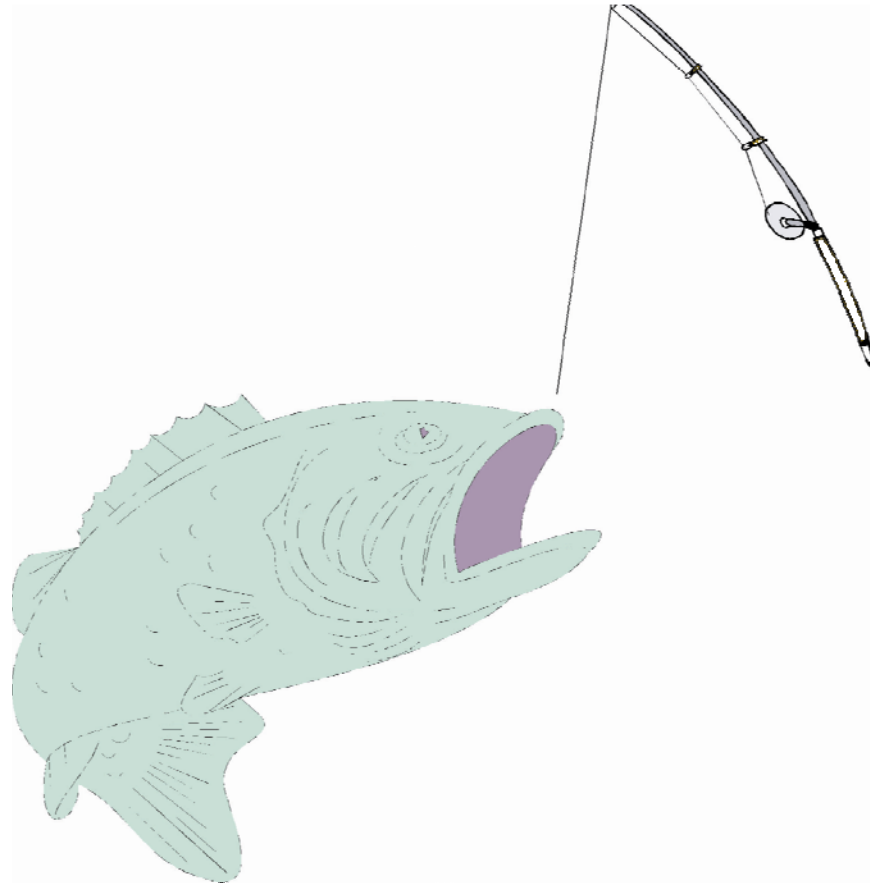


*HAWK OPEN  
BASS TOURNAMENT*



*SHELBYVILLE LAKE  
OCTOBER 10 2009*

*Assumption Bass Club / Meridian High School*  
*Hawk Open High School Bass Tournament*  
*Oct 10 2009*

Tournaments-Highlights

The Assumption Bass Club sponsors and conducts a High School Bass Tournament referred to as the "Hawk Open" on Shelbyville Lake.

The tournament consists of a one day fish off for High School students open to any IHSA school with a bass fishing team. No limit on number of teams. Anglers must be members of their High School Bass Fishing team.

Tournament will take off from Eagle Creek boat ramp at 6:30 a.m. or safelight and end at 3:00 p. m.

12" minimum length limit      5 bass creel

**Payouts/Entry:**

1. **Entry fee \$10 per angler** . Prizes for top 5 places. Drawings for all participants. No cash prizes will be awarded.

**Tournaments-Official Rules and Procedures**

1. **RULES CHANGES:** Great effort, study and research have gone into the formulation of these rules. The following rules of this Tournament trail will remain unchanged, except for special tournaments conducted by the Assumption Bass Club or Meridian High School.
2. **Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Director.** The Tournament Director may impose such sanctions as he deems appropriate, including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments.
3. **The decision of the Tournament Director and tournament officials shall be final in all matters.**

2. **PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY:** Participation is open to any Member of any Illinois High School Bass fishing team. Three(3) anglers per team with two(2) anglers at a time in the boat. Schools may send as many teams as they can field.

During the competition day of any Assumption Bass Club High School Tournament no student may operate the outboard motor except to load and unload the boat. Anglers must wear personal flotation devices during competition hours.

A properly signed official entry form must be received by Assumption Bass Club or Meridian High School Athletic Director. All mail entries must be postmarked no later than 10 Days prior to the tournament date.

Late entries will be accepted at the Pre-Tournament Meeting. No late charge will be applied.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to discontinue acceptance of applications prior to the deadline and also the right to extend the acceptance date with the approval of the Meridian Athletic Director.

**3. PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE:** There will be no official practice period or off-limits period prior to the pre-tournament meeting. No contestant may be on the tournament waters for the purpose of locating bass or potential fishing waters after the start of the pre-tournament meeting except during tournament hours. The purchasing of information or hiring of guide services will not be permitted after the entry deadline for each tournament.

**4. REGISTRATION AND PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING:** Each competitor must register in person or have a representative register with the official Assumption Bass Club Staff at the time and place prescribed on the schedule of events.

Pre-tournament meeting begins with at 6:00 a.m. ALL entrants must be at the Pre-Tournament meeting.

**5. SAFETY:** Safe boat conduct must be observed at all times by competitors. During the official practice and competition, each competitor must wear a Coast Guard-approved chest-type life preserver. This preserver must be worn at all times the. This preserver must be strapped, snapped or zippered securely and maintained in that condition. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification.

Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten or cancel the start of an official tournament day because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather. Assumption Bass Club reserves the right to impose boat speed limits on any or all tournaments. Whether or not to impose a speed limit, the area covered by the speed limit and/or the actual speed limit imposed, shall be left exclusively to the discretion of the Tournament Director.

In the event of an emergency situation, competitors should call 911 first and then notify tournament officials. Competitors are allowed to leave the boat and seek safe shelter in bad weather where danger may be imminent.

**6. SPORTSMANSHIP:** *COMPETITORS IN Assumption Bass Club TOURNAMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW HIGH STANDARDS OF SPORTSMANSHIP, COURTESY, SAFETY AND CONSERVATION.* Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.

**Use of alcohol, tobacco or non-prescribed drugs by any competitor during the official practice or during the tournament will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this and all future Assumption Bass Club tournaments.**

Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors who may be on tournament waters. Any act of a competitor, which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote fisheries, conservation, clean waters, and courtesy shall be reason for disqualification.

**The prevailing statutes and regulations of the State of Illinois bind all competitors. No alcoholic beverages, stimulants or depressants, non-prescriptions or otherwise shall be allowed in the boats during the official practice or competition days, registration, pre-tournament meeting or when in the weigh-in area.**

Competitors who fail to show the morning of take off and who have not notified the Tournament Director no later than 8 a.m. will forfeit entry fee.

**7. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT;** Only artificial lures may be used, No "live bait" or "prepared bait" will be permitted, with the exception of pork strips, rinds, etc. Only casting, spin-casting or spinning rods (8-foot maximum length from butt of handle to rod tip) and reels may be in boat at any time, all other types are prohibited. Only ONE rod and reel combination is permitted in use at any given time

All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner. Anyone guilty of snatching or snagging visible fish will have their day's catch disqualified. When visually fishing for bedding bass, all bass must be hooked inside the mouth and must be verified by your partner before being unhooked to be counted as a legal fish. Dip nets are allowed in all Illinois Bass Federation tournaments. The use of grippers in landing bass is prohibited.

**8. HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS:** Maximum horsepower for all outboard motorboats used in tournament practice and in tournament competition will be limited, not to exceed the horsepower limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard in their ruling of November 1, 1972. When required, each boat MUST have a U.S. Coast Guard horsepower rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer. The horsepower of the outboard engine must NOT exceed the rating specified on this rating plate. Any boat manufactured prior to November 1, 1972 must adhere to the ratings set by the U.S. Coast Guard for similar boats.

Each competitor agrees to submit, by his signature on the official entry form, the boat and outboard motor used in the tournament to an inspection by factory-trained personnel, if there is any reason to suspect the horsepower is in excess of the rating. Normal maintenance to increase the performance of your engine is allowed. Changing or altering standard factory parts of your motor to increase the horsepower over the factory horsepower rating is forbidden, and will result in disqualification.

Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower rating numbers will result in disqualification. Falsifying information on entry forms or altering the horsepower-rating numbers on the motor also would be cause for immediate disqualification from IBF tournaments.

**9. BOAT AND MOTOR:** For the safety of all contestants. ALL BOATS MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH SOME TYPE OF OPERABLE IGNITION KILL SWITCH. This ignition-kill device must be attached to the driver's body any time the combustion engine is operating. Anytime the combustion engine is operating and in gear, there must be a driver in the driver's seat in full control of the boat. Fishing boats may be used that are 16 feet or more in length. Any raised platform or decks cannot be higher than the gunnels of the boat. An electric trolling motor may be used for slow maneuvering; however, trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited.

All BLADDER tanks and any other type of AUXILIARY gas tanks that are not installed by the boat manufacturer are prohibited. Additional gas tanks that are factory options and installed by a manufacturer's authorized dealer are legal. Boats that do not have factory-installed gas tanks are restricted to a maximum of 18 gallons of gasoline in tanks that meet U.S. Coast Guard regulations.

Gas tanks must be properly secured or strapped in a boat. During the official practice and during the tournament, no portable gas tanks or containers capable of holding gasoline can be placed anywhere on the tournament waters or shoreline for use by any tournament competitor. No "barges" or similar cumbersome craft will be permitted.

**10. BASIC BOAT EQUIPMENT:** Every boat must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment. In addition, it must have a functional bilge pump and livewell space, properly aerated, to adequately maintain alive a limit catch of bass by both fishermen using the boat. Tournament officials shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is "properly adequate."

**11. BOAT IDENTIFICATION:** each boat MUST be given, prior to the days start an inspection check by a tournament official

**12. BOAT OPERATION:** During tournament hours boat operation and selection of fishing location shall be at the boaters discretion. Adult boat captains are the only ones to operate the outboards.

During the-hours of competition, contestants may not obtain or receive assistance from non-competitors, follow a non-competitor's boat or **participate in the practice of hole sitting or the placing of markers by anyone.** During tournament hour the use of underwater camera's or mobile communication devices such as cellular phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CB's, etc... is not permitted except to communicate with tournament headquarters or In the case of an emergency. Tournament Director will require a contact number for the adult boat captain.

**13. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** the Tournament Director for each tournament shall establish Tournament waters. Each competitor must obtain this Information from the Assumption Bass Club Tournament Director. Fishing is permitted anywhere on tournament waters except within 50 yards of another competitors boat which was first anchored or secured in a fixed position with the trolling motor out of the water. All such boats are required to advise any other competitor when such boat believes the competitor boat is close to being within this 50-yard radius. A competitor has the right to navigate through this 50-yard radius to get to other fishable waters. No such boat shall permit selected competitors to fish within this 50-yard circle claimed by him to the exclusion of any other competitor. Any water within boundaries posted off-limits or No Fishing by state or federal agencies will be OFF-LIMITS.

The live bass release area established by the tournament Director will be OFF-LIMITS and will be announced at the tournament briefing.

All angling must be done from a boat. Competitors wishing to change fish habitat by placing any object in tournament waters may do so if such action does not violate state or federal regulations.

**14. CONTESTANTS MUST REMAIN IN BOAT;** except to change anglers. No more than two(2) anglers in a boat at a time, with a limit of three(3) anglers per team. Contestants must not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament days.

Contestants must leave and return to official check-in by boat. Both competitors must remain in the boat at all times except during dire emergency. In such an emergency, competitors may be removed from their boat to: A BOAT OPERATED BY OTHER COMPETITORS OR A RESCUE BOAT. Partners must remain together at all times, in sight of each other and each others catch under the conditions sited above, in order for their catch of that day to be scored in the tournament. If a competitor must violate any of the above conditions (to contact a tournament official by phone or other means or to report an emergency or breakdown), both competitors must cease fishing at this point and their catch must be verified by a tournament official in order to be counted in the tournament.

If after the emergency situation is resolved by the tournament officials and enough time is left for the competitors to resume fishing a RESTART will be allowed and the competitors will continue and their catch will be counted. This applies only to dire emergency situations. Trailering of boats during the tournament hours is prohibited except by the direction of tournament officials.

**15. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT:** There shall be only one official point for checkout in the morning and check-in in the afternoon and this point shall be designated at the tournament briefing.

At the time of check out, all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformance with all the rules set forth by the Tournament Director. At check-in all boats shall identify themselves by means of numbered plates and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area. Partners must stay together until they have completed weigh-in and initialed each other's weigh-in slip.

**16. SCORING:** the pound and hundredth of a pound weight of each competitor's catch shall determine Tournament standings, auxiliary awards and final winners during the competition day of the tournament.

Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted, Redeye or Shoal bass will be weighed. The limit shall be 5 of the above species and varieties per day, 12" or longer.

At no time shall a competitor have reduced to possession more than the tournament limit. Tournament officials will conduct checks for violation of this provision and in the event a competitor has reduced more than the above-described limits to possession shall cull the largest bass first down to the limit described.

The official length for bass shall be 12". Only bass as described above which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line, shall be weighed-in. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited only at the discretion of the tournament officials.

After a competitor check-in at the official checkpoint he MUST present all LEGAL bass fish in his possession to the tournament official to be counted, measured and weighed.

Each competitor is expected to keep his catch alive by use of a properly aerated live well. All bass shall be escorted from the live well to the bump tank in special bags filled with water to insure survival. Failure to do this can result in disqualification.

Bass must not be stringered at any time during the tournament. The Tournament Director will furnish specially designed bags, which increase survival rate, and these bags must be used for the weigh-in.

**17. PENALTY POINTS:** For each legal dead bass presented to weigh-in official the competitor shall be penalized .50 pound of weight to be deducted from his daily score. Bass presented for weigh-in that fail to measure the prescribed length will be penalized at the rate of 1(one) pound for each non-legal bass presented from the total score of the competitor after throwing out the illegal Bass.

The Tournament Director and his designated appointees shall have authority for accessing penalty points.

**18. LATE PENALTIES AND NO SHOWS:** Contestants who are not in the official check-in area at the appointed time will be penalized at the rate of 1lb.per minute to be deducted from their total weight, including any weight to be counted toward a big bass award.

Any competitor more than 10 minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's weight. In the Event that an Angler does not have Fish to weigh, they still must check in on time.

**19. TIES:** A tie will be resolved in the following order: number of fish weighed, largest one-day catch (2 days), largest bass If tie is still unresolved, Tournament officials will determine tie breaker.

20. None of the above rules shall prohibit a properly designated tournament official from approaching or boarding any competitor's boat at any time during the official practice period or official competition day.

21. **The Tournament Director has the right to refuse any entry to any tournament and has final say so regarding all rules.**

22. **PROTESTS:** All protests concerning the tournament must be in writing and signed by the protester and presented to the Tournament Director within 30 minutes of the end of weigh-in time.

If there is evidence of extreme rule violations uncovered at a later time, the Board of Directors reserves the right to review and take whatever actions it deems necessary.

23. Assumption Bass Club and Meridian High School assume no liability for accidents before, during or after tournament hours.

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic Director/Coach \_\_\_\_\_

Angler 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt size s m l xl xxl

Angler 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size s m l xl xxl

Angler 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size s m l xl xxl

Boat Captain \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Model \_\_\_\_\_ H.P. \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entries to: Assumption Bass Club Hawk Open  
C.O. Darren Gates  
1837 Ferris Dr  
Decatur Il 62521

Make checks payable to: Assumption Bass Club

This is a fundraising tournament to benefit local high school bass fishing teams. All monies will be donated to high school bass fishing for equipment or fisheries studies.

*Sponsor Page*

