

2024 Orange Lake Fish & Game Tournament Rules and Regulations-REV 1-8-24

- Safety >** Safe boating must always be observed. Each angler is required to wear a fastened (fully zipped and/or all clips fastened) U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device anytime the gas engine is in operation from boat check /take-off until weigh-in. If your boat is equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device, it must be securely attached to the driver's flotation device when the boat is in operation.

Scheduled tournaments may be shortened or cancelled due to unsafe weather or any conditions that would endanger the safety of the anglers at the Tournament Directors sole and absolute discretion. **For a points tournament you MUST have a minimum of 8 anglers (A Division).** In thick fog it is recommended to use only your electric trolling motor or wait for the fog to lift. Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the boat during tournament hours.
- LURES> Except for Panfish tournament,** only artificial lures may be used (no worms or bait fish). Only one fishing rod may be used at any one time. Additional rods may be ready for use on the boat deck or locker. Trolling as a method of fishing is not allowed. Switching or sharing fish with another member is a violation that will result in immediate disqualification.
- Sportsmanship and Conduct>** All members are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Example, If we issue launch take off numbers you cannot leave early, or cut off another member at take-off during first 50 yards.
- OFF Limits>** Off limits will be announced by the tournament director before the start of the tournament. Members may fish anywhere on tournament waters accessible by boat, except designated as "off limits". Members should respect other members fishing holes if anchored (either roped, buoy marker, or with "I Pilot on trolling", members should stay 20yards (60 feet) from other boat.
- Scoring/Weigh-in>** Scoring will be determined by the official club scale during the tournament. The scale will be calibrated at the beginning of the weigh-in. The limit will be 5 bass per angler. Any angler who possesses more than the 5 fish at weigh-in will lose the biggest fish in his LiveWell. NO courtesy measure length is allowed, NYS Fishery law! A short fish will not be counted and lose 1lb, (usually under 12 inches), unless mentioned before the tournament where the body of water has different size limit). A dead fish will lose .50 on the club scale, example total weight 12.10 with one dead fish equals 11.60, with two dead fish, final weight equals 11.10, etc. Bass will be measured with mouth closed, tail compressed and swiped up or down to achieve overall greatest length. In the event of a tie, anglers get equal points and split winnings, example tie for 2nd place get 94 points each (for 2nd & 3rd), next angler in weight is 4th place NOT 3rd.
- Live Fish>** Every effort must be made to keep bass alive using a properly aerated LiveWell. The use of chemical Livewell additives which promote the healthy return of bass are recommended. In the summer months when water temperature is +80 degrees it is recommended to store some ice in Livewell. Also if a fish swallows a hook, it is recommended you cut the line and not try to remove hook to get fish alive.
- Late Penalty>** Members who are not in view of weigh-in launch site, the penalty is 1lb per minute late. If you have engine problems or other issues with your boat, you must call the tournament director before the end of the designated tournament time. Example, if tournament ends 3pm, you must call him before 3pm. My number is 845-518-8614.
- Insurance>** To protect The Orange Lake Fish and Game Association you must have a minimum of \$100,000 boat liability. Most homeowners' policy has a rider, if you do not have separate boat policy,
- Speed limits>** Lake speed limits should be observed when gas engine is on.
- Fishing license>** A valid fishing license must be always carried for each state tournament. The designated "Husband/wife" tournament is an exception for that day's tournament.
- The Tournament Director and his Tournament committee will designate the type of contest (Example>Panfish, 1 pickerel over 15 inches allowed) at the start of each tournament.
- A discussion between boater and non-boater should occur before the start of the tournament on all expenses. It is recommended the non-boater split gas and launch fees as discussed.
- Any member leaving the tournament early must contact any member of the tournament committee. Fish cannot be turned over to another member at the weigh-in. Likewise, if you're late at start of the tournament,(calling launch numbers, or send off, you must call or find Tournament director for safety reasons.
- Any discrepancies over the tournament rules must be presented to the tournament director within 15 minutes of the start weigh-in. **If your late for check-in, you must call the tournament director within 1 hour arrival-845-518-8614.**
- All guests or non-members at the start of the tournament must be identified to the tournament director before the start of any tournament. Any monetary prizes are eligible, **but NO points will be awarded.**
- TO qualify for** Angler of the year award (AOL) is 5 best tournaments + (1), your best double points tournament.
- All tournament anglers must have a "Release Liability" form signed and on file.**