

**APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A ONE DAY BASS TOURNAMENT
ON MAINE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE BORDER WATERS**

Type of Tournament (check one box below):

- Weigh-in Tournament (check open or club): Open **OR** Club (\$52.00)
 Catch, Measure, Release Tournament (CMR) (\$12.00)

Bass Club Name: _____

Bass Club's Representative Name: _____

Address (mailing): _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

The above named bass fishing club desires to hold a one-day bass tournament on:

WATERBODY: _____

TOWN: _____ **COUNTY:** _____

WEIGH-IN LOCATION: _____

DATE _____ from _____ AM to _____ PM

- Weigh-in tournaments are not permitted from May 15th to June 30th (dates inclusive).
- You must have at least two aquatic plants and live well inspectors at the tournament.
- See reverse side of application for definitions and additional requirements.

Signature of Bass Club Representative

Date

NOTE: It is a Class E crime to obtain a permit through fraud, misstatement or misrepresentation (Title 12 MRSA Section 10757)

Please make check payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine. Mail completed application, along with check to: Fisheries Division, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0041.

Definition of a Bass Club

For purposes of determining eligibility to apply for a permit to conduct a one-day bass tournament, a "bass club" is defined as any organized group of five or more bass anglers which is able to satisfy one of the following criteria:

1. Provide current documentation of being a member club in Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society (BASS) or other nationally recognized bass fishing organization; or
2. Provide a current listing of club officers and members along with a signed affidavit affirming that the group is a bona-fide independent fishing club.

Rules Pertaining to Bass Tournaments on Maine and New Hampshire Border Waters

1. In Weigh-In tournaments, all bass caught shall be kept on a water-circulating live-well with the intent to keep the retained bass alive. All bass entered for the weigh-in at bass tournaments shall be released unharmed into the same water body where caught as follows: in lakes and ponds, not less than 300 feet away from the shoreline; in rivers at mid-channel not less than 300 feet away from the weigh-in site. Boats designated by the bass tournament sponsor may hold more than the daily limit of bass solely for the purpose of releasing bass after weigh-in.
2. The daily limit shall be 2 bass per participant from April 1 to May 14 with no minimum length or weight limit. The daily limit shall be 5 bass per participant from July 1 to November 30 with no minimum length or weight limit.
3. There will be no more than ten weigh-in tournaments on any water greater than 500 acres, only four of which may be open tournaments. Maine will issue up to five tournament permits, with no more than two being open.
4. All other existing State laws and rules pertaining to CMR and weigh-in tournaments which are not modified herein continue to apply to Maine and New Hampshire Border water tournaments. (e.g. maximum number of boats, maximum prize values, etc.)

Requirements (General)

1. Any bass club which sponsors a one-day bass tournament must submit a completed bass tournament questionnaire, when requested to do so by an agent of the Commissioner, provided that such request must be made in writing to the sponsoring club prior to the day of the tournament.
2. Each tournament requires two aquatic plant and live-well inspectors to conduct weed and live-well inspections. Each boat will first be inspected immediately before a tournament participant launches the boat prior to the tournament and for a second time after the boat is retrieved from the water immediately after the conclusion of the tournament for that participant.
3. All anglers in the tournament must possess a valid Maine fishing license unless of an age where a license is not required. (See exception for Maine/New Hampshire border waters in Open Water Fishing Regulation Book)
4. Bass tournament boats must be specifically identified in a plainly visible manner and a roster of participants must be available at the location of the weigh-in.
5. Only one permit will be issued on a waterbody for a specific date.
6. All fishing will be restricted to artificial lures.
7. No weigh-in bass tournaments will be permitted on a body of water less than 500 surface acres.
8. A copy of the tournament permit and a copy of the rules affecting one-day tournaments shall be conspicuously displayed during each tournament at a location accessible to all tournament contestants.
9. There shall be a separate permit for Open and Club tournaments. Club tournaments are limited to a maximum participation of 15 boats. Open tournaments are limited to 35 acres per boat with a maximum of 100 boats. Youth tournaments will be scheduled in cooperation with IF&W and no permit will be required.
10. Tournaments may be Catch/Measure/Release (CMR) or Weigh-In. Youth events are to be CMR only.
 - a) In CMR tournaments, all bass caught must be immediately released to the location from which caught.
 - b) In Weigh-in Tournaments all bass retained shall be kept in a live-well being operated with the pump(s) in a mode that constantly exchanges live-well water with fresh lake or river water as a flow-through system; except when boats are being operated under power of the main outboard while changing locations, or while motoring to shore immediately prior to weigh-in, at which time the pump(s) may be operated in a manner that aerates a fixed volume of water in the live-well. All bass taken shall be returned to the water from which it was caught, unharmed as far as possible, at the conclusion of the tournament day. The daily limit shall be 5 bass per participant with no weight limit.
11. The total cash value of prizes for single-day tournaments shall not exceed \$25,000.
12. The Commissioner has the authority to put any condition necessary on any tournament to assure that appropriate measures are taken to protect biological resources and address social concerns.

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ of _____
Name Town

am the _____ of a bass club currently known as:
Title

Name of bass club

I hereby certify that the bass club herein named is a bona fide independent bass club having a slate of officers as follows (please print legibly):

Club Representative _____

(The person in your bass club who will complete applications, receive permits and other pertinent information as well as be responsible for the submission of required weed inspection forms and/or other documentation to the Department on the bass club's behalf)

President _____

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

I understand that the purpose of this affidavit is to certify eligibility for making application to conduct bass tournaments on Maine inland waters and that obtaining a permit through misstatement, misrepresentation or fraud is a criminal violation under Title 12, Section 10757.

I understand that the information I have provided in this affidavit may be checked for accuracy and that falsely completing this affidavit may result in court action against me.

I have attached a copy of my bass club's current membership roster. I certify that all the information given in this affidavit is true and accurate.

Date

Signature

STATE OF MAINE

_____, **ss.**
(County)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public/Attorney
My Commission Expires: