

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
284 State Street, 41 SHS Augusta, ME 04333
Phone 207-287-5261 - www.maine.gov/ifw
Application to Conduct a One Day Bass Tournament

Application Cost: \$52.00 for Weigh-in Tournament
\$12.00 Catch, Measure, Release Tournament

Type of application: Weigh-in, choose one: Open OR Club
 Catch, Measure, Release
 Notification of Youth Event (CMR only – no fee)

Bass Club Name: _____

Bass Club Representative Name: _____

Address (*Street and Apt # or PO Box*) _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Date of Tournament: _____ **Hours:** _____ **AM to** _____ **PM**

Waterbody Name: _____ **Town:** _____

Weigh-in Location: _____

Number of Boats: _____ (see additional requirements under #9 on page 2 of this application)

- All applicants must provide a notarized affidavit (at least once per year) and include a current listing of club officers and members (with contact information), which indicates at least two members who have participated in an aquatic plant and livewell inspection training program endorsed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) within the last five years;
- Each tournament requires at least two aquatic plant and livewell inspectors, that have completed training endorsed by MDEP within the last five years;
- The 3rd Saturday in July is loon count; no tournaments will be allowed to start assembling before 9:00 AM;
- 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. Affidavit must include a list of all members with contact information and must indicate those members who have participated in an aquatic plant and livewell inspection training program endorsed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) within the last two years (see #2 below for additional requirements).

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 at least two aquatic plant and live-well inspectors, who have participated in an aquatic plant and livewell inspection training program endorsed by MDEP within the last five years, 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.
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; except on waters exceeding 1,000 acres where trailer rig parking for all participants does not occur at a public boat launch facility, then a maximum participation of 20 boats is allowed. 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.
13. Weigh-In tournaments are not permitted in Aroostook, Hancock, Piscataquis and Washington Counties from May 20 to June 30 (dates inclusive). In all other counties weigh-in tournaments are not permitted from May 8 to June 14 (dates inclusive).
14. There will be no more than seven weigh-in tournaments on any water greater than 500 acres, only four of which may be open tournaments.

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ of _____, ME
Name Town

am _____ of a bass fishing organization currently known as
Title

Name of bass organization

I hereby certify that the bass fishing organization herein named is a bona fide independent bass fishing organization having a slate of officers, as follows:

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, §10757.

You must attach a list of all your members with contact information, which indicates which members have participated in an aquatic plant and live-well inspection training program endorsed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) within the last five years.

I certify that all the information given in this affidavit is true and accurate. 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.

Date

Signature

STATE OF MAINE

_____, ss.
(County)

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

Notary Public/Attorney
My Commission Expires: