



August 6, 7 and 8, 2020

TOURNAMENT RULES

KENORA BASS INTERNATIONAL (2000) INC.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE RULES OF THE **2020 KENORA BASS INTERNATIONAL (KBI) TOURNAMENT**. ANY CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO PREVIOUS RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE PRINTED IN **BOLD FACE TYPE**.

1) TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- a) The Kenora Bass International (KBI) Tournament format is a two-person team, fishing for three days, total combined weight, live release Tournament.
- b) The Tournament Board of Directors has the right to delay or shorten the Tournament, subject to weather and/or safety considerations.
- c) All Competitors and Officials will conduct themselves in a true sportsmanlike, courteous, safe and ethical manner. As competitors, each person represents not only their team and sponsors, but also the KBI, Officials and other teams.
- d) KBI, its promoters, employees, sponsors, organizers, hosts, Directors, volunteers, Officers and affiliated organizations assisting in the operation of any aspect of the Tournament, their agencies and/or agents and assigns are not responsible for any death, injury, damage, liability, fire, theft or loss that may result prior to, during or after the Tournament howsoever caused.
- e) All references to money are in Canadian Dollars.

2) PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- a) Competitors must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age as of June 30 of the year of competition, unless they have the permission of their parents or guardians. All participants will require a **WAIVER OF CLAIM, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND PHOTO AND VIDEO RELEASE** signed by them or by their parents or guardians if applicable.
- b) All anglers must possess a valid Ontario Sport Fishing License except those exempted by the provincial fisheries regulations and a valid pleasure craft operators card if applicable.
- c) KBI reserves the right to refuse entry to any individual or team for any reason that the Tournament Board of Directors may deem appropriate.
- d) There will be a limited field of 135 paid Teams for the Tournament and entries were accepted as follows:
 - The team Captain will “own” the team. Make sure of who is registered as team captain as it will affect future participation.
 - The Board of Directors for Kenora Bass International (2000) Inc. reserves the right to expand the field without going to the waiting list.

3) REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEE

- a) The entry fee for the Tournament is \$800.00 CAD or USD equivalent per team.
- b) The entry fee includes a \$200.00 CAD or USD equivalent portion which is non-refundable except if a medical certificate is supplied no later than July 31st at the board’s discretion therefore decision to participate must be declared no later than July 31st.
- c) **Registration will open on February 22nd at 9:00am CST, using the online form found at www.kbifishing.com. The online registration form will be locked until 9:00am – in the event that a registration is submitted and received timestamped prior to 9:00am CST, that registration will be deemed unaccepted. ONLY registrations received timestamped 9:00am or later will be accepted.**
- d) **Registration forms need to be filled out in full, including Captain’s information AND partner’s information (if you don’t know/have a partner on registration day, use Captain’s information in both sections). Form and full payment need to be received before registration will be accepted and a boat number assigned.**
- e) Day 1 Boat numbers will be assigned in the order the registration and full payment is received. **Boat numbers will be provided to angler teams 1 week after registration opens.**
- f) In the event of proper notice of cancellation in writing, received no later than June 30th, the entry fee, minus the \$200.00 CAD or USD equivalent non-refundable portion, shall be returned to the Team Captain.
- g) The entry fee is only transferable to other parties before June 30th after which time it becomes non-transferable.
- h) Entry fees will be locked in at 6:00 pm on July 31st in order to set Tournament prizes.

4) PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE

- a) Unlimited pre-tournament practice is allowed; all competitors must cease Pre-Tournament fishing by 2:59pm the Wednesday prior to Day 1 of the competition. No contestant may enter the tournament waters for the purpose of catching or locating bass or possible fishing locations after the cease of Pre-Tournament fishing. Violation results in tournament disqualification.
- b) Moving fish from one location to another during pre-tournament practice is prohibited, unless specifically requested by the Tournament Board of Directors for special purposes. Violations results in tournament disqualification.
- c) No contestant may enter the tournament waters for the purpose of catching or locating bass or possible fishing locations after daily tournament hours. Violation results in tournament disqualification.

5) BOAT NUMBERS AND ANGLER KITS

a) Angler kits will be available to registered teams after the rules meeting at 6:00pm.

b) Starting Positions:

Day 1: Boat numbers will be assigned in the order that registration and full payment is received.

Day 2: Start positions will be determined by Day 1 weight standings at the end of day one.

Day 3: Start positions will be determined by combined net weight ranking achieved on Day One and Day Two.

6) RULES MEETING

a) The Rules Meeting will be held under the Main Tent at the Kenora Harbourfront starting at 6:00 pm on the Wednesday immediately prior to Day One.

b) Teams must receive rule updates, starting position numbers and sign waiver forms before leaving the dock on Day One of the tournament. To achieve this at least one and preferably both members of the team must attend the Official Rules Meeting. Failing to do so will mean attending a special session at 9:00 am on Day One, before delinquent teams can begin fishing.

7) LIVE RELEASE OF FISH

a) Fixed or portable aerated livewells capable of supporting life are mandatory and every effort must be made to keep bass alive.

b) Under no circumstances can a fish be purposely altered.

c) Any fish mauled, mashed, frozen, stringered, injected with water or other fluids, containing foreign matter to add weight or showing white gills or soft flesh, will result in disqualification of the team.

d) Under no circumstances are non-releasable fish to be released. See 10-h & i.

8) PENALTY FOR LATE CHECK-IN

Contestants who are late crossing the finish line at the end of the day for whatever reason, including breakdown, will be penalized 4 oz. (0.25 lb) per minute for each minute they are late up to five minutes maximum (Example 0.59 seconds late equal no penalty but 1.00 seconds late equals 4oz. penalty). Contestants arriving 5:01 minutes late and onwards will have that day's weight disqualified

**Please note- The penalty for failing to report is rule 15-f.

9) PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS/ BOUNDARY

a) All waters accessible by boat on Lake of the Woods are deemed Tournament waters unless stated otherwise by the Tournament Board of Directors.

b) All waters leading into the first narrows of Shoal Lake downstream from marker No. W10, and all the Labyrinth thereafter are NOT part of Lake of the Woods and are out of bounds for fishing.

c) Fishing in US waters is prohibited. No contestant may enter US waters for the purpose of catching or locating bass.

d) The Tournament Board of Directors has the right to alter or restrict tournament waters with prompt notice to all registered Teams.

10) SCORING

a) Only Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass legally caught on a tournament day by angling qualify for weigh-in. Violation of this rule will result in tournament disqualification.

b) A daily limit of Five (5) bass per team will be weighed. A team may possess the daily Ministry of Natural Resources limit while angling only. The penalty for failure to comply is disqualification of the day's weight.

c) The Official Minimum Length is Twelve (12) inches measured from the tip of the nose with mouth closed to the end of the tail with the tail compressed. A courtesy board, identical to that used by the Tournament Weigh Master, will be available to the competitors prior to their catch being turned over to the Weigh Master or his/her representative.

d) Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to meet the official minimum length will not be weighed and that day's weight will be penalized at the rate of one (1) pound for each "short" fish. If assessing weight penalties results in a negative total weight for the day, the negative weight shall be carried forward to the next day or subtracted from the existing team total, whichever is appropriate.

e) All weights, upon verbal acceptance by the team Captain, and then publicly called by the Weigh Master, are immediately official and are not thereafter contestable.

f) One team member must sign the official weigh-in form recording the weight of the catch.

g) Non-releasable bass presented for weigh-in will be weighed. 4 oz (.25 lb.) will be deducted from the total daily weight for each dead or non-releasable fish that is weighed. A resulting negative daily weight will be handled as per the second sentence of Rule 10(d).

h) Species caught other than bass must be returned to tournament waters except for damaged fish as per provincial fishing regulations. All legal fish of any species caught and damaged must be turned over to the Tournament Board of Directors before weigh-in and may not be kept by competitors. No fish, other than five bass, will be kept in the boat while reporting for weigh-in.

i) Should a second scale be available, it will be an option for each team.

j) Once weigh-in is official, teams must return to their boat and move their boat away from finger docks A & B immediately or be subject to a 4 oz penalty.

11) BOATS AND MOTORS

a) All boats must be a minimum of fourteen (14) feet in length

b) No barges, houseboats, or similar cumbersome craft will be allowed.

c) All boats, motors and their equipment must meet Canadian Coast Guard standards.

d) The Tournament Board of Directors reserves the right to disallow the use of any boat, motor and/or equipment deemed unsafe, inappropriate or unsuitable.

- e) Boats and motors must not exceed recommended maximum horsepower for their size.
- f) All boats equipped with an emergency kill switch mechanism must have the kill switch tether securely attached to the operator whenever the boat is on plane.
- g) Team number motor tags will be given out at registration. The numbers must be affixed to right and left cowling of the main combustion engine so that they are clearly and plainly visible. Additional coloured start position numbers will be given out at the end of Day One and Day Two for starting positions on Day Two and Day Three and shall be affixed to the top right corner of the main motor tag before starting.

12) DAILY LAUNCHING AND MORNING EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

- a) Boat inspections will be conducted on the finger docks A & B at the Harbourfront between 5:30 and 7:30 am each day.
- b) Teams are required to have their equipment ready and on the water thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled departure time of their flight. Late arrivals will be penalized and leave at the end of the next available flight.
- c) Boats will be inspected for, but not limited to: team motor numbers properly affixed; Day Two and Day Three starting position numbers properly affixed; operation of live well; kill switch operation; no live, dead, frozen, or freeze-dried bait, no underwater cameras and required safety equipment.
- d) Teams must have all tackle boxes, hatches and live wells open for easy inspection prior to the arrival of the Tournament Officials.
- e) Upon completion of the daily morning inspection, each competitor must sign the inspection form prior to departure from the dock.
- f) Failure to report for daily boat inspection will result in disqualification of that day's catch.

13) FLIGHTS, TRICKLE STARTS, RETURN TIMES

- a) The flights will be as follows:

Flight No. 1 – Teams #1 - #30

Flight No. 2 – Teams #31 - #60

Flight No. 3 - Teams #61 - #90

Flight No. 4 - Teams #91 - #120

Flight No. 5 - Teams #121 – End of Field

- b) The Official Starter will release teams, by flight, using a trickle start, commencing at 6:30 AM each day.

Flight No. 1 will commence departing at 6:30 AM

Flight No. 2 will commence departing at 6:45 AM

Flight No. 3 will commence departing at 7:00 AM

Flight No. 4 will commence departing at 7:15 AM

Flight No. 5 will commence departing at 7:30 AM

- c) On Day One, teams will be started in order of their assigned start positions (except those who have been penalized). They will be called and released every few seconds using a signal from the Official Starter and P.A. system. Each team must officially acknowledge being called by waiving to the Official Starter. Teams will idle past the starter boat and only commence acceleration when waived on by the Official Starter.
- d) Any Team starting or attempting to start out of order will be held by the Official Starter until the balance of the flight has departed.
- e) All boats over 55 hp are required to proceed west around the north side of Lowe's Island before they can commence fishing.
- f) Boats with motors of 55 hp or less can opt to go east through Kenora Harbour and out through Devil's Gap (see Rule 15b for Safety rules).
- g) Boats of any motor size may come back through Devil's Gap upon return to the finish line. Please see rule 15 b) for safety rules.
- h) Starting position on Day Two will be determined by the net weight ranking achieved on Day One.
- i) Starting position on Day Three will be determined by the combined net weight ranking achieved on Day One and Day Two.
- j) Following Day One, launch tags will be given out at the Tournament headquarters at the Harbourfront the evening prior to launching (preferred) or can be picked up at the Inspection Dock in the morning.

- k) Flight Return Schedule for Day One and Day Two

Flight No. 1 returns no later than 4:00 PM

Flight No. 2 returns no later than 4:15 PM

Flight No. 3 returns no later than 4:30 PM

Flight No. 4 returns no later than 4:45 PM

Flight No. 5 returns no later than 5:00 PM

- l) Flight Return Schedule for Day Three

Flight No. 1 returns no later than 3:00 PM

Flight No. 2 returns no later than 3:15 PM

Flight No. 3 returns no later than 3:30 PM

Flight No. 4 returns no later than 3:45 PM

Flight No. 5 returns no later than 4:00 PM

- m) The Top 10 Teams after the combined net-weight ranking earned on Day One and Day Two will participate in Boat Parade through the Whitecap Pavilion at the Harbourfront. These ten teams will be directed to another docking area to facilitate this. Information to be provided on rules night. Please note, these Teams must still cross the finish line and be clocked in or be subject to rule 8 a.

n) The last 50 starting positions on Day 3 will participate in a separate “B side” contest on Day Three, therefore only Day 3 weight will be used for scoring purposes. **The top 10 B side teams will win a cash prize.**

14) SPORTSMANSHIP AND COURTESY

- a) It is strictly prohibited for any competitor to give, offer, accept or suggest the exchange of any weighable fish to, from or with any other Competitor.
- b) Each boat may use an identifiable marker with team number affixed, which when in place on the water, it will establish a 300-foot diameter fishing circle which may not be fished or navigated through by another contestant. Once a marker is in place to establish the circle, the contestant must remain in the 300-foot fishing circle and may leave only when playing a fish. Upon landing the fish, the contestant must return to the fishing circle or lose control of the area. If leaving or not fishing, the marker must be retrieved. Infractions could result in disqualification from the tournament or disqualification of the daily weight.
- c) Use of cellular phones and CB's are prohibited except in use of emergency to designated tournament phone number. Marine VHF radios may be used to monitor the designated Channel for safety reasons only. All cellular phone, CB and VHF radio frequencies will be monitored.

15) SAFETY

- a) All competitors must always practice safe boating during practice and tournament fishing.
- b) The maximum speed limit is 25 mph for traveling through Devil's Gap channel (from the small unnamed island south of Treaty Point at the southern narrows to beyond the Devil's face on the northwest narrows) and through the Kenora Bay beginning at the green buoy at the NE tip of Coney Island then westerly to the Northwest corner of Bush Island. Penalty for violations will be a deduction of 4 ounces (.25lb). Repeat offenders will be disqualified immediately.
- c) Every competitor must wear a fully secured Coast Guard approved life jacket or floatation device while traveling from one location to another at other than trolling or drifting speed, and where so equipped tethered kill switches must be attached to the driver's body.
- d) No alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs may be possessed or consumed by the competitors during tournament fishing hours up to and including the weighing of their catch.
- e) In the event of a thunderstorm, lightning, or severe weather, teams may pull onto the nearest shoreline until it is safe to continue fishing. Competitors may not leave their boats during the tournament except at the Official Weigh-In Station or if severe weather forces them ashore.
- f) Every team, whether weighing fish or not, must, at the end of each day, report to the Official Tournament Check-In Station. The penalty for failing to report at the end of Day One or Day Two will be a two (2) hour delayed start on the following day. The penalty for failing to report on Day Three will be immediate forfeiture of any prizes won up to that point.

16) MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN OR EMERGENCIES

- a) In the case of an emergency or mechanical breakdown, Cellular phones, CB's, and VHF Marine radios may be used for safety reasons and in the case of breakdown. Cell phone calls can be placed only to the Tournament Command Center (phone # to be given at rules night). (NOTE - IN THE EVENT OF BREAKDOWN A COMPETITOR MAY ALSO USE AN ONSHORE PHONE TO REACH THE TOURNAMENT COMMAND CENTER IF OTHER COMMUNICATION METHODS ARE ABSENT OR FAIL TO WORK)
- b) Committee patrol boats are prohibited from towing any competitor's boat during tournament fishing hours.
- c) In the event of mechanical breakdown, the fish may be transferred to another competitor's boat, provided that the fish are accompanied by a member of the disabled team and they are kept in a separate live well.
- d) Due to medical emergency only, a competitor can remove themselves from the tournament and be replaced with an alternative angler when approved by the Tournament Board of Directors. Otherwise the remaining partner will have to continue in the tournament alone.

17) ON THE WATER

- a) Competitors are personally responsible for knowing all tournament rules, as well as the current Ontario Sport Fishing Regulations and Canadian Coast Guard regulations. Teams found to have violated federal or provincial fishing and boating regulations during the tournament may be disqualified when this information is confirmed by tournament officials. This judgment could also apply to eligibility to participate in future tournaments.
- b) No competitor shall knowingly fish at a location during the event that contains underwater structure created or enhanced by the competitor or another person for their benefit.
- c) Competitors are not allowed to toss or pass any item(s) to another boat or to receive any item(s) from another boat.
- d) All Teams and their equipment are subject to inspection at any time during the tournament. Committee patrol boats may come alongside, following proper identification, and if necessary, board to check for adherence to all Tournament Rules. No other boat may come in contact with a Competitor's boat at any time.
- e) No competitor shall step on shore without approval or accompaniment by a Tournament Official (except in adverse weather conditions). Refueling is permitted at commercial outlets only between 7 am-5 pm on any day of the tournament.
- f) No fishing information may be given to or exchanged with competitors during the tournament fishing hours by tournament or non-tournament anglers.
- g) Competitors are expected to co-operate as much as possible with official video and still photography personnel.
- h) All communication to the Tournament Board of Directors should reference your original Day 1 Team Number.

18) TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT

- a) Only artificial lures, manufactured baits, and commercially available liquid attractants may be used by competitors. Landing nets may be used.
- b) No live bait, frozen or freeze-dried bait of any kind may be used or possessed by any competitor at any time during the tournament.

- c) The use, in live wells, of commercially available fish care chemicals is permitted.
- d) The use of underwater cameras is not allowed during the tournament. If such equipment is found in a competitor's boat during boat checks or during tournament fishing hours the offending team will be immediately disqualified.
- e) Use of underwater cameras is allowed until end of pre-fishing; thereafter their use is prohibited as is information learned from use of an underwater camera by other people. Violation is tournament disqualification.

19) RULE(S) VIOLATIONS AND PROTESTS

- a) Where a team is charged with a rule infraction by an authorized Tournament Official which could result in disqualification of the daily catch or tournament disqualification, the team has the right to appeal the decision to the Tournament Protest and Appeals Committee. Appeals must be submitted to tournament officials 15 minutes after weigh-in, on the day of notice of the rule's infraction.
- b) An infraction witnessed by a competitor can be reported to the Tournament Protest and Appeal Committee. If an infraction is reported, or a protest is lodged, a three-person Protest Committee, appointed prior to the Tournament, shall convene.
- c) Each Team Captain has the right to file a protest when they have firsthand knowledge that a rule or rules may have been broken or violated by another team. A protest must be filed within Fifteen (15) Minutes of weigh-in to be considered.
- d) A \$200.00 CAD or USD equivalent fee must accompany all protests.
- e) Witness(es) may be called to appear before the Protest Committee to provide evidence relating to the alleged rule infraction.
- f) The Protest and Appeals Committee will interpret the rules according to their spirit and intent. The decision of the Protest Committee is final and not subject to review of any kind.
- g) If the protest is found to be valid, the protest fee will be returned forthwith and the team protested against must pay the protest fee and any penalties imposed if applicable.
- h) If the protest is determined to be invalid, the protest fee will not be returned and the protesting team must pay all investigation expenses including, if applicable, polygraph costs.
- i) General Penalties: teams may be disqualified from the tournament for frequent or major infractions of the rules and will not receive a refund of their entry fee. Examples of major infractions include; unsafe boating practices, gross angling ethics violations and violations that clearly give the competitor an unfair or illegal advantage over other competitors, such as; movement of fish, use of live bait, fishing out of bounds, caged fish, violation of provincial and federal fishing and boating regulations, exchanging fish between teams and unauthorized use of under water cameras.
- j) Any disqualification will result of loss of full entry fee and any prizes awarded to the point of disqualification.

20) TIE BREAKERS

- a) In the event of a tie for first place, the team with the highest rank for the first two days of fishing will be awarded first place.
- b) Ties for all other positions will be settled by combining the prize money for the positions in question and dividing it equally amongst all affected Teams.

21) BATTLE OF THE BASS – KENORA VS. WORLD

- a) i) The team Captain will “own” the team and eligibility requirements are based on the Captain only. ii) Kenora = principal residence in Kenora/Keewatin and Longbow Lake based on mailing address not physical address iii) World team is made up of teams that do not meet the requirement set forth in ii) as Kenora iv) Captains of teams finishing Day Three, with final positions between 1st and 5th inclusive for their “team”, will be offered a position to represent their “team” for the following year's tournament. v) If the Captain of a team that is offered a spot chooses not to fish, the offer will then be made to the qualifying partner. If the Captain chooses to step down, the partner from the previous year becomes Captain and therefore his principal residence determines what if any team they will be representing. The new Captain must fish as captain of the team in order to hold the qualifying spot. vi) The Team Captain, to secure the qualifying spot, must accept the offer of a spot. The Captain must ensure that full registration is received, and a Captain is clearly named on the registration form on or before June 1st of the year of the tournament. vi) If neither the Captain or Partner want/or pay for the qualifying spot it will be offered to the next applicable team
- b) The overall weight for each team will be calculated based on the cumulative weights of all 5 teams over the 3 days of the tournament. The team with the highest cumulative weight wins the overall category.

22) PRIZE CATEGORIES

- a) To be entered in a prize category it must be clearly checked on the registration form provided as entry to the tournament on or before 6pm of the Wednesday before the tournament (Registration night, Rules Meeting). If the team has not clearly marked their form, they must notify the Director of Registration on or before 6pm of the Wednesday before the tournament. If a team indicated their eligibility for a category after this time, they WILL NOT be eligible for the prize UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.
- b) Categories are: Adult/Youth Team (18 or under), Male/Female Team, Senior Team (both anglers 65+), Youth Team (both anglers 18 or under), Rookie Team (both anglers new to KBI)**

23) CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS

- a) Kenora Bass International (2000) Inc. retains the right to change or amend any or all these preceding rules at their sole discretion without prior notification or consultation with the competitors.
- b) Final Approved Official Rules of the 2020 Kenora Bass International live release Tournament on Lake of the Woods will be given to all teams as part of their Registration Package, subject only to clarification(s) arising from the Official Rules Meeting held on the Wednesday immediately prior to Day One (see Rule 6 a & b)

Emergency Number

407-5823