

SA BASS Cast-for-Cash

TOURNAMENT RULES

(September 2019 – July 2020)

SA BASS Cast-for-Cash and FLW South Africa expects strict adherence to the following rules by all contestants. In the event of an emergency, please call the regional tournament organiser.

These rules supersede any previously published set of rules for this event and intended to further the best interests of bass fishing in general and not to benefit any individual, team or competitor. Please make sure you understand the rules and regulations.

1. INTERPRETATION & ENFORCEMENT

Interpretation and enforcement of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament organisers and director. Decisions of the tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal. Each contestant agrees to report any rule violation to the tournament organiser immediately upon discovery of the violation. Failure to report violations may be cause for disqualification. Protests are to be made in writing within 15 minutes of the check-in time of the final flight of each tournament day.

2. GENERAL

All anglers enter the Cast-for-Cash Tournament Trial voluntarily and at their own risk. SA BASS and staff, the Cast-for-Cash tournament organisers, FLW South Africa, tournament sponsors, BB Print and its proprietors and all resort proprietors and their employees at all levels, are indemnified from any personal liabilities whatsoever that may be incurred by any person while travelling to, or from, or during the tournament.

The emphasis is on team (rather than individual) competition and only one team per boat is allowed.

A team consists of maximum two persons on one boat, but a team may however consist of just one person.

Anglers are not allowed to keep the official weigh-bags, tags or boat flags used at the tournaments.

3. DATES & VENUES

The 2020 season will be from September 2019 to July 2020 and the venue for each competition will be announced at the preceding month's captains meeting and on our websites www.sabass.com and www.flwsouthafrica.com. Cast-for-Cash organisers cannot be held responsible if dates and venues need to be changed because of influences beyond their control. Notice will be given by notifying participants via the website, social media networks, e-mail or SMS. At the discretion of the tournament organiser, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions.

4. PRIZE MONEY

Prize money is based on the number of paid entries for each tournament and paid for the top three heaviest bags plus lucky draw prizes. Prize money is allocated only to teams and not individuals. In the event of a tie, the teams will share the prize money of the tied position for which they tied, plus the position immediately below that.

Should the purse money be affected in any criminal way whatsoever, tournament organisers, tournament sponsors, SA BASS and staff, BB Print and its proprietors and their employees at all levels, will not be held liable for any compensation. In the event that a portion of, or total amount, of the prize money is not won, the residual funds will be added to the total prize money pool for the season's FLW South Africa Championship.

5. PARTICIPATION

Participation is open to any angler, irrespective of creed, colour or race. No angler under the age of 16 is allowed to participate, unless accompanied by an adult. Management of SA BASS and FLW South Africa reserve the right of admission to any participant.

Any person who, in the judgment of the tournament organiser is disabled or handicapped in such a manner as to unfairly hinder his or her skipper or co-angler partner or compromise his or her safety or the safety of his or her skipper or co-angler partner may not be eligible to participate.

6. POINT STANDINGS

A Grand Prix-system will be used to determine the End-of-Season-Points standing, as follows: the winner of each monthly tournament receives 100 points with following positions receiving points on a decreasing scale (i.e.: 99 for 2nd, 98 for 3rd, 97 for 4th and so on). Only for the months May, June and July each participating team's points will be doubled. In addition an extra thirty (30) participation points will be awarded per event attended. No points will be dropped – all accumulated points for the season, in one region, will count to determine the team's End-of-Season-Points. (A team's accumulated points cannot be transferred between regions.)

The top three teams, if there are at least ten teams on the regional log, will qualify for FLW Regional Colours. If there are less than ten teams on the regional log then only the top team qualify.

In the event of a tie on the End-of-Season-Points standing for the top position, the team with the most event wins during the current season will be the Regional Champions. If there is still a tie, the team with the heavier total combined bag weight through the entire season will be the winner. If there is still a tie, the team with the heaviest single event bag for the current season will be declared the winner.

The Regional Champions will compete during the FLW RSA National Championship for the "Angler-of-the-Year" award.

7. CAST-for-CASH QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

The monthly SA BASS Cast-for-Cash bass angling tournaments are qualifying events for the end season's FLW RSA National Championship. All teams who participate in any of the qualifying Cast-for-Cash tournaments will have to nominate their team's "skipper", "co-angler" and one "reserve angler" at their first entry; nominations cannot change for the rest of the season. If any two members of a Cast-for-Cash team; ("skipper" or "co-angler" or "reserve") cannot attend a Cast-for-Cash event then only one of the original members may fish under the team's name alone. Should any member of a team (skipper, co-angler or reserve) be replaced at any time during a season it would constitute the start of new team requiring a new team name as well as starting from zero kilogram on the log.

8. PURCHASING OF INFORMATION

The purchasing of, or bartering for, information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters, including but not limited to GPS waypoints (other than through commercially available sources) and the hiring of fishing guide services is not permitted after the entry deadline for each tournament. The sharing of tournament winnings with non-contestants in exchange for information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters is strictly prohibited and will be cause for disqualification from the entire tournament. The purchasing of, or bartering for, fishing locations from another contestant is strictly prohibited and will be cause for both contestants to be disqualified from the entire tournament.

Contestants may not ask for and/or receive information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters from anyone except anglers confirmed in the tournament and through publicly available sources (quasi-public websites, blogs and/or social media pages, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram and Periscope, set up for the specific purpose of sharing information with individuals or a small group of individuals are NOT publicly available sources). Flights over tournament waters, including drones, are not permitted beginning with the start of the off-limits period, extending through practice and competition days.

9. OFF-LIMITS, PRACTICE & COMPETITION

Tournament waters are off limits to all participants effective from sunset on Sunday prior to the event. Contestants may not enter tournament waters to locate bass, or potential fishing waters, or sightsee, or test equipment, or fly in person (or a drone) over the tournament waters, or receive any fishing information on the tournament waters from a third party. During competition days contestants may not place brush or other physical fish attractors, including chum or holding nets with bait fish of any kind, in tournament waters. During competition days teams may not follow a non-contestant's boat or participate in the placing of markers, brush or other fish attractors including holding nets by non-contestants or the practice of "hole sitting" by anyone.

10. CAST-for-CASH COMPETITION TIMES

05:30 – 06:00 Entry and Registration

No contestant may be on tournament waters for the purpose of locating fish or testing boats or equipment or be on potential fishing waters after the opening of registration except during tournament hours.

06:15 Live-well check followed by pretournament meeting (at least one member of each team must be present). It is the responsibility of every team to ensure their live-wells have been checked by a tournament official prior to the commencement of the tournament.

There will be only one official checkpoint for boat check in the morning and one official check-in point in the afternoon. Failure to go through boat check in and checkout in the morning or failure to check-in at the check-in point will result in disqualification. All boats must be launched and skippers must arrange themselves according to their starting numbers before **06:45**.

Fishing sessions: 07:00 to 16:00 (or as announced by the tournament organiser at the pretournament meeting)

Late entries are allowed, but registration will only take place after the last flight has left, and will only be allowed to start after their live-wells have been checked.

Check-in: All fishing must cease upon check-in. All tags must be returned and be back at the weigh station, on the board as announced by the tournament organiser.

Even though a team's bag could have been weighed but their tag is not on the board at the time, the team will be deemed late and their catch will be disqualified.

If a team is disqualified for being late but has weighed fish earlier the day, these fish will count towards the team's overall score. Only fish that have yet to be weighed will not count.

Weigh-in

Unless the tournament organizer for the day states otherwise; the weigh station will be closed during the day and will only open 15 (fifteen) minutes prior to check-in time.

Prize giving: Follows immediately after the results are known and written complaints received have been sorted out. Any complaint is to be submitted in writing, or by providing video footage, to the relevant regional tournament organiser within 15 minutes of the check-in time of the final flight of each tournament day.

11. REGISTRATION

Only CASH entries at registration will be accepted. Each team must register in person at the designated site. A team consists of maximum two persons per boat. Teams can pre-register for Cast-for-Cash qualifying events in a specific region for the season. The pre-registration fee does NOT include FLW RSA National Championship entries. Cast-for-Cash teams who did not pre-register must register and pay, in CASH the day's entry in full (regardless if the team consists of only one person), at the registration point on the day of the tournament. NO CHEQUES or CREDIT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Pre-registered Cast-for-Cash teams still have to hand in a signed entry form for every tournament on the day. Teams register under one team name for the season – team names cannot be changed during the season. No team will be allowed to register another team. Entries must be made on the official entry form, which will be available at the registration point, and on our web site. (Please write clearly!) Teams are encouraged to complete their registration forms prior to the event to ensure a speedy registration process for all. There will be no refunds once payment of any sort has been received i.e. upfront payments and monthly payments for no shows or if a team decides to stop fishing the season. If any team's partner cannot fish the rest of the season then the remaining partner may complete the season by fishing alone; or may find a new partner under a new team name and lose all accumulated points for the season and start over from zero.

12. STARTING POSITIONS

12.1 More than ten pre-paid teams in a region:

All starting positions for the day will randomly be drawn out of a bag on a first come first serve basis by all teams.

The number of tags, starting at tag #1, according to the number of teams who have pre-registered in that region for the season, will be kept apart. Pre-paid teams are allowed to draw ONE tag from the pre-paid bag. The rest of the field are allowed to draw TWO numbers at once and choose the better number for the day.

12.2 Less than ten pre-paid teams in a region:

All starting positions for the day will randomly be drawn out of one bag on a first come first serve basis by all teams.

Pre-paid teams are allowed to draw TWO numbers at once and choose the better number for the day. The rest of the

field are allowed to draw ONE number.

Every registered team must collect their corresponding boat flag number for display when boats are lining up for the start. Skippers must separate themselves on the water and each co-angler must display his team's starting number so that all skippers can arrange themselves for a single boat start. Teams will only be allowed to set off once the team number is called and a GREEN flag has been raised. No team may set off whilst the RED flag is raised. Teams failing to comply with the starting procedure will be disqualified immediately and no tournament entry fees will be refunded. When a team's number is called out, the team must idle out and is only allowed to go on the plane from the point the organiser has appointed. All persons must be seated and a qualified skipper must be behind the steering wheel in full control of the boat whenever it is on plane or the combustion engine is running and in gear.

13. CHECKPOINTS

There will be only one checkpoint for boat check in the morning and one check-in point in the afternoon. Failure to go through boat check and checkout in the morning or failure to check in at the check-in point will result in disqualification. All fishing must cease upon check-in.

14. SAFETY

Safe boating must be observed at all times and remains the responsibility of every skipper. Each contestant is required to wear a fastened personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is running from boat check until weigh-in each day of the tournament. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition-shutoff device that must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is running. All persons must be seated and a driver must be behind the steering wheel in full control of the boat whenever it is on plane or the combustion engine is running and in gear. At the discretion of the tournament director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. Competitors may leave their boat and seek shelter in bad weather or when danger is eminent. However, teams must stay within sight of each other.

15. BOAT OPERATION & EQUIPMENT FAILURE

At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat. In the event of equipment failure or emergency, there will be only two permitted methods of returning to the official check-in: (1) by both partners remaining in their boat and being towed, or (2) by one partner boarding the boat of another tournament contestant with their entire catch kept separate in a weigh bag. Under these two conditions the contestant's catches may be counted without a penalty (except for late penalties or dead-fish penalties. *Note: Equipment failure does not allow for flat batteries or running out of fuel*). Contestants who elect to return to the official check-in by any other means than cited above will forfeit their day's catch. A 100 meter radius from the weigh station must be treated as a no-wake zone. Boats are not allowed to beach directly at the release point. A 1000 gram penalty will be deducted from a team's bag weight, for teams who do not comply. There is a "No Fishing Zone" directly at the weigh station as indicated by the tournament organiser. Tournament officials reserve the right to board any participating boat before, during or after the tournament.

16. BOAT & HORSEPOWER REGULATION

All boats participating must be fitted with a minimum of 15hp (fifteen horsepower) outboard engine, must be propeller driven and be a minimum of three meter (10ft) in length. No kayaks, jet skis, barges or similarly cumbersome craft will be permitted. Each boat must have all required safety equipment and must be equipped to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live-well of some sort. All vessels should be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device that should be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is in operation.

The use of generators, other than solar or wind-powered generators, is prohibited in contestant boats during tournament hours on all competition days.

17. LIVE FISH

The Cast-for-Cash Tournament Trial is a catch, weigh and release event. Every effort must be made to keep bass alive through the use of a properly aerated live-well of some sort. SA BASS and all its sponsors recommend the use of live-well additives that promote the healthy return of bass to their natural habitat. (No stringers, keep nets or fish nets are allowed).

Any fish presented to the weigh master with a white circle in the eye or obviously dead fish; will be regarded as “dead” and therefore be penalised and a 1000 gram will be deducted from the total bag weight for each “dead fish” as decided upon by the weigh master alone. SA BASS also recommends the use of non-puncturing culling clips like the new T-H Marine G Force Conservation Cull for marking fish and live-well additives like G-Juice to help promote the healthy release of bass.

18. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS

Any team can only start to fish after they have gone through the starting gate. Fishing is defined as having a lure attached to a line and a rod and reel with the rod in hand. All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. All fishing must be conducted from the boat and only artificial lures may be used, with the exception of pork trailers and biodegradable soft baits. Only one wet rod with one main line and one lure / bait per angler at any given time is allowed. The rod must be hand held (no rod holder may be used). Rigs like the double rig where multiple lures / baits are attached to one main line are not allowed, except for commercial available “Alabama” rigs. Trolling as a method of fishing is strictly prohibited. Trolling is defined as operating the combustion engine or using the trolling motor to extend a cast or lengthen a retrieve. All bass caught must be hooked inside the mouth. Creating feeding spots by dumping bait either artificial or natural, or any other attractant in order to attract fish to a specific location is prohibited. Tournament ethics, courtesy and good conduct are unwritten “golden rules” and core responsibilities of all anglers on all levels.

19. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat, except areas designated as “off limits” or “no fishing” by local or provincial officials or within 45 metres of a competitor’s boat. Non-contestants (spectators on boats) are also not allowed within 45 metres from a contestant’s boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. The cutting of trees, bushes and/or logs after the start of registration to make an area more accessible by boat is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification from the tournament. Contestants must leave and return to the check-in by boat.

20. LIMITS

The daily bag limit is FIVE bass per team, on the boat at any one time. Anglers possessing more than the tournament limit of five fish per team per day will be disqualified. There is no minimum size limit on bass to be weighed at any Cast-for-Cash event. Any fish presented for weigh-in that have partially ingested their prey will not be weighed until the protruding remains of such ingested prey are safely removed and will not count towards the team’s bag weight. The introduction of any foreign materials to increase the fish’s weight will be just cause for an immediate disqualification from all FLW Cast-for-Cash tournaments. Any fish presented for weigh-in must be brought in a weigh bag filled with water. Any fish brought lip-landed to the scale will NOT be weighed. No culling of fish at the weigh station is allowed. Each team’s catch must be presented in an official weigh-in bag and verified by the signature of a team member. Failure to have a verified signature may result in disqualification of that day’s catch. The team’s boat flag must be weighed along with their fish. All fish are weighed together to determine the total bag weight. (No points per fish.) FLW members are encouraged to nominate, weigh-in and claim record size bass during tournaments and apply for official FLW record recognition.

21. PENALTIES & DISQUALIFICATIONS

Failure to wear an approved personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is running: warning for first offense but instant disqualification for 2nd offense. Going on the plane within a no wake zone will be a thirty point penalty. Anglers possessing more than the tournament limit of five fish per team per day will be disqualified. A 1000 gram will be deducted from the total bag weight for each “dead fish”. A 1000 gram penalty will be deducted from a team’s bag weight for teams who beach directly at the release point. The intentional introduction of materials that cause an increase in weight/mass of a fish by an angler shall be deemed just cause for the disqualification of the team concerned. Intentional damaging of fish (fin clipping, illegal tagging, or disfiguration of any kind) will lead to instant disqualification. A tag that is not on the tag board by the closing time of the event will result in the entire catch being disqualified and the team will only be awarded their thirty attendance points. In case of a lost tag the team must identify itself to the tournament organiser and inform him of a lost tag before the dedicated cut-off time, to avoid disqualification. Fishing in an off limits area will be a DQ (disqualification).

If any team or team member receives more than three complaints in one season against them the team, or team member will be disqualified for the rest of the season.

In the event that a team is found guilty of cheating, the team members will be immediately banned from all SA BASS, Cast-for-Cash or FLW Championship tournaments and legal action will be taken against the team members.

22. SPORTSMANSHIP

All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, to SA BASS, Cast-for-Cash, FLW South Africa, FLW's sponsors, the sport of fishing and FLW's efforts to promote the sport. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the rules for the 2019 series.
- No angler may hand to, or exchange, any article with any other boat and, excepting in an emergency situation, may not leave the boat during the fishing session.
- Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any kind of mind-altering substance during registration or tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure and prize giving.
- Abuse of, or addiction to, mind-altering substances.
- Smoking is not allowed in the weigh-in line.
- Suspension/disqualification, probation or ban from any tournament or fishing organization.
- Any other words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavourably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules, or which fail to comply with the standards set in this rules.

In case of any conduct not complying with the standards outlined above, FLW South Africa shall have the right to refuse an application to compete, to deny a confirmed application to compete by returning the entry fee, to disqualify a contestant or impose any penalty outlined in these rules. All disputes will be handled and finalised immediately after each leg. The organisers may at their discretion co-opt persons to assist in settling disputes.

23. COMMUNICATION and SOCIAL MEDIA

Contestants may not use mobile communication devices, including but not limited to, cell phones, tablets, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., to communicate with anyone about locating or catching fish on tournament waters during tournament hours. Mobile communication devices may be used during tournament hours to communicate with the regional tournament organiser. At no time during tournament hours may contestants read or discuss social media posts from other contestants.

24. MEDIA COMMENTS, PUBLIC ATTACKS

The favourable public reputation of SA BASS, FLW and Cast-for-Cash as sanctioning organizations in the sport of fishing, the integrity of its officials, and the reputation of its media properties are valuable assets and tangible benefits for SA BASS and FLW South Africa. Accordingly, it is an obligation of competitors to refrain from comments to the news media that unreasonably attack or disparage the integrity of tournaments, tournament officials, sponsors, fellow members, fellow anglers, SA BASS or Fishing League Worldwide (FLW). Responsible expressions of legitimate disagreement with SA BASS and/or FLW South Africa policies are encouraged as opposed to attacks upon the integrity of the rules or officials. However, public comments that an angler knows, or should reasonably know, will harm the reputation of SA BASS, FLW South Africa, its officials or sponsors shall be considered conduct unbecoming an angler and will result in disciplinary action.

25. LOGO DISPLAY & MEDIA COVERAGE

During all days of competition any and all tobacco logos are prohibited and may not be worn or displayed. Anglers may wear their own apparel every day, except when anglers represent FLW South Africa in any event. SA BASS and FLW South Africa reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to prohibit any angler's apparel that it finds to be offensive. All decisions are in tournament organisers' sole discretion.

Only official SA BASS, Cast-for-Cash and FLW South Africa sponsors and benefit providers are entitled to publicity at tournaments as jointly agreed. No competitor may offer publicity, guaranteed or incidental, on behalf of SA Bass, Cast-for-Cash or FLW South Africa in exchange for sponsorship.

In the event of any television coverage of any SA BASS, Cast-for-Cash or FLW South Africa event, SA BASS owns the

rights to all camera footage. SA BASS and FLW South Africa are under no obligation to remunerate, whether it be cash or any other means, what so ever, to any competitors should they appear in the production.

26. RIGHT OF ADMISSION

Right of admission is reserved: the Cast-for-Cash Tournament Trial is a showcase for bass angling! All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, to SA Bass, sponsors, the sport of fishing and SA Bass' efforts to promote the sport. Examples of conduct not complying with those standards include, but are not limited to, the following: violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the official rules for the Cast-for-Cash Tournament Trial.

27. TRUTH VERIFICATION TEST

Each contestant agrees to submit, by signature on the tournament entry form, to a polygraph or voice stress analysis examination and to abide by its conclusion. Failure to pass an examination will result in disqualification from the tournament. Truth verification tests will be used at SA BASS' sole discretion and the decision based on the findings will be made solely by SA BASS. All costs for such a polygraph test will be for the competitor's account, despite the outcome.

28. POWER OF DISQUALIFICATION

Under any of the above rules, tournament organisers are empowered to disqualify any competitor, after due consideration of the facts, deemed to have broken these rules at their level and/or apply disciplinary measures as defined in the Cast-for-Cash / FLW South Africa Championship rules. The regional organiser may recommend the banning of any angler for serious breach of rules. In the event of a dispute SA BASS may make use of a polygraph test for both anglers on the boat.

By filling in the entry form, submitting and participating in the Cast-for-Cash tournament trial or FLW South Africa Championship, you have agreed to abide by all the rules and have acknowledged and have accepted the indemnity at the bottom of the entry form.

29. FLW RSA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

Dates: 27, 28, 29 August 2020 (three day event)

Participation at the FLW South Africa Championship is by invitation only and all contestants to compete have to be fully paid up FLW members before **31 June 2020**.

Any angler under the age of 16 entering must also have written permission and be signed by a parent or legal guardian. Upfront FLW South Africa Championship entry fees per team must be paid before **31 July 2020**.

Invitation to participate will be done pro rata, based on each team's number of events fished and the team's regional end-of-season-points for the season.

Any angler (skipper, co-angler, reserve) who has fished, in person, at least six events during the season will be allowed to compete in the FLW RSA National Championship. Only the two team members who compete at the FLW RSA National Championship can qualify for the Costa FLW Series Championship slots. The slots cannot be transferred to another team member.

In case members from two different teams fish together from one boat they will have to fish under one of the original team names as one team and only they can qualify for Costa FLW Series slots if they have fished, in person, at least six events during the season.

Please note that FLW RSA National Championship has its own set of tournament rules.

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