



Congratulations! You are entered in the 2019 Big Bass Junior Championship®. The official start date is January 1, 2019. The last day to qualify for the BBJC Finals is August 15, 2019. You may fish anywhere, anytime within the territorial waters of the 49 eligible states (Alaska, District of Columbia, U.S. territories and possessions excluded), subject to state and local regulations.

BEFORE YOU GO FISHING...

- **Read the Rules and Review the Certification Form**

Take time to read the *Rules and Regulations* included with this Contestant's Packet, and familiarize yourself with the changes for 2019 and the new *Big Bass Certification Form*. The BBJC will require three pictures (one showing the length of your bass with the provided ruler, one with the ruler around your catch to verify the girth, and one of you holding your live catch). For 2019, you may submit your catch using video. Video must show you catching the fish, measuring the fish with both girth and length, you holding the fish, and releasing the fish. All four must be in the video, or the video will be ineligible. You may send both, video and photos. The Video is optional. Bassin' Magazine promotes catch and release, but if you keep the fish, you must also accompany the video with photographs of the measurements both girth and length, and you holding the bass. All photos must be taken with the official 2019 Ruler.

AFTER YOU CATCH A BASS...

Take Photograph(s) After your catch, have a photograph taken with your face and a side view of the bass clearly showing. Now take two additional pictures: one of your fish with the BBJC ruler in clear view above or below the bass (see Diagram 1 on back page of Certification Form) and the other of the BBJC ruler around your catch to verify girth (see Diagram 2 on back page of Certification Form). BBJC judges will only go off what measurements they see in the photos. Photos with the fish on the ruler, or with the ruler on the fish will not be accepted.

- **Release the Bass and Complete Your Certification Form**

The Big Bass Junior Championship® encourages catch-and-release. If possible, return the bass to the same waters in which it was caught. You may now fill out the rest of the *Big Bass Certification Form* at your convenience. Be sure to and attach a **copy of your fishing license**, if required for your age by state or local law, and the photo(s) of your bass. Please remember your correctly completed *Big Bass Certification Form* must be received in BBJC offices **postmarked no more than 30 days** from the date of your catch, and no later than August 16th, 2019. All others postmarked after that date will be void. BBJC allows the post office 1 week (7 days, Aug 22nd) to deliver postmarked Aug 16th mail to us. We are not responsible for lost or misdirected mail. Winners will be announced shortly thereafter, and contacted.

If you have any questions or would like additional Official BBJC Entry Forms for your friends, call 800-554-1999. **BE SURE TO READ THE ENCLOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS CAREFULLY** then head for your favorite fishing hole and catch a winner! Good luck!

Sincerely,

BBJC® Coordinator

800 S. Cherokee, UNIT C Catoosa, OK 74015

For assistance call 800-554-1999

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Only three species of bass will be considered for qualification in the 2019 Big Bass Junior Championship ("2019 BBJC"). They will be the largemouth black bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), the spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*) and the smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*). All bass entered must be caught within the territorial waters of each of the 49 eligible states (Alaska, District of Columbia, U.S. territories and U.S. possessions are not eligible).

1. Qualification runs from January 1, 2019 through August 15, 2019. All bass must be caught within this time period. All Bass Caught must have official 2019 BBJC Ruler included. No other catches will be allowed.

All Big Bass Certification Forms must be correctly completed (this includes accompanying photo-graph(s) and/or video and photocopy of fishing license) and received in our offices postmarked no more than 30 days from the date of catch. The last day correctly completed Big Bass Certification Forms can be postmarked is August 16, 2019. All correctly completed Big Bass Certification Forms must be received in our offices by August 22, 2019. Incorrectly completed Big Bass Certification Forms received after August 16 will not be accepted. No responsibility is assumed for lost, late, or misdirected mail.

2. The entry fee shall be \$25 for each entrant.
(a) \$25 allows you to fish one state
(b) \$45 allows you to declare two states you are fishing
(c) \$65 Allows you to fish any state, nationwide.
3. To be eligible for all prizes, the entrant must:
(a) Complete the official BBJC Entry Form and mail along with the \$25 entry fee, OR call the 1-800 toll-free number and provide the appropriate information and authorize payment of the entry fee by credit card. The \$25 fee with entry form or 1-800 toll-free call must be received and approved by BBJC officials before the entrant is eligible and the qualifying bass is caught.
(b) You must be **still going to school**, either high school or college, and must be between the ages of 14 and 25. No exceptions. **(anglers between ages 14 thru 17 and 364 days old, must have written consent by legal guardian. These anglers must also have legal guardian sign on any BBJC certification forms for fish entered. Anglers 14 thru 17 and 364 days old winning any prize, consent to awarding prize to legal guardian.)**
(c) Catch the largest bass (by BBJC formula, (girth x length / 1200)) in any of the 49 eligible states from January 1, 2019 through August 15, 2019, and correctly complete a *Big Bass Certification Form*. Some restrictions apply on when and where you can fish: (1) where state and local laws apply; (2) contestants must have legal permission to fish private waters.
(d) Cannot have entered into a fishing contest of any type with an entry fee of \$1500 or more over the past 5 years.
4. Your catch must be certified for the state in which it is caught. You may fish multiple states if declared when entered. Each state is \$20 after your first initial entry fee. This is where the fish lives, not where you live.

5. Persons winning two consecutive state championship titles (for the same state only) are ineligible to compete during the two following BBJC qualification periods, for that state.

6. All prior state champions who have entered a state winning fish from a private body of water, and any immediate family members, may NOT enter another fish from the same private bodies of water. Only different fish from other private bodies of water may be entered in future competitions for five years.

7. The person winning a BBJC Finals automatically qualifies for the following year's BBJC Finals, but he or she will not be allowed to participate in the following year's qualification period if they have won the finals two consecutive years. Any person winning a BBJC Finals in the second year of two consecutive state championships may compete in the following year's BBJC Finals, but not in the qualification period for the following two years for the same state.

8. Employees, of American Angler Publications, Inc., and Big Bass Junior Championship, LLC and their immediate families, and corporate employees of companies engaged in sponsoring the 2019 BBJC ARE eligible. Entry fees and state declares must be paid in cash. All sponsors and employees are eligible to fish and compete.

9. BBJC officials reserve the right to deny or reject entries for any reason.

10. All entries are judged and decisions are final and unable for contest,

11. All entries must be made by filling out the Official BBJC Entry Form, OR by calling the 1-800 toll-free number and providing the appropriate information and authorizing payment of the entry fee by credit card. Additional entry forms are available on request. Photocopies and facsimile transmissions of blank entry forms are also acceptable. Photocopies of completed entry forms are not acceptable. Facsimile transmissions of completed are not accepted for entries. Emails of forms and texts of photos, and fish submitted by app is also accepted, but must be accompanied by postmarked qualification forms.

12. A digital file of the catch and certification form may now be submitted to BBJC personnel, as long as all forms are completed and included. Emails will not be returned with missing information.

Official BBJC Entry Forms must be complete, including payment of the entry fee. Incomplete entries will be void, disqualified and returned to the sender, excluding the return and/or refund of the entry fee. Disputes of photographs and measurements will not result in refund. Payment of the entry fee can be made by check, money order or credit card, or PayPal. AMEX, VISA, DISCOVER and MasterCard are accepted. Once entered, there are NO REFUNDS. You acknowledge you are entering a contest, and NO REFUNDS are given FOR ANY CIRCUMSTANCE once the official entry form is submitted.

- 13.

By signing the Official BBJC Entry Form, OR by calling the 1-800 toll-free number and providing the appropriate information and authorizing payment of the entry fee by credit card, each entrant in the 2019 Big Bass Junior Championship agrees if his/her bass entered on the *Big Bass Certification Form* is to be considered for a prize and/or awards, that he/she is required to sign and return the *Affidavit of Eligibility and Release of Liability*. This form will be given at the finals tournament. Refusal to sign is automatic disqualification, and a ban from future BBJC events. The entrant may be required to submit to, and pass, a polygraph examination. The polygraph examination, if required, will be conducted by a licensed polygraph examiner in order to determine the entrant's right to receive prizes being awarded and will be made at the expense of the sponsors. Any entrant who fails to complete and return the *Affidavit of Eligibility and Release of Liability* or refuses to submit to a polygraph examination within 10 (ten) days of notification, shall be disqualified and an alternate winner selected. Previous disqualification for rule violation(s) prohibits future entries. All decisions by the BBJC Rules Committee are final. Random polygraphs can/will be given during the qualification period, the state champion period, and at the finals. Big Bass Junior Championship, LLC reserves the right to randomly pick at its own discretion, or by belief of fraud. This means YES we can single you out!

14. Each bass entered in the 2019 Big Bass Junior Championship must be submitted on a correctly completed *Big Bass Certification Form*, which is provided in the 2019 BBJC Contestant's Packet. All *Big Bass Certification Forms* must be completed in ink or typed. **Photocopies and facsimile transmissions of blank Big Bass Certification Forms may be used.** Photocopies and facsimile transmissions of completed *Big Bass Certification Forms* are not acceptable. The date of the catch must be verified as occurring after entry verification and fee are received and approved.

15. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- (a) **INSTANT WINNERS** - All contestants who enter a Certified bass which meets or exceeds the minimum requirements will win an Instant-Winner Prize. Only one Instant-Winner Prize package will be awarded per contestant. Bass exceeding the minimum required, but less than those already shown as state leaders, will also be eligible for the Instant -Winner Prize. The instant winner prize is a signed certificate from the BBJC stating you entered a leading fish. To receive this certificate for your state leading catch, you must submit in writing to the BBJC.
- (b) **STATE CHAMPIONS** - The contestant entering the largest certified bass in each of the 49 states will win a chance to compete in the 2019 Big Bass Junior Championship Finals. Hotel accommodations, and ground transportation while at the competition will be provided by BBJC, LLC.
- (c) **BBJC FINALS WINNER** - The contestant who Qualifies for the 2019 BBJC Finals and catches the largest bass (by weight) during the one day competition will win a BBJC **CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE PACKAGE, including, but not limited to a Bass Cat "Margay" boat package with a Mercury motor, MotorGuide trolling motor and Lowrance electronics.**

Scholarships- Bethel University. Up to 140,000.00 dollars in scholarship opportunities and 28,000 per student in scholarship opportunities based upon up

to four years tuition to attend Bethel University and to be on the Bethel University Bass Fishing Team. All scholarship awards are a combination of both Athletic and Academic scholarship offers toward Bethel University tuition.

Note: Bethel University Bass Team Scholarship awards that are won at the Big Bass Junior Championship Can Not be combined with any other awards or offers from Bethel University that are won with any other fishing organization. These are stand-alone scholarships.

Rules for scholarship --

This scholarship must go to a high school senior graduating in the Spring of 2020. Winner must attend Bethel University in McKenzie, TN beginning the Fall semester of 2020 and be a member of the Wildcat Bass Fishing Team. Student must remain in good standing with the Team, Athletic Department, and Academics to receive continued funding. This scholarship is based on \$7000.00 per year for up to a 4 year period and reflects a total of both academic and athletic monies. This scholarship is non-transferable, non-refundable, and has no cash return value. It is up to the discretion of BBJC LLC and Bethel University on how such prizes and certificates are handed out during the Big Bass Junior Championship finals.

Winning the BBJC Finals automatically qualifies the contestant to compete in the BBJC Finals the following year.

(d) In the event a prize is discontinued or unavailable from the manufacturer, the sponsors reserve the right to substitute a prize with another of equal value. All prizes subject to sponsor participation.

(e) The date and location of the BBJC Finals are subject to change, based upon events beyond the control of the BBJC, at the discretion of the BBJC.

16 TAXES ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNERS. All forms must be filled out and correctly filed before payment to the winner.

15. To promote conservation, only those bass meeting or exceeding the minimum requirements established by the BBJC will be eligible for entry during the January 1, 2019 to August 15, 2019 qualification period. BBJC promotes catch and release, so the 2019 BBJC has no minimum requirements for bass. State and local laws apply.

16. Each entrant will be allowed to enter one bass only on one *Big Bass Certification Form*. There is no restriction, however, on the number of bass entered, provided each bass is entered on a separate *Big Bass Certification Form*. You may make blank copies of the Big Bass Certification form.

17. The 2019 BBJC is a catch and release tournament, therefore all fish can be measured length and girth, photographed and released. No weights will be entered, except by BBJC staff determined by BBJC formula. State and local laws apply.

18. Contestants when catching their bass must

(A) Immediately photograph and provide these photographs with the BBJC ruler in clear view above or below the bass and a photograph of the BBJC ruler around the fattest portion of the bass. The third photo is of the contestant clearly holding the live bass with their face included in the photo. These three photos must accompany all entries. The 2019 BBJC will also accept a video of the catch, measuring of the bass and length, and release. For best interest of missing valuable information on the video, BBJC staff strongly urges the photograph as well as the video. All forms must be filled out the same.

19. All bass must be caught alive, and hooked in the Mouth. State and local laws apply.

20. All entries, regardless of catch state, must be accompanied by a color photograph clearly showing the contestant's face and a side view of the bass. Photographs of replicas and mounts are not acceptable. Entrants are encouraged to have the bass certified as to species, weight, length and girth by state conservation agency personnel whenever possible. The video card must also be sent in if it is a video catch. A DVD is also acceptable.

21. Bass must be taken on a rod and reel according to the regulations of the state in which the catch was made. Bass taken by non-sporting means (this includes, but is not limited to, jugging, foul-hooking, ice titups, trotlines, spearing, yo-yos, snagging, etc.) are not eligible.

22. All bass entries must be accompanied by a brief description of how the entrant angler caught the bass.

23. In case of a tie in the weight of a prize-winning bass, the tie will be broken by presenting the top ranking to the bass with the greatest length, then girth. If a tie remains after these recordings are analyzed, it will be broken by a flip of a coin. The decisions of the judges and BBJC staff shall be final.

24. Entrants completing the Official BBJC Entry Form and *Big Bass Certification Form* and accepting any prize offered shall constitute the granting of license to *BASSIN'* magazine to the article, interview and video and photo rights surrounding the entrant's catch. All entries and photographs and videos become the property of the Big Bass Junior Championship, LLC. And American Angler Publications, Inc., with full publication rights. No entries or photographs will be returned. Video cards will be returned with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

25. THE 2019 BIG BASS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP IS SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS AND IS VOID WHEREVER PROHIBITED BY LAW.