



2019 NMBN TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

The tournament format is boater/non-boater with **NO DRAW**. **Boaters compete against boaters and non-boaters compete against non-boaters**. Drawing will only be done to pair unpaired registrants, see rule 18.

We will be sending out early registration forms. The more early registration forms we get the faster the meeting will go.

The weekends selected are:

April 6, 2017	Elephant Butte Lake
April 7, 2017	Elephant Butte Lake
August 24, 2017	Navajo Lake President's Cup banquet Saturday
August 25, 2017	Navajo Lake

The lake off limits will begin at midnight on Sunday (Monday morning) before the tournament until Friday safe light. Off the lake by 3 PM on Friday before tournament.

Qualification for the 2020 State Team will be based on the top 3 scores from the 4 qualifiers.

Official practice for both weekends will be the Friday prior to each weekend. See rule 11 below for further clarification.

Registration will be available on the Friday prior to the tournament weekend or early registration will be accepted up until the week before the tournament. No registration will be accepted during the tournament, cutoff for registration will be Friday prior to the events at 6 PM. Boaters/non-boaters must register for either or both events on or before the Friday prior to the rules meeting. All option pots are per event, two per weekend. Prior to registration, boaters must comply with state regulations for boat **inspection for aquatic invasive species**. This is especially important for boats registered outside of New Mexico or boats that have recently been out of state. Plan ahead as there may not be inspection personnel at the venue the morning of the tournaments.

Proof of \$300,000 liability insurance is required to be in the possession of the boater at all times during the tournament. Friday nights at the mandatory rules meeting, boaters will need to bring proof of insurance and BOTH boaters and non-boaters will need to bring their current fishing licenses. If you are not able to make it to the meeting please contact Dave Smith at 505.401.1626 or davesmithtd@nmbfn.com and you can send a copy of your insurance and licenses with your early registration and release forms.

At takeoff you will be going by the end of the courtesy dock. You will be given your duck and chemical, after that you will need to pull your kill switch to show that it is operational. Then go fishing.

Expect State Parks to inspect for all safety equipment.

2019 NMBN QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Bag limits will be announced at the registration depending on the tournament format. Size limits will be per state regulation as printed in the current New Mexico Game and Fish Proclamation.
 - Navajo and Elephant Butte will be 12" smallmouth and 14" largemouth/spotted (State Regulation)
 - NMBN will use a flat measuring board in 2019. The will-e-go-belly board will no longer be acceptable for measuring fish.
2. Takeoff and check-in times will be determined at the rules meeting.
3. If you are late to take off, you will need contact me, Dave Smith @ 505-401-1626 first. Once you are on the water and before you start fishing, you will need to find an officer or a club director to check your live wells. No one else will be able to check your live well. No exceptions!
4. No culling of dead fish will be allowed, PERIOD. Dead fish penalty is 4oz per fish. Penalty for culling a dead fish is **disqualification** from that tournament.
5. Penetrating culling clips are discouraged for proper fish care. The NMBN encourages the use of non penetrating cull tags.
6. Bass presented for weigh-in, which fail to measure the official length, shall result in a penalty of 1 pound for each such bass plus that fish removed.
7. You must have your number (duck) **turned in** at the check-in point by your check-in time.
8. Late check-in penalty will be one pound per minute late up to 15 minutes. After that, the angler's weight will be disqualified for that day.
9. All fish caught while sight fishing shall be hooked on the inside of the mouth and verified by that day's partner before unhooking.
10. Ties will be broken by 1)-total fish weighed, 2)-total live fish weighed, 3)-big fish weighed. If still unresolved, a flip of a coin will decide placement.
11. It shall be NMBN policy that the tournament waters are OFF-LIMITS starting on Monday at 12:00 AM through Friday morning safe light of the week immediately preceding the tournament days. YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE ON TOURNAMENT WATERS DURING COMPETITION DAYS IF NOT REGISTERED

FOR THAT DAY. The Tournament Director may modify the off-limits dates to accommodate holidays or other extenuating circumstances.

12. Individuals who operate a boat during any NMBN tournament must have documented proof of boating liability insurance meeting BASS Nation minimum requirements (currently \$300,000). Such documented proof must show an effective date and expiration date that includes the tournament dates they are fishing in and must be in possession of the boat operator. (A digital copy on your phone is acceptable)
13. This set of rules supersedes all other rules except when not specifically covered herein. If not covered, the next set of rules to follow will be the 2019 BASS Nation Tournament rules. It is the responsibility of all contestants to understand and abide by these rules. All contestants will be emailed a copy at the beginning of the year. Other copies will be available at each event.
14. The entry fee for each tournament will be \$100.00 for boaters and \$50 for non-boaters. Observers are allowed to fish but shall not control the boat at any time nor interfere with the boater's ability to fish. Observers do not pay an entry fee or non-boater expense fee and are not allowed to weigh in fish. Observers must sign an individual entry form and liability waiver at registration. B.A.S.S. insurance age limits apply. Ask the tournament director for clarification.
15. \$10.00 per day optional fee for tournament Big Bass and is 100% paid back. There is a boater and non-boater Big Bass pot and each is paid separately.
16. Starting position will be decided by the tournament director using either the certified computer program or drawing numbers.
17. The tournament director may designate a boater pairing (including fishing alone) as needed to mitigate physical impairments requested by the contestant (to the tournament director) prior to the drawing. This may include allowing the boater to fish alone or assigning a non-boater that has agreed to help the boater as needed. Service Dogs may be allowed.
18. There will never be more than one boater without a non-boater. If two boaters attend without non-boaters, they will be paired together and a coin toss will decide which boat they use if the boaters can't agree. If three boaters attend the tournament director will pair and then repair the boaters on the next day to make sure that the same boater does not fish alone two days in a row.
19. Protest will need to be brought to me, Dave Smith, no later than 30 minutes after weigh-in ends.