

## Hook, Line & Sinker Open Team Tournament Rules

Eligibility: Open to Amateur and Professionals alike.

Entry Fee: \$300 entry fee, \$50 will be removed and set aside for the top three Big Fish payout with the remainder of the entry going toward the 1 in 5 payout. All pre-sign ups must be paid at the store, Hook, Line & Sinker, 3100 Main Street, Suite 260, Oakley, CA 94561 or over the phone at 925-625-2441. All sign ups taken the day of the event will be subject to a \$20 late fee and must be **paid in cash**.

Blast Off: There will be no waiting for any team. If you are not in the water and in line when your boat number is called, three times – you will be forced to blast-off last. Please make every effort to be in the water 30 minutes prior to blast off. All live wells will be checked prior to boat launch by tournament officials. In the case of anglers launching in another location, send one angler to the top of the ramp to notify the tournament officials, so live wells can be checked. Boat numbers will be assigned at the pre-tournament meeting and Blast Off order will be determined before the blast off by random.

Fishing Methods: All bass must be caught live in a conventional and sporting manor, using only artificial lures with the exception of pork trailers. Only one fishing rod maybe used at a time by each angler, and no rods over nine feet in length may be used. Trolling is prohibited.

Restrictions: Participants may fish anywhere accessible by boat except areas designated as off-limits, NO Fishing areas designated by Federal, State and Local agencies or within 50 yards of a marina gas dock, or another contestant.

Off Limits: Starting Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> there will be an official off-limits period. Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> will be the official practice days.

Boat Requirements: All boats must be equipped with a steering wheel or tiller steering. No other steering devices will be permitted. All boats must contain an aerated or recirculating live well and life jackets must be worn at all times while the combustion motor is running. For anglers under the age of 16 life jackets must be worn on the dock and on the boat at all times. All boats must meet all Coast Guard regulations and kill switches must be attached at all times while the main motor is running. Navigation lights must be on and working until anglers meet their first stop.

Scoring: Only large mouth, spotted or small mouth bass are accepted species, the tournament limit will be five fish per team with a minimum length of 13 inches with the mouth open on a flat board. We will swish the tail. Any team that possesses more than their tournament limit will lose their biggest fish's weight plus 1-pound penalty in addition to the loss of their shortest fish. No dead fish may be culled out and a 1-pound penalty will be applied to each dead fish weighed in. In case of a tie for overall standings the biggest single fish will be the tiebreaker and in the case of a ties for big fish the overall biggest weight for the day will be the tiebreaker.

Late Penalty: All contestants must check in at the check-in boat inside the five mile an hour zone. There will be 1-pound per minute, up to five minutes that will be deducted from the total weight. After five minutes the team will be disqualified.

Protests: All protests must be made within 15 minutes after the conclusion of the weigh in.

Safety: There will be no alcoholic beverages or use of illegal substance consumed during the tournament in any boat or by any tournament participant. All laws of safe boating must be adhered to, including obeying of 5 mph buoys, designated NO Fishing areas and all Federal and California boating laws.

Liability Release: All contestants participating in a Hook, Line & Sinker event must sign a release (on Official Entry Form), in consideration for the privilege of participating in the event. Releasing all tournament officials and sponsoring organizations from all claims of injury and/or damages in connection with this event. By signing this release you also declare that you possess the proper watercraft insurance policies to cover any losses or injuries sustained while participating in this Hook, Line & Sinker Event. After reading and signing the release, all rules pertaining to the participation and eligibility and you will be subject to all applicable penalties if any of these rules are violated.

**While on the water if you should have an emergency or breakdown,  
Contact: Steve Meduno 510-914-4770.**