



# Cove House

## BIG BASS BASH

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### BOATER RULES & REGULATIONS

1. **Rules:** The decision of the Tournament Director is final in all matters. All protests must be received within 15 minutes of the scales closing. Scales close at 3:45 PM.
2. **Registration times:** Morning of 5:00 AM-6:00 AM. Registration is currently open, visit [covehouse.org/big-bass-bash](http://covehouse.org/big-bass-bash) ! Boat numbers assigned upon receipt of payment and registration. All teams are required to meet at Island Pavilion on Stillhouse for registration and Tournament briefing.
2. **Registration times – morning of 0500 AM-0600 AM.** Registration is currently open! Boat numbers assigned upon receipt of payment and registration. All teams are required to meet at the Island Pavilion on Stillhouse for registration and Tournament briefing.
3. **Entry Fee:** \$120 per boat, cash, check or money order, Venmo, Cash-App, until 7 September 2024 starting 8 September 2024 late entry fee \$140 CASH ONLY.
4. **Participation/Eligibility:** Anyone under 18 years of age must have the signature of their parent or legal guardian. High School Teams are allowed to compete. High School Rules available upon request.
5. **Pre-Tournament Practice:** Stillhouse Lake will NOT be off limits the week preceding the tournament date.
6. **Trailing:** Will not be allowed.
7. The official measuring stick is the **Check-It-Stick!** Courtesy check available prior to presenting to weigh master.
8. **Weigh In for 5 fish limit:** This is a 5 fish limit per team. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, or Spotted Bass 14 inches or greater will be weighed in. Any team bringing to the scales a bass under the 14 inch limit will be charged 1 pound penalty and any team bringing in a dead fish will be charged ½ pound penalty. No under size fish will be weighed. The official measuring stick is the Check-It-Stick.
9. **Payout for Cove House Big Bass Bash:** 1st place team will be awarded \$3,000, 2nd place will be awarded \$1500, 3rd place team will be awarded \$500. MUST BE PRESENT TO COLLECT PRIZES! All prizes not collected will be awarded to The Cove House.
10. **Late penalty:** Any team not at the official weigh-in site (Bump Tanks, standing in line) by the appointed time (3:30 PM) will be assessed a .5-pound penalty per minute late. Exceptions will have to be cleared through the Tournament Director.
11. **Start/Stop Times:** During the Cove House Big Bass Bash Tournament, this is a controlled start numbers will be called at safe light. You must be in the weigh-in line by 3:30 PM Scales close at 3:45 P.M. Tournament times are subject to change due to lake conditions or the weather.
12. **Safe Boating:** Safe boating will be observed at all times. Each team member must wear a fastened, U.S. Coast Guard approved, personal flotation device when the gas motor is running. All boats must be equipped with some type of emergency ignition cut-off device (kill switch) on any remote steered outboard while main engine is in use. Ignition cut-off device (kill switch) must be attached to boat operator at all times while main engine is in use. Kill switch must operate properly. When the kill switch



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- is activated; the outboard main engine must stop running immediately. However, kill switches are not required with hand operated engines unless equipped with one when manufactured.
13. **Permitted Fishing Methods:** All Bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner from a boat. Only artificial lures may be used with the exception of pork trailers. Only one fishing rod per angler at a time may be used. Trolling with the combustion engine as a method of fishing is prohibited. Your team may weigh in only fish caught by your team.
  14. **Sportsmanship/Conduct:** All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, conservation, and all Lake and state of Texas Regulations.
  15. **Alcohol/Non-Prescription Drugs:** The use of alcohol and/or any non-prescription drugs during any of the tournament hours or at the weigh-in site will result in total team disqualification and no fish will be weighed for that team on that day. From 5:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
  16. **Permitted fishing location:** Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters, except areas designed "NO FISHING", "NO BOATS", "KEEP OUT" or within 50 yards of another boat that is anchored with trolling motor out of water, or within 25 yards of another competitor's boat unless otherwise agreed upon by other tournament angler.
  17. **Polygraph:** All prize winners are subject to a polygraph test. Polygraph testing will be performed at the discretion of the Tournament Director at any time. Anyone who is required to take a polygraph must pass the test before receiving any prizes. If a winner refuses to take a polygraph, he or she will be disqualified. Polygraph tests will be administered the day of the tournament. If you are in the money make yourself and team members available at all times.
  18. **Ties:** All ties will be broken by the flip of a coin unless the teams agree to split the pot.
  19. **Leaving the lake early:** Anyone leaving the lake early before the end of the tournament must contact the Tournament Director or any other member to let someone know that you are leaving early. This keeps us from searching in case of trouble while on the water. Earl Loggains (254) 681-0102 or Leisha Loggains (254) 289-0394.