

**Hobie**

**B.O.S.**  
BASS OPEN SERIES

Anchored by



**2020  
HANDBOOK**



# **POWER-POLE<sup>®</sup>**

**SHALLOW WATER ANCHOR**

**SWIFT. SILENT. SECURE.**



**PRESENTING SPONSOR**

# Hobie

# B.O.S. BASS OPEN SERIES



## ENTRY FEES

### All 2 day Opens: \$235

\$185 to be paid out for event  
\$38 contributed to TOC cash payout  
\$12 TourneyX App and PayPal fees

### The Shootout: \$150

\$100 to be paid out for event  
\$38 contributed to TOC cash payout  
\$12 TourneyX App and PayPal fees

### Tournament of Champions: \$312

\$300 contributed to TOC cash payout  
\$12 TourneyX App and PayPal fees

## PAYOUTS

\* Based on angler participation at Hobie BOS Open event (Not Shootout and Tournament of Champions).

### 200 Anglers

1st - \$10,000  
2nd - \$5,300  
3rd - \$3,000  
4th - \$2,250  
5th - \$1,700  
6th - \$1,500  
7th - \$1,400  
8th - \$1,300  
9th - \$1,200  
10th - \$1,100  
11th - \$1,050  
12th - \$1,000  
13th - \$950  
14th - \$900  
15th - \$850  
16th - \$800  
17th - \$750  
18th - \$700  
19th - \$650  
20th - \$600

### 150 Anglers

1st - \$8,000  
2nd - \$4,400  
3rd - \$2,300  
4th - \$1,850  
5th - \$1,500  
6th - \$1,300  
7th - \$1,250  
8th - \$1,150  
9th - \$1,050  
10th - \$950  
11th - \$900  
12th - \$850  
13th - \$800  
14th - \$750  
15th - \$700

### 100 Anglers

1st - \$6,000  
2nd - \$3,100  
3rd - \$1,700  
4th - \$1,450  
5th - \$1,250  
6th - \$1,100  
7th - \$1,050  
8th - \$1,000  
9th - \$950  
10th - \$900

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)



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# OPENS

## 2 Day Opens (9 Events)

200 angler maximum participation.

\$235 entry fee.

10% of the field will be paid out.

The Top 3 non-qualified anglers from each open will receive an invitation to the TOC. Invitations will only extend out to the Top 10 finishers if needed.

The Top 100 Anglers in each open will receive Angler of the Year (AOY) points for their finish. Points will start at 100 and go down 1 point for each place (See Angler of the year for ex. point distribution)

# SHOOTOUT

## The Shootout

200 angler max participation.

Angler must have participated in at least 1 BOS event within the season to be eligible to enter.

\$150 entry fee.

10% of the field will be paid out.

The Top 2 non-qualified anglers in the Shootout will receive an invitation to the TOC.

No AOY points will be eligible during the Shootout.

TOC qualified anglers are welcome to participate for cash and prize incentives only.

Any TOC invitation left unfilled when the Shootout Official Practice Period begins will be awarded at the Shootout.

# TOC

## The Tournament of Champions (TOC)

The 50 Angler Championship that culminates the season and finalizes Angler of the Year.

Anglers compete for the Ultimate Crown in competitive kayak fishing, a Hobie Fishing Worlds invitation and a large cash payout.

Entry fee will be \$312 and payouts will be to 20% of the field, the Top 10.

\$38 will be held back from every entry fee throughout the season to build a portion of total TOC cash payout.

## How to Qualify

The Top 3 non-qualified anglers from each open will receive an invitation. (27)

The Top 2 non-qualified anglers in the Shootout will receive an invitation. (2)

The Top 20 non-qualified anglers in the point's race will receive an invitation. (20)

The reigning TOC Champion earns an invitation to the following annual TOC. (1)

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# SCHEDULE

Lake Seminole - Bainbridge, GA	February 1-2
Lake Fork - Wood County, TX	February 22-23
Lake Norman - Mooresville, NC	March 14-15
Lake Erie - Erie, PA	May 16-17
Kentucky Lake - Calvert City, KY	June 13-14
Mississippi River - La Crosse, WI	July 11-12
California Delta - Stockton, CA	August 15-16
Lake Dardanelle - Russellville, AR	September 12-13
Coosa River Chain - Gadsden, AL	October 3-4
BOS Shootout	November 13
Tournament of Champions	November 14-15

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# ANGLER OF THE YEAR

## Angler of the Year (AOY)

The culmination of Points from 4 total events consisting of 3 Opens and the TOC.

Anglers are encouraged to fish more than 3 Opens, but points will only be counted for their 3 highest finishes during the season.

The Top 100 anglers in each open will receive points for their finish. Points will start at 100 and go down 1 point for each place. No points will be available in the Shootout.

### \* Example of AOY Point Distribution

1st - 100 pts

2nd - 99 pts

....

99th - 2 pts

100th - 1 pts

Additional points can be earned by having the Largest Limit or Big Bass of the day. If there are ties for Largest Limit or Big Bass, points will be distributed to all.

Largest Limit each day is worth .2 points.

Big Bass each day is worth .1 point.

The TOC will be worth 100 points, going down 2 points for each position.

Any ties prior to the TOC to gain eligibility into the 20 will be broken by highest event finish, then 2nd highest event finish.

Any ties for AOY after the TOC will be broken by the angler that finishes the highest during the TOC.

### Angler of the year Prize Package:

1st Place: \$5,000 cash, Rigged Custom Hobie Pro Angler 14 360, Hobie Fishing Worlds invitation.

2nd Place: \$3,000 cash, Prize Package, Hobie Fishing Worlds invitation.

3rd Place: \$2,000 Cash, Prize Package, Hobie Fishing Worlds invitation.


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# PRIZE HOBIE KAYAKS



### CUSTOM MIRAGE OUTBACK

Hobie will be giving away a custom colored and themed Hobie Outback to a random participant in the BOS events. Anglers will earn a chance to win this Outback for each event they enter. Chances can be earned at all 9 Opens and the Shootout for a maximum of 10 chances. The drawing for this Outback will occur during the Tournament of Champions.



**Hobie**  
**360**  
MIRAGEDRIVE TECHNOLOGY

### CUSTOM MIRAGE PRO ANGLER 14 WITH 360 DRIVE TECHNOLOGY

Hobie will be awarding the top finisher in the Hobie BOS Angler of the Year a custom colored and themed Hobie Pro Angler with 360 Drive Technology. In addition to the limited one off kayak color, it will also come rigged with a Power-Pole® Micro Anchor. The kayak will be awarded at the Tournament of Champions.

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)



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# **BASSIN' BIG BASS**

All Hobie BOS Events will feature a side pot for the single largest bass of the tournament caught during the official tournament submission periods. This side pot is going to be covered for each paid participant and will not be an added cost. \$5.00 will be contributed by BASSIN' Magazine for each competitor. \$4.00 from each participant will be honored as the BASSIN' Big Bass side pot paid to the competitor who catches the single largest bass. The remaining \$1.00 will be collected and added to the BASSIN' Big Bass side pot for the Tournament of Champions. There is no fee to participate.

## **PAYOUT BREAKDOWN**

Hobie BOS event with 200 competitors. \$800 side pot for largest bass caught during tournament submission period. \$200 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot.  
Hobie BOS event with 150 competitors. \$600 side pot for largest bass caught during tournament submission period. \$150 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot.  
Hobie BOS event with 100 competitors. \$400 side pot for largest bass caught during tournament submission period. \$100 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot.

## **TOC BASSIN' BIG BASS SIDE POT**

10 Hobie BOS events with 200 competitors each event. \$200 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot per event. \$2,000 total accumulated purse.  
10 Hobie BOS events with 150 competitors each event. \$150 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot per event. \$1,500 total accumulated purse.  
10 Hobie BOS events with 100 competitors each event. \$100 added to TOC BASSIN' Big Bass side pot per event. \$1,000 total accumulated purse.

A special thank you to BASSIN' Magazine for the great contribution!

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)





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**BASS OPEN SERIES**

# RULES

## 1. INTERPRETATION & ENFORCEMENT

- All federal, state, and local laws, rules, markings, orders, and warnings must be followed and will always supersede BOS rules. Violation of any laws may be cause for disqualification.
- All violations of laws will be turned over to the proper authorities for investigation and possible prosecution. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating, harassment, wildlife violations, illegal drug use, and any other illegal activity.
- These rules will remain subject to change by BOS Officials.
- Special Rules and amendments may be announced, added, or omitted for special circumstances or clarification at the judgement of BOS Officials.
- Interpretation and enforcement of these rules will be left exclusively to BOS Officials.
- Decisions of BOS Officials/ Tournament Director(s) are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.
- A violation of tournament rules may result in penalties or disqualification at the discretion of BOS Officials.

## 2. PAYBACK & PARTICIPATION

- All participants must pay the full entry, sign the liability release, attend/ view the mandatory rules meeting, and be using a director-checked measuring device to be considered a contestant.

- Competitors must register and pay in the tournament host app to be guaranteed entry in any BOS event. Anglers registering without paying will be placed on the waiting list.
- The number of paid places and amounts will be determined at each event by the number of entries.
- Payback will be for a minimum of 10% of the total number of paid entrants.
- BOS reserves the right to add money and prizes to paybacks as well as distribute prizes at their discretion.
- Any person under the age of 18 entering a tournament must also have permission and a signed release of a parent or legal guardian.
- Any person's participation in any Hobie BOS tournament is at the sole discretion of BOS Officials.
- All contestants must have a valid fishing license for the waters they fish.
- Any contestant who wishes to withdraw from the event is eligible for a 90% refund of their entry fee, provided notification of cancellation is made no later than 24 hours PRIOR to the official practice period. All cancellation requests MUST be made in writing, and Tournament Officials must be notified immediately.
- If the event is full prior to cancellation, the next in-line on the waiting list will get an opportunity to enter. BOS Officials will go down the list until spots are filled or registration is cut-off.

## 3. OFF-LIMITS, PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

- There will be NO designated off-limits period.
- Designated official practice period: Official practice period will begin at 12:01 AM the Monday prior to the event and end at the start of the mandatory pre-tournament (Rules) meeting.

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)

**CONTINUED**



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# B.O.S. BASS OPEN SERIES

## RULES CONTINUED

- Contestants may not enter tournament waters for any reason after the start of the pre-tournament meeting and in between weigh-in and launch of multi-day events except during official tournament hours.
- All time on water during official practice and tournament must be done in a vessel in accordance to Section 7: KAYAK REGULATION. If boat is legally licensed, electric motors will be permitted for PRACTICE ONLY. Being in any boat not in accordance to Section 7: KAYAK REGULATION on tournament waters during the practice period, outside of an emergency, will result in disqualification.
- All state rules for motorized kayaks apply. Failure to comply, could result in disqualification.
- Testing equipment on tournament waters after the start of the pre-tournament meeting is NOT permitted for any reason.

#### 4. INFORMATION GATHERING

- The purchasing of, or bartering for, information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters (other than through commercially available sources) is not permitted during the OFFICIAL PRACTICE period through the conclusion of the tournament.
- Any use of or communication with a guide or guide services pertaining to tournament waters within 21 days of the event is prohibited, other than through publicly available sources.

- During official tournament days, contestants may not solicit information about locating or catching fish on tournament waters from anyone except other anglers confirmed in the tournament and through publicly available sources. Quasi-public websites, blogs and/or social media pages set up for the specific purpose of sharing information with individuals or a small group of individuals are NOT publicly available sources.
- Any collaboration with other competitors for the purpose of sharing or pooling winnings is strictly prohibited.

#### 5. SAFETY

- Safe boating must always be observed.
- Each contestant is REQUIRED to wear a fastened U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device while fishing from or maneuvering their kayak during tournament hours. Inflatable belt PFDs are not considered satisfactory in BOS events.
- All kayaks must be equipped with emergency equipment as required by all federal, state and local laws. This often includes a safety whistle and 360-degree light.
- Additionally, a hi-visibility flag flown on the kayak is recommended.
- At the discretion of the Tournament Director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions.
- Competitors may leave their boat and seek shelter in bad weather or when danger is eminent.
- Competitors are expected to use sound judgement and are accountable for their own actions when faced with a potentially dangerous situation. (i.e. lightning, excessive wind, pleasure boaters, hunters, etc.)

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)

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# B.O.S.

BASS OPEN SERIES

## RULES CONTINUED

### 6. 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, sponsors, BOS, BOS sponsors, and the sport of fishing as well as BOS's efforts to promote the sport. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - o Violation of or failure to comply with event or state rules.
  - o Consumption of alcoholic beverages or any kind of illegal substance during tournament hours.
  - o Suspension/disqualification, probation or ban from any tournament or fishing organization.
  - o Verbal or physical abuse towards fellow competitors and Tournament Directors on or off the water during the official practice period through the tournament weekend.
  - o Blocking navigable waters from fellow competitors to pass through.
  - o Working with a non-competitor to block other anglers or hold spots before or during tournament hours.
  - o Any words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules, or which fail to comply with the standards set forth in the first sentence of section 6.

- Smoking is not allowed in the weigh-in line during any BOS competition. Smoking must be done away from directors and large groups of anglers. Please be respectful of others.
- In case of any conduct not complying with the standards outlined above, BOS shall have the right to refuse an application to compete, to deny a confirmed application to compete by returning the entry fee (less 10%), and to disqualify a contestant or impose any penalty outlined in section 1.

### 7. KAYAK REGULATION

- All kayaks/ SUPs/ vessels must be human powered, (paddle or pedals only).
- Motor and/or motor battery must be removed from vessel and completely out of water during tournament hours.
- Vessel must be 9' minimum and shorter than 18'.
- Catamaran style personal fishing vessels complying with all other regulations will be eligible.
- No "Homemade" kayaks will be permitted.
- The use of manual or motorized anchor system is permitted. Mother-shiping, tethering/holding or any on-water transportation coordination with a non-competitor is strictly prohibited unless approved by BOS Officials within emergency situations.
- By officially entering, contestants agree to submit their kayak to an inspection by BOS personnel.

### 8. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS

- All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner by the angler out of their vessel.
- All lures must adhere to state regulations.
- Only artificial lures may be used, except for pork trailers and biodegradable soft baits.

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)

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# B.O.S. BASS OPEN SERIES



## RULES CONTINUED

- Alabama rigs and similar umbrella-type rigs are considered to be one lure and are only limited by the laws within the state they are fishing.
- Only ONE fishing rod may be used at a time. Each cast must be completed before another cast is allowed and there can never be more than one lure from one rod actively fishing in the water at any time.
- Trolling as a method of fishing is NOT allowed. Long-lining and drifting with current/wind are allowed. Trolling is defined as directly using the vessel's propulsion to present a lure.
- All bass caught while sight-fishing must be hooked inside the mouth.
- No fish are to be kept on stringers. Non-penetrating, fish gripping devices are acceptable to temporarily hold fish in the water.
- An angler's catch must be safely released before casting or fishing may resume.

### 9. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

- Restrictions, designated launch points, official tournament waters, and other location mandates may be issued for individual events.
- Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by kayak except areas posted or otherwise designated as "off-limits," "no boats," "keep out," "restricted," "no trespassing" or "no fishing" (or similar language or markings intended to restrict public access) by BOS, commercial property owners and/or local, state or federal officials.

- All fishing must be conducted from inside the kayak unless otherwise stated by Tournament Officials.
- At no time may a contestant leave the kayak to land a fish, photograph/submit a fish or to make the kayak more accessible to fishing waters.
- The cutting of trees, bushes and/or logs after the start of the pre-tournament meeting and/or the removal of official local, state or federal barricades at any time to make an area more accessible by kayak is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification from the tournament.
- Boats may never be tethered to on-water markers like buoys or safety signs.
- The use of cables, ropes, chains or any type of block and tackle system to maneuver a kayak into fishing waters is strictly prohibited.
- Portaging is prohibited. Competitors must be able to pedal and/or paddle in AND out of an area for it to be considered tournament waters.

### 10. SCORING

- Scoring is determined by length using 1/4 inch increments of each contestant's catch during each tournament day via the Catch, Photograph, and Release (CPR) method.
- Competitors will be provided with a unique identifier for each tournament day to be used in each photo submission.
- The five longest verified lengths of individual fish will be totaled for the anglers score each day.
- The contestant with the highest total score after two days is the winner.
- Rounding will be down and to the nearest 1/4 inch.
- Only the Black Bass Species consisting of the following: Largemouth, Spotted, Shoal and Smallmouth bass and any hybrid of the above are accepted species.

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## RULES CONTINUED

- All fish must measure a minimum of 12", unless otherwise specified for individual events. Bass submitted that fail to measure 12" with mouth completely closed will not be scored.
- A submitted fish will only count once to an angler's aggregate score for all days of the tournament.
- If a submitted fish on Day 1 is culled and not present in an angler's Top 5 fish, that fish could be caught again and count for a Day 2 total as long as that catch is in complete accordance with Section 8.
- Only fish submitted on the checked and marked measuring device will be scored.

### 11. MEASURING DEVICE

- The Hawg Trough and Ketch Board are the official, mandatory, measuring devices for BOS events.
- Contestants are expected to bring their own measuring device to the rules meeting. Those devices must be checked and approved prior to every event and may be inspected at any time by BOS staff.
- Anyone found to be using a measuring device that is determined to not be legal, will be disqualified from the tournament.
- Ensure the markings on your measuring device are clear but not excessive and can be seen by the scoring official.

- Ensure the markings on your measuring device are clear but not excessive and can be seen by the scoring official.
- A clean and clearly marked measuring device is expected.
- A spare measuring device is permitted but must be checked and approved prior to every event and may be inspected at any time by BOS staff.

### 12. PHOTO CRITERIA

- Anglers are responsible to get all photos turned in to the tournament app. Any issues must be reported to the Tournament Director.
- Each fish photo must include all the following criteria to avoid penalty or disqualification:
  - o The entire Bass, from the tip of the lip to the end of the tail, on an approved measuring device, while in a tournament legal vessel.
  - o Laying with the tip of the lip against the post end of the measuring device. Measuring device post must be visible.
  - o The mouth of the Bass must be CLOSED COMPLETELY.
  - o The tail of the Bass must be lying flat on the board and will be measured to the longest point.
  - o Pinching the tail is permitted.
  - o Bass orientation must be facing to the left, tail to the right, belly toward the angler.
  - o Measuring device markings must be clearly visible. Including the actual numbers.
  - o Assigned unique identifier's number must be clearly visible.
  - o One overhead photo shot frame (not shot at a drastic angle).
  - o Fish must be clear of any holding devices including fishing lure or hook.

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CONTINUED



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# B.O.S. BASS OPEN SERIES

## RULES CONTINUED

o Lip, eye, and tail cannot be obstructed in the photo, even by your hand or identifier.

o Hand or fingers must not be under the gill plate.

- If fish has a visible glossy eye or odd markings it is required the angler take video of that fish going from the board, and actively swimming away.
- Any questionable issues with a fish should be immediately brought to the BOS Official's attention.
- Quality of the photo submitted is the responsibility of the angler.
- Any angler caught submitting dead or mutilated fish will be disqualified from the event and possibly banned from participating in future events.

**\*\*All criteria above must be met, or the photo may not be scored\*\***

### 13. TIES

- The largest one-day catch for the tournament will break ties for placement. If a tie remains, it will be broken first by total number of fish legally submitted, then by longest fish, followed by next longest fish until all fish have been accounted. If a tie still exists, the Tournament Director(s) will divide cash, prizes, and points among the anglers involved in the tie.
- Big Bass ties will be broken by next legal largest fish over all days of the tournament, and so on, until the tie has been resolved. If a tie still exists, the winner will be determined by earliest photo submitted of their largest fish.

### 14. TRUTH VERIFICATION TEST

- Each contestant agrees to submit to a polygraph or voice stress analysis examination and to abide by its conclusion.
- Consumption of alcohol or any mind-altering substance is strictly prohibited prior to a truth verification test.
- Refusal to participate in the polygraph or voice stress analysis examination will result in disqualification from the tournament.
- Failure to pass an examination, if administered, will result in disqualification from the tournament.
- Truth verification tests will be used at BOS Official's sole discretion, and the determination of the meaning of the results will be made solely by BOS.

### 15. PENALTIES (for Reference Only)

- Mouth cracked or slightly open - .5" deduction
- Mouth blatantly open - 1"-2" deduction
- Lip or tail not touching board: No score
- Dead fish will not be scored and an angler purposefully submitting dead fish may result in disqualification.

### 16. PROTESTS AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

- All protests must be submitted in writing to BOS officials, along with a \$100 cash deposit, within sixty (60) minutes of check-in to the Tournament Director(s) or designated Tournament Official. The protester also agrees that if there is a question of verifying the charge of a protest that he or she also may be subject to take a polygraph and agree to testify in a court of law if necessary. If the Tournament Director, or polygraph, upholds the protest, the cash deposit shall be returned to the contestant submitting the protest.

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# RULES CONTINUED

## 17. RULE CONSISTENCY AND SHARING:

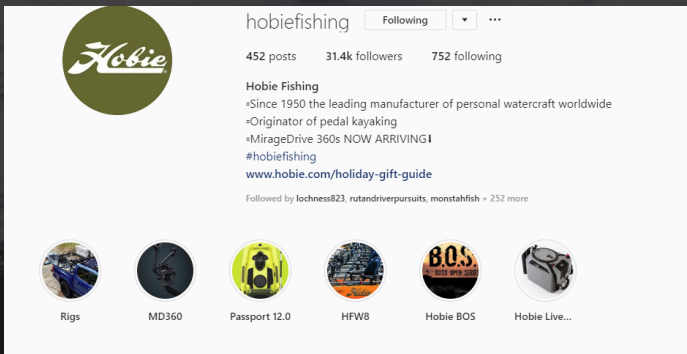
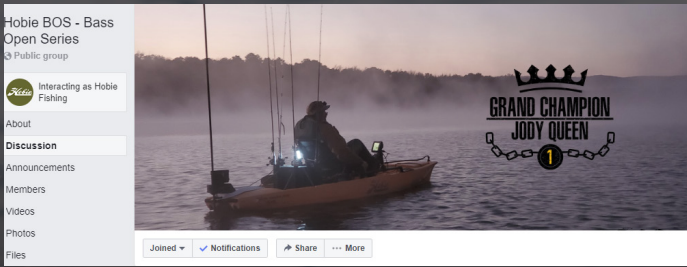
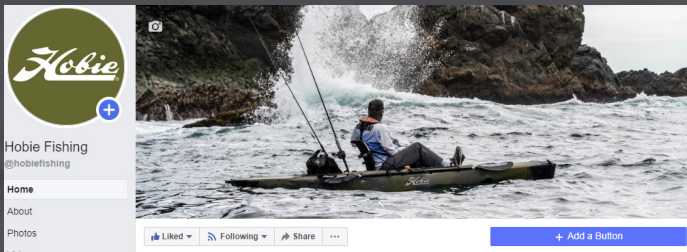
- These rules were developed from the culmination of many national events and a collective collaboration of Tournament Directors over many years. They are public for your viewing in BOS events, and we encourage them being shared and used to help create uniformity in our sport and spread the knowledge of proper practices for this style of competitive fishing.

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)

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# B.O.S. BASS OPEN SERIES

## JOIN OUR COMMUNITY



We would be honored to have you join our social media community on Facebook and Instagram. We post live updates and news right on our Facebook group page, Hobie BOS - Bass Open Series, and answer questions from other competitors like you. Tag us so we can see your latest fishing posts.

Facebook Page: Hobie Fishing

Facebook Group: Hobie BOS - Bass Open Series

Instagram: @hobiefishing

#hobiefishing #hobiebos

Thank you for your interest in Hobie BOS and we look forward to seeing you compete at our events!

Have a question for the tournament directors? Send an email to [BOS@Hobie.com](mailto:BOS@Hobie.com)