



## FAQ - Tournament

- 1) **Tournament Rules:** ALL tournament Rules are in the Section: [GBN HS|Jr Tournament Rules](#).
  - a. All Boat Captains and student anglers must have read and understand the general tournament rules.
  - b. BASS coaches rules can be found at [Bassmaster.com/ high school - Coaches Rules](http://Bassmaster.com/high-school-Coaches-Rules) for High School and Junior Tournaments.
- 2) What is the official tournament day(s) and practice day?
  - a. All GBN tournament days are executed on Saturday unless otherwise stated by GBN BOD with the notable exception being the State Classic which is normally held on Friday – Saturday period. GBN BOD reserves the right to change dates and times as deemed necessary for safety or other reasons.
  - b. There will be an **official practice period** immediately prior to the first day of competition which will always be the Friday preceding the event unless stated otherwise by tournament officials or GBN BOD. Unless otherwise specified, all official times are time zone specific to the local host community. The contender must know and observe these dates and times.
  - c. During the **official practice period** ALL RULES apply.
  - d. For the **seven (7) consecutive days** preceding a tournament competition day, a student angler and boat captain can only be on the competition day tournament waters with another student angler, or immediate family member (mother or stepmother, father or stepfather, brother or stepbrother or sister or stepsister) or boat captain registered for the same tournament event or solo, provided the age limits are met
- 3) How can I validate or view all my tournament entries?
  - a. [GBN web site](#)
    - i. The menu item “HS|Jr” > “Tournament Registration”
    - ii. At the bottom of page, under the title block: “GBN HS |Jr - Registration,” the grid window will show ALL entries for ALL tournaments.



Field Headers at top, click on any header to change sort order, you can drag and drop column order. Right click to see options

SAMPLE:

Submission Date	HS or Jr team?	School Name	Angler #1	Angler #2	Team Boat Captain	2022 - 2023 GBN HS/Jr...
2022-08-25 22:19:32	HS	GBN	f_test l_test	f_test l_test	f_test l_test	
2022-04-06 18:08:43	Jr	JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	DANIEL COKER	TRIPP PORTER	TOD LITT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T#5 - Lanier (Amou USD)</li> <li>Total: \$60.00</li> <li>Transaction ID: pi_3KlhxFGzsysgkVU</li> </ul>
2022-04-06 17:33:21	HS	North Paulding High School	Caden O'Neal	Matthew Wright	Jim O'Neal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T#5 - Lanier (Amou USD)</li> <li>Total: \$60.00</li> <li>Transaction ID: pi_3KlhOnGzsysgkVI</li> </ul>
2022-04-06 17:22:17	HS	Haralson County High School	Matthew Poss	Grayson Fant	Chris Fant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T#5 - Lanier (Amou USD)</li> <li>Total: \$60.00</li> <li>Transaction ID: pi_3KlND1GzsysgkVI</li> </ul>
2022-04-06 17:20:33	Jr	Morgan County Middle School	Brody Torbush	JD Watkins	Weylin Torbush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T#5 - Lanier (Amou USD)</li> <li>Total: \$60.00</li> <li>Transaction ID: pi_3KlhCyGzsysgkVU</li> </ul>
2022-04-06 17:16:05	Jr	Morgan County Middle School	Trip Jenkins	Broughton Allen	Chris Allen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T#5 - Lanier (Amou USD)</li> <li>Total: \$60.00</li> <li>Transaction ID: pi_3KlhCyGzsysgkVU</li> </ul>

Last column for all record rows, shows ALL tournament entries for the dated submission. If you entered single tournaments, separate row for each dated entry.

Total and Transaction ID for the dated submission & purchase. **NO CC info is recorded or seen.**

SEARCH: Use the SEARCH bar to search or find any value such last or first name or school, etc. NOT case sensitive.

- b. GBN App
  - iii. Same information as web site. See the section [GBN App](#) in the Appendix.
- 4) How can I view the tournament boat draw order?
  - a. [GBN web site](#)
    - i. The menu item “HS|Jr” > “Tournament Registration”
    - ii. At the bottom of page, under the title block: “GBN HS|Jr – Boat Draw” the frame will show active tournament boat draw order in pdf format.
  - b. GBN app
    - i. See the section [GBN App](#) in the Appendix.
- 5) How can I view the results and reports?
  - a. [GBN web site](#)
    - i. The menu item “HS|Jr” > “Tournament Results”
    - ii. At the bottom of page, under the title block: “Results” the frame will show active tournament results and the title block: “Reports” will show tournament report for both HS & Jr in pdf format. PDF tools will be located across the top of the frame (search, zoom, download, print, etc.)
  - b. GBN App
    - i. See the section [GBN App](#) in the Appendix.



- 6) What are the requirements if using “inflatable” type PFD’s?
- The Coast Guard **requires** that inflatable PFD’s must be always worn unless there is an equal number of non-inflatable Coast Guard approved PFDs on board.
    - For everyone on the boat wearing an inflatable PFD; you are **REQUIRED** to have a corresponding vest type life jacket for everyone on board as well. This is a Coast Guard **REQUIREMENT**. See GBN Tournament Rules: **Safety**.
  - It shall be the responsibility of each student angler to ensure if he/she is going to participate in the GBN HS|Jr tournament AND wear an inflatable type of PFD, to bring or have a vest type life jacket in addition.
  - No person** shall operate a moving vessel upon the waters of this state with a **child under the age of 13 years** on board such vessel unless such child is wearing an appropriately sized personal flotation device, as required by this subsection to be on board the vessel. GBN BOD and officials **do not** assume the responsibility for determining appropriate sizes.
  - A child under the age of 13 years is required** by state law to always wear an approved, appropriately sized pfd anytime the boat is in motion **This includes propulsion by an electric (trolling) motor**.
- 7) How are boat positions (boat numbers) determined for each tournament?
- Boat positions will be determined by random draw **ONLY**.
  - Random draw for boat positions will be done on Thursday prior to Saturday tournament date OR one day **AFTER** the entry deadline for the tournament.
  - Boat positions will be posted to the web site on the Thursday before the tournament at [georgiabassnation.com](http://georgiabassnation.com).
  - Boat identifier placard or other will be given out the morning of the tournament at check-in.
  - Boat identifier placard or other is **REQUIRED** to be returned to the designated GBN official at their designated tournament flight return time. Loss of placard will result in a \$5.00 charge to the team for replacement.
- 8) What are the requirements for Check-in?
- Check in will start 1 ½ hours before daylight.
    - Pick up your boat identifier placard or other when checking in.
    - Random document checks will be performed at check in**, and all required documents must be presented to tournament officials if requested as per student angler’s and boat captain’s [PWA](#) (Participation and Waiver Agreement). Boat Captains are **required to have on their person** as outlined in the (PWA)
      - a valid boat registration



2. copy of boat insurance with correct WLI (Watercraft Liability Insurance) along with the required coverage and expiration dates (must be shown on insurance page) regardless of if he/she is owner of the boat OR using a borrowed boat.
  3. Student anglers 16 and older are **required** to have on their person a valid fishing license.
    - b. Check in and then launch your boat.
- 9) Is there a Safety meeting for the tournament?
- a. Safety meeting starts ½ hour before safe light in most cases this will be done on the water after checking in and launching boat.
- 10) Are student anglers allowed to operate the boat?
- a. **NO**, during competition, anytime the combustion engine is running, Boat Captains/coaches **MUST** be seated in the driver's seat in full control of the boat.
    - i. **Loading and unloading** of boats is acceptable on competition day(s).
  - b. **Official practice day(s)**, student anglers 16 years of age and older with a valid Boater Education certificate are **allowed** to operate the boat. Georgia Law allows this.
  - c. Emergencies **ONLY**: Boat Captain is incapable of operating the boat in a safe manner.
- 11) Is there a mandatory halftime period?
- a. Each team **MUST** take a 15-minute halftime beginning at the time designated by the Tournament Director. This is designed to instruct, hydrate, and eat before beginning the second half. This DOES NOT count towards the allotted timeouts.
  - b. **NO** fishing or boat movement during the halftime period.
- 12) Are "timeouts" allowed?
- a. Yes., Each team will be given five (5) timeouts to be used in a day. Coaches may call the timeouts, or students can call the timeouts. Timeouts may only last 1 minute each. **During the time-out period all fishing must cease.** It is up to each team to police themselves on the timeouts.
  - b. Only during timeouts and halftime periods Coaches **MAY**:
    - i. Coach
    - ii. Give advice (send in plays)
    - iii. Verbally explain techniques, how to.....
- 13) How are the participants tracked for standings and big fish?
- a. HS|Jr team participants are tracked separately for the purposes of standings and big fish.



- 14) Are there boat and motor restrictions?
- a. **YES**, boat length and motor size.
    - i. **Maximum horsepower** for all outboard motorboats used in official tournament practice and in tournament competition will be **250 HP**. Horsepower cannot exceed the limitations set by the U.S. Coast Guard. When required, each boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard horsepower-rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer. The horsepower of the outboard engine must **NOT** exceed the rating specified on this plate nor the horsepower maximum set by B.A.S.S.
    - ii. For the safety of all competitors, all boats must be equipped with an approved type of operable ignition kill switch and lanyard. Only one manufacturer's lanyard may be used and must be **attached to the driver's body any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear**. Any time the combustion engine is operating and in gear there must be a driver in the driver's seat in full control of the boat, and all competitors must be seated with their feet on the floor of the vessel. **Fishing boats that are 16 feet or more in length may be used and must be equipped with wheel steering**. No other steering device will be permitted. Any raised platforms or decks cannot be higher than the gunnels of the boat. **Standing on the outboard engine or seats while fishing is not allowed**.
    - iii. No boat equipped with "stick steering" shall be permitted. "Stick steering" shall be as defined by the Tournament Director. Jet drive engines and tunnel hull boats engines are not allowed during both official practice period and competition. Any boat/hull designs other than standard mass-produced units are only allowed at the discretion of tournament officials.
- 15) Can both student anglers actively fish from the front of the boat?
- a. Yes
- 16) Are nets allowed?
- a. **HS** division: **ONLY** student anglers can operate the net.
    - i. Captains can net if a single (1) student angler is in boat.
  - b. **Jr** division: boat captain may operate the net.
- 17) What is considered the "legal limit or number of bass" for a GBN tournament?
- a. All Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR) rules must be always adhered to. It is the student angler's responsibility to be familiar with and understand GDNR Regulations. If you have a question, contact the Tournament Director.
  - b. The team limit is 5 fish per boat of legally allowed species of bass unless otherwise stated by tournament officials or GBN BOD.



- c. It is the student angler's responsibility to ensure length limits of all fish and number of fish in the livewells.
  - d. Student anglers **MUST** cull immediately upon catching the 6th fish...no more than 5 fish are to be in the livewell at any given time. All fishing must stop during the culling process.
  - e. GBN reserves the right and has the **SOLE** discretion in reducing this legal limit or number of bass if warranted.
- 18) Is there a legal or official length limit for bass?
- a. **YES**, legal length for each tournament bass is according to GDNR laws and regulations (see 16a).
  - b. This will be announced at the designated tournament or before.
  - c. **The Tournament Director or designee has the SOLE discretion in determining if a bass presented for weigh-in is considered of legal or official length.**
- 19) Is there a penalty for presenting a bass at weigh-in that is NOT of legal or official length?
- a. **YES**, bass presented for weigh-in to the Tournament Director or designee, which fails to measure the official length, shall result in a penalty of 1 pound for each such bass, which penalty shall be deducted from the total score of the competitor. Short fish will not be weighed.
- 20) Is there a dead fish penalty?
- a. **YES**, bass presented at weigh-in to the Tournament Director or designee which are considered dead fish, the penalty is .25 pounds.
  - b. **The Tournament Director or designee has the SOLE discretion in determining if a bass presented for weigh-in is considered "dead."**
- 21) Are cull clips allowed?
- a. Bass must not be put on a stringer at any time during the tournament.
  - b. Culling tags or clips are allowed. **ONLY NON-PENETRATING** cull tags are allowed.
- 22) What are the "off-limits" areas?
- a. Areas designated at tournament meeting prior to launch.
- 23) Can student anglers practice at night?
- a. **NO** practicing at night (30 minutes after official sunset)
- 24) Are "A-Rigs" or Umbrella rigs allowed?
- a. **YES**, multiple lure rigs (**UMBRELLA RIGS**) are allowed if it follows state fishing regulations.
- 25) Is there a penalty for being late to weigh-in?
- a. **YES**, one (1) pound per minute that you are late for your designated flight return time. If you are more than 15 minutes late you are disqualified from the event.



- 26) What about inclement weather?
- a. The chance for inclement weather will always be imminent. We will monitor the forecast with every available option. If a weather system escalates to a point of putting student anglers at risk, we will adjust as required. Adjustments could be minimal as a delayed blast off, an early weigh in, or could be as drastic as changing dates or postponement. Student anglers' safety is the most important aspect in every decision made!
- 27) Can student anglers or boat captains use electronic devices during a tournament?
- a. Student anglers and boat captains are **not authorized** to use electronic devices (Cell Phone) for any purpose except for mapping unless emergencies arise including lunch break.
- 28) Can a tournament protest be filed?
- a. All protests will be filed prior to the award presentation on the day of the tournament. Failure to report known rule violations the day of tournament will result in disqualification of both the offending team and the failure to report team for next tournament. There is no reason not to be able to produce a good picture or video evidence.
- 29) Boat captains and student anglers who are responsible for proven or unproven rumors or false accusations after completion of tournament will be suspended for the next tournament.