

BOAT CAPTAINS WANTED!!

The Farmington High School Fishing Team is always in need of volunteer boat captains to help get out on the water for practice/pre-fishing and to compete in tournaments. The Head Coach will pair you with a team of anglers who want to fish tournaments and are looking for a boater.

As a token of our appreciation for volunteering your time, the club will recognize you on our website and social media pages. The club will provide for gas/fuel reimbursement of \$50 per daily tournament.

You will need to maintain watercraft liability insurance on your boat. Amounts vary depending on tournament, but the minimum amount is typically \$300,000 liability coverage. Boats must be at least 16' in length and have a fully functional live-well, running lights, and a throttle kill switch that can be tethered to your life jacket.

WHO CAN BE A BOAT CAPTAIN?

Neighbors, Friends, Family, etc.!

Anyone ages 18 and older not fishing as a member of a high school team, has a boat, and can drive big motor with knowledge of watercraft safety laws and rules in Minnesota.

All boat captains need to check with their team's coach to go through a background check protocol.

WHO CANNOT BE A BOAT CAPTAIN?

- Employees, officers and directors of B.A.S.S. or its parent, subsidiary, and affiliated companies and members of their immediate families (spouse, parents, children and sibling, regardless of where they live).
- Local professional fishing guides.

WHAT ABOUT THE BOAT?

All boats must:

- have an operating livewell with aeration system to keep all bass alive throughout the day (checked at morning take-off)
- have an operating kill switch connected to the boat captain when the big motor is in operation (checked at morning take-off)
- have maximum 250 hp and minimum 16 foot length and power cannot exceed Coast Guard maximum limitations.
- carry a \$300,000 minimum liability insurance policy with a copy readily available upon random checks at morning check-in.

THINGS THAT THE BOAT CAPTAIN MAY DO OR PROVIDE

Boat captain/coach MAY:

1. Verify competition rules are followed.
2. Help with hook removal from a fish.
3. Demonstrate how to tie a knot.
4. Provide a net for the event.
5. Assist in untangling of jammed reels, but the student angler's lure must be out of the water.
6. Verify length of caught fish.
7. Provide education on proper fishing ethics and distance away from other teams (i.e., no closer than two cast lengths).
8. Provide fish handling care and help with culling, however the students must identify which fish is to be kept or released.

THINGS THE BOAT CAPTAIN MAY NOT DO:

Boat captain/coach MAY NOT:

1. Fish.
2. Go on plane in the boat within 150 yards of shore.
3. Pass other participant boats while traveling to the first location.
4. Pass in "no wake" zones.
5. Teach by example.
6. Tie knots for a student angler.
7. Land fish with or without a net.
8. Run the trolling motor.
9. Allow any student anglers to operate the outboard engine except at initial launch in the morning and only after weighing their fish.
10. The boat captain/coach cannot make a determination on which fish to keep or release.

WHO ENFORCES THE RULES?

All anglers, boat captains, coaches and commissioners are in control of enforcing the rules.

Please report any witnessed violations to the boat captain or coach who will then report them to the Conference Commissioner in charge of the event.

Here are the boat and insurance requirements based on the different tournament trails.

Boat Requirements for MN HS BASS and MN JR BASS Nation Tournaments

- 16 feet or more in length
- Equipped with the following:
 - Operable ignition kill switch and lanyard
 - Operable livewell with aeration system to keep all fish alive throughout the day (checked at morning take-off)
 - Operable navigation lights
 - Operable bilge pump
- Max outboard engine horsepower is 250 HP
- Must have a clearly legible “Maximum Capacities” (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating
 - Outboard motor cannot exceed the maximum specified on the placard
- Raised platforms or decks cannot be higher than the gunnels of the boat
- Must have all required US Coast Guard safety equipment
- Must have factory-installed gas tank or, if an external tank, it must be properly secured or strapped in a boat
- Cannot have “stick steering”
- Cannot be powered by jet drive engine
- Cannot be tunnel hull boat
- Insurance: \$300,000 minimum liability insurance policy. Proof of insurance must be readily available upon request.

Boat Requirements for FLW and TBF SAF Tournaments

- 16 feet or more in length
- Equipped with the following:
 - Operable ignition kill switch and lanyard
 - Operable livewell with aeration system to keep all fish alive throughout the day (checked at morning take-off)
 - Operable navigation lights
- Must have a clearly legible “Maximum Capacities” (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating
 - Outboard motor cannot exceed the maximum specified on the placard
- Fishing platforms must be factory-installed equipment. No portable platforms.
- Must have all required US Coast Guard safety equipment
- Must have factory-installed gas tank or, if an external tank, it must be properly secured or strapped in a boat
- Cannot be powered by jet drive engine

- Insurance: Liability insurance with coverage in reasonable amounts. Proof of insurance must be readily available upon request.

Boat Requirements for MNBFA Juniors Tournaments

- None published. Use same rules as TBF SAF.

Boat Requirements for SATT Tournaments

- 14 feet or more in length
- Equipped with the following:
 - Operable ignition kill switch and lanyard
- Must have a clearly legible "Maximum Capacities" (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating
 - Outboard motor cannot exceed the maximum specified on the placard
- Fishing platforms must be factory-installed equipment. No portable platforms.
- Must have all required US Coast Guard safety equipment
- Must have factory-installed gas tank or, if an external tank, it must be properly secured or strapped in a boat
- Cannot be powered by jet drive engine
- Insurance: Liability insurance with coverage in reasonable amounts. Proof of insurance must be readily available upon request.