

Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament

July 7 & 8, 2017

2017 Official Tournament Rules

and the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament's efforts to promote the sport.

1. Entry fees and deposits are non-refundable.
2. At least one competitor must be 18 years of age or older. Competitors under the age of 16 must have written parental consent from both parents/guardians.
3. If a rule protest submitted, cash winning competitors must agree to take a lie detector test and pass it before receiving their prize. The cost of the test will come out of the payback if the protest stands. If the team in protest wins, the protesting team will pay the cost of the test.
4. There will be **zero tolerance** for unsportsmanlike conduct. Automatic disqualification will result without refund. All competitors are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to them, the Mitchell's Bay Area Association, the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament Committee, the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament sponsors, and to the sport of fishing.

Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Violation of or failure to comply with any of the rules of the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament.
 - Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any kind of mind-altering substance during tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure.
 - The use of words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavourably 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 this paragraph.
5. Only artificial lures are to be used (No live bait allowed). Fish regurgitation is not permitted.
 6. The presence of bass in competitors live wells during pre-fishing is not permitted.
 7. When competing in a Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament event you must only hold bass in the live well. Any other species of fish must be released.
 8. The minimum size of BASS brought in is 12".
 9. Short fish will not be weighed and a 1 lb. penalty will be applied for each short fish.

10. Official Pre-Fish day for the 2017 Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open is Thursday July 6, 2017 until 5:00 pm; all anglers must be off the water by that time and report to the registration meeting. During Official Pre-Fish Day competitors are not permitted to render guide services or fish with non-competitors except for members of their Family or to fulfill Sponsor obligations.

11. The Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Event Fish Limit is 5. The penalty for retaining more than the event limit, whether you are running or you are weighing-in, is as follows:

- a team will be asked to cull down to the event limit
- the Tournament Director will then cull the same amount of fish that competitors are over with a maximum of 5 fish starting with the biggest fish
- If a team has retained more than double the event fish limit disqualification will occur.

12. When culling you must possess one less than the legal limit. Traveling with more than the event fish limit is not allowed

13. You must have an operating live well.

14. A 0.50 lb. penalty will be deducted per dead fish.

15. A dead fish will NOT be weighed-in as an entry for the "Big Fish" contest.

16. You must wear an approved flotation device while the outboard is running. Manual Suspenders/vests or manual inflatable life jackets are not acceptable. Automatic Suspenders/vests or automatic inflatable life jackets are acceptable however they will be inspected for expiration at the time of check in. If you choose to wear, at your own risk, an automatic Suspenders/vest, automatic inflatable life jacket or a U.S. COAST GUARD approved life jacket you must have an approved Department of Transport Canada life jacket within your vessel (if in question, Tournament Official's decision will stand).

17. A fishing license is required and you may be asked to produce it at any time. Please ensure it is on your person at all times during the tournament. Failure to produce your license will result in your withdrawal from the tournament. Conservation licenses will not be accepted.

18. All Federal and Provincial fishing, boating and criminal laws must be obeyed at all times.

19. There will be **no fishing allowed** within 100 yards of a ministry net.

20. Boundaries are any water accessible by boat except when legally marked "no trespassing" or "sanctioned". Please note that a license is required to fish in marked water around the Walpole Island Reserve.

21. Identification numbers must be affixed to a motor, outside windshield or flag post and made clearly visible.

22. You must maintain 50 yards from another competitor's boat at all times. However, in circumstances where there are two teams on river systems less than 50 yards, they may cross one another on opposite sides and adhere to all good sportsmanlike conduct.

23. Competitors are not allowed to board or approach another vessel during the event unless there is an emergency.

24. If in need of fuel or repairs, one competitor is to remain with the boat at all times and a proof of purchase receipt must be kept to show officials if required. Competitors must stop fishing during this time.

25. Fish can be transferred to another competitor's boat only if one of the downed team members stays with the fish. If you choose to transfer your fish into a competitor's live well, the live well must be separate or you must use an approved fish friendly perforated sack complete with draw string ensuring your fish cannot be combined with the rescuing team's fish. Tagging systems are not acceptable and if fish are combined accidentally or otherwise. No fishing is allowed while the rescued competitor is in the boat. All competitors in the rescue boat must proceed directly to the check-in point where the fish will be transferred to the check-in boat for the weigh-in show. Once the fish have been transferred, the downed boat must be brought back directly to the tournament site for inspection. If, after inspection, the boat is found to be tampered with then disqualification may result and the rescuing team questioned. If the team is in a payout position, the prizes will be held until the boats are inspected. The rescue team is responsible in making sure the rescued angler(s) is wearing a DTC approved life jacket. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

26. If a boat, that has broken down, returns to the tournament site and the team manages to repair their vessel and/or changes boats, must be rechecked by a Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament Official prior to transferring fish to the new boat.

27. All Teams must report to the designated Check-in Boat at the end of each day. Teams may check in at the Check-in boat up to 30 minutes prior to the check-in time. Any boats arriving after the allowed time will be penalized 1 lb. per minute. The late penalty will be applied starting with the biggest fish.

28. Competitors must be off the water by 5:00 pm the Thursday night prior to the weekend events.

29. The official blast-off time is 7:00 am and weigh-in time is 3:00 p.m. each day (alternative times will be used for additional flights).

30. If in case of extreme weather conditions or in a state of emergency, the event may be delayed, rescheduled, restricted or cancelled.

31. Boats must be 14' or greater and canoes are not permitted.

32. All boats must carry a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 insurance liability. Proof of insurance must be shown at registration.

33. All boats entered in the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament events are allowed to carry only the maximum horsepower rated for the vessel. The Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament reserves the right to refuse at its discretion an unsafe vessel.
34. All motors must have a working kill switch which must be worn when the outboard is running.
35. Any protest of violations made prior to check-in time must be made at the check-in boat. Any violations occurring after check-in can be made to the Tournament Official. The cost of a protest cost is \$75.00.
36. The Tournament Official rulings are final. All rules and regulations apply to all Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament anglers.
37. If there is a tie for first place, a fish off will be held and the first regulation fish weighed in will win. Combining the pay back spots and splitting the money equally will resolve ties for the other positions.
38. The Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament reserves the right to exceed the limited field and pay back accordingly.
39. The Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament is solely responsible for the provision of the percentage paybacks and not responsible for sponsored prizes.
40. As a competitor that has filled out and signed the registration form, you have given the Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament the right to use video or pictures taken during the tournament, weigh-ins and all tournament related functions for future tournament advertising.
41. The Canadian Tire Mitchell's Bay Open Bass Tournament reserves the right to amend the rules and regulations as it sees fit.

Rules updated September 26, 2017