

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

GARLAND BASS CLUB

ARTICLE I

Name and Purpose

- Section 1. Name: The name of this association shall be GARLAND BASS CLUB.
- Section 2. Purpose: The purpose for which this association is formed is to provide an educational, recreational, and self-improvement facility for its members and guests; to provide a program of safety, to encourage the proper use of life safety devices and kill switches; to promote conversation, preservation and observance of the law; sportsmanship and fellowship among its members and guests; to promote organized competitive fishing tournaments between members and guests of Garland Bass Club and/or similar clubs.

ARTICLE II

Membership

- Section 1. Classification: The types of memberships shall be classified as follows:
- A. Member
 - B. Associate Member
 - C. Honorary Member
 - D. Lifetime Member
- Section 2. Eligibility:
- A. Member:
Any adult who espouses the purposes of the Club is recommended to the Executive Council by one or more present members and has paid his annual dues.
 - B. Associate Member:
Any bona fide member of a member's household.
 - C. Honorary Member:
Any person who has, in the opinion of the Executive Council, merited this honor.
 - D. Lifetime Member:
A status granted to a deserving member with all of the rights and privileges of a member but does not require the payment of annual dues.
- Section 3. Membership Limit: The Executive Council may establish a limit on the number of members admitted to the Club should they deem this in the best interest of the organization. The establishment of such a limit shall not, however, affect any present member's privilege to renew his membership. In the event, a membership limit is established and is reached, the Secretary shall maintain a chronological list of prospective members and vacancies shall be filled from this list as they occur.

Section 4. Privileges: Members, associate members, and Lifetime members enjoy all rights and privileges of Club Membership except as otherwise provided herein. Honorary Members are invited to participate in Intra-Club tournaments. However, they are not eligible for awards.

ARTICLE III

Annual Dues

Section 1. Amount: Annual dues, as set by the Executive Council will be subject to proration as described in Section 4 of this Article. Dues will include entry fee for all regular tournaments.

Section 2. Requirements: Only members will be eligible and required to pay dues. Neither Associate Members nor Honorary Members shall pay dues.

Section 3. Time of Payment: Dues must be paid prior to first tournament fished.

Section 4. Pro-rated Dues: Pro-rated dues are defined as one half of annual dues and will be in effect for any person eligible for membership on the first day of July or thereafter of the remaining fiscal year.

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

Section 1. Membership: The membership meetings shall be scheduled as to date, time and place and a detailed list communicated to each active member.

Section 2. Special: Special meetings of this associate may be called upon written request of twenty percent of the members. Written requests shall state the matter of business and be submitted to the President of this association.

Section 3. Executive Council: The President of this association shall be responsible for scheduling Executive Council meetings. Any three or more council member may also call a meeting of the Executive Council.

Section 4. Procedure: Unless impractical or inconsistent with the provisions of these By-Laws, all meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of order.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Executive Council

Section 1. The following officers will be elected by and from the members of the Garland Bass Club as provided for in Article VIII Elections and shall constitute the Executive Council.

President	Awards Chairman
First Vice President	Social Director
Second Vice-President	Newsletter Chairman
Treasurer	Door Prize Chairman
Secretary	

Section 2. The terms of office of each officer shall be January 1 to December 31 each year unless he shall resign or be removed.

Section 3. Vacancies: In the event a vacancy occurs on the Executive Council, the remaining members shall elect a new officer to fill the vacated position at the next meeting after the vacancy occurs, except the President's office, which shall be filled by the 1ST Vice President.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Officers

Section 1. President: The President shall be the chief executive of the Club. He shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Council and of the membership. He shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating committee. He shall have the authority to act in whatever way he deems necessary in the event of an "emergency situation". (i.e., an occurrence which affects the safety or welfare of the membership and upon which an immediate decision is required in so long as his actions do not violate the By-laws of this association, or public law.) He shall report such emergency action as soon as practical to the Executive Council, thereafter receiving approval or disapproval of his actions by vote of the Council and will take whatever additional action the Council may direct him to take on the occurrence.

Section 2. 1st Vice-President: The 1st Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the event he shall be absent or shall resign or be removed. He shall be chairman of the Tournament Committee.

Section 3. 2nd Vice President: The 2nd Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the event both the president and 1st Vice President shall be absent. He shall serve as chairman of the Weights and Records Committee, and shall be responsible for weigh-in, fish cleaning equipment, and monthly notification of current standings.

Section 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall keep and be responsible for all monies and financial transactions of the Club. He shall receive all monies due the Club and will pay debts of the Club as directed by the Executive Council. He will prepare and provide statements of financial position to the Association as requested.

Section 5. Secretary: The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping a correct record of all Executive council and membership meetings. He shall keep and maintain a complete and accurate membership roster and provide same to the Newsletter chairman. He shall be responsible to insure that all new club members are provided with By-Laws, tournament schedule, or any such articles as the Executive Council may direct

Section 6. Awards Chairman: The Awards chairman shall be responsible for the selection and purchase of all trophies and other awards used by the Club. He shall obtain the names of all winners from the 2nd Vice President and shall present the awards at a subsequent membership meeting. He shall assist other club officers as requested by the President.

Section 7. Social Director: The Social Director shall serve as chairman of the Social Committee, and shall assist other officers as requested by the President. The shall also be responsible for all cooking and related equipment

Section 8. Newsletter Chairman: The Newsletter Chairman shall be responsible for the preparation and mailing of the club newsletter and other reports that may be of benefit to the club to interested parties. He shall assist other officers of the club as requested by the President.

Section 9. Door Prize Chairman: the Door Prize Chairman shall be responsible for purchasing all merchandise to be sold or given away at club functions.

ARTICLE VII

Government

Section 1. The government of the Garland Bass club shall be under the control and supervision of the Executive Council.

Section 2. No control or influence of the Club's operation shall be exercised by any other person, persons or agency other than the Executive Council except as provided for in section 4 of this Article.

Section 3. In all situations requiring action or decision by the Executive Council, the Council shall govern its consideration by the premise that adherence to the purpose of Article 1 is of utmost importance.

Section 4. All actions of the Executive Council are subject to a called referendum vote of all members. Any member shall have the privilege of requesting a referendum vote on any action of the Executive council (except those acts of the Executive Council specifically demanded by these By-Laws). Should a referendum vote be requested, the Secretary will mail to each member a notice specifying the nature of the vote and announcing that the vote will be taken at the next regular membership meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

Elections and Voting

Section 1. Eligibility: Only members and Lifetime members of the club are eligible to vote or hold office in the Garland Bass Club.

Section 2. Requirements: In referendum elections a simple majority is sufficient to sustain or defeat any motion. In meetings of the Executive Council, a majority of votes present are required to sustain or defeat any motion.

Section 3. Method: Voting shall be by show of hands or written ballot. Proxy voting shall not be allowed.

Section 4. Nominations: The report of the nominating committee to the membership shall be made at the regular membership meeting prior to the October tournament. Nominations made from the floor must also be accepted at this time.

Section 5. Election: The annual election of all club officers shall be done at the regular membership meeting prior to the November tournament.

ARTICLE IX

Committees

- Section 1. General: The General Standing Committee will consist of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, the Social Committee, the Tournament Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Weights and Records Committee. Each committee chairman shall keep a written record of the committee activities. The president of the association shall be an ex-officio member of each committee except the Nominating Committee and be responsible for passing that to his successor.
- Section 2. By-Laws Committee: The By-Laws Committee shall be responsible for the continued validity of the By-Laws, and shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members appointed by the Executive Council, who will choose their own chairman.
- Section 3. Tournament Committee: The Tournament Committee shall consist of five (5) or more members appointed by the committee chairman subject to approval by the Executive Council. It shall be responsible for planning all tournaments
The 1st Vice President will serve as Committee Chairman. The 1st Vice President shall serve as spokesman for the Tournament committee before the Executive Council. Before any changes in the published tournament schedule may occur, notice of the change must be given to each member.
- Section 4. Social Committee: The Social Committee shall be responsible for planning all social events. It shall consist of three (3) or more members appointed by the Social Director who shall serve as the committee chairman.
- Section 5. Weights and Records Committee: The Weights and Records Committee shall consist of members of the Executive Council or their approved appointees and shall be responsible for conducting each tournament weight-in and recording the results thereof. In addition, they will maintain all records necessary for the various monthly and annual awards. The 2nd Vice President shall serve as chairman of the committee.
- Section 6. Nominating Committee: This committee shall consist of five (5) or more members of this association. This committee shall meet in October, prior to the October tournament for the purpose of presenting a slate of officers for the next club year into nomination as provided in Article VIII, Section 4. The chairman of this committee shall be the immediate past president who is a member in good standing. The Committee shall consist of immediate past presidents who are members in good standing and other members appointed by the chairman and approved by the Executive Council.
- Section 7. Additional Committees: The Executive Council may create additional committees or increase the members of any existing committee at any time the Executive Council deems necessary.

ARTICLE X

Tournament Rules

- Section 1. General: Intra-club tournaments are set up to bring members together as sportsmen, to become acquainted, to learn from each other and in general, further the sport of bass fishing.
- Section 2. Types: The Executive Committee will designate each tournament as a “regular” or a “special” tournament. Annual points will be awarded, only for fish caught, to members, associate members in good standing, and qualified guests.
- Section 3. Rules (Regular Tournament):
1. All fishermen shall conduct themselves as sportsmen at all times. Any misconduct shall be handled as a grievance by the Executive council, including but not limited to fishing too close to the area which another member is fishing, operating a boat in a disruptive manner to the fishing of another member, other acts which may be considered interfering with another member’s right to fish, or other violations of the tournament rules. A grievance must first be lodged against and known to the offending member before being brought to the Executive Council, but upon unsatisfactory resolution, notification must be made not later than 30 minutes after the declared weigh-in time on the day of the offense. A minimum of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Executive Council present at the tournament will take action appropriate to the offense which may include fish being declared ineligible or the offender being declared ineligible for the tournament
 2. Only Black Bass, Smallmouth Bass, or Spotted Bass will be judged. Scoring shall be based on one point for each ounce of fish recorded. In case of a tie on total points, duplicate prizes will be awarded. All fish weighed must meet the minimum and/or maximum size for large mouth black bass. Minimum length of the fish weighed will be ¼” above the lake minimum for a largemouth black bass on lakes that do not have a “slot” limit. On lakes that have a “slot” limit, the maximum size of fish under the “slot” will be ¼” less than the “slot” minimum for largemouth black bass the minimum size for fish that are in excess of the “slot” will be ¼” above the “slot” maximum for largemouth black bass. Any fish falls within the “slot” will cause the member or guest to have his largest fish for the day removed from his weight records for the tournament. In no case will any fish be weighed that is less than 14”. Fish shall be measured on a measuring device provided by the Weights and Records Chairman with their mouth closed and tail flat. The Weight and Records Chairman will rule as to eligibility of fish being weighed and his decision will be final. Fish presented for weigh-in an inedible condition will not be accepted. Any person attempting to weigh frozen fish, fish that have been frozen, will be disqualified. A participant’s fish may be presented to the weigh-in by any authorized member or lifetime member. Weigh-in bags are required to promote healthier catch-and-release fish. Any participant not attending weigh-in is strongly encouraged to notify another member that he is leaving the lake and is safe and not simply missing.

3. Fishing times and weigh-in times will be announced prior to each tournament. Anyone attempting to weigh a fish caught during non-tournament hours will be disqualified for the tournament. Anyone not making the weigh-in line by the designated time will be automatically disqualified so that fish caught that day will not be weighed. No members of the club shall fish with a guide on any lake on which the tournament will be held three (3) days or less prior to the starting day of the tournament.
4. The Weights and Records Committee will be responsible for the weigh-in. The tournament clock will be used for the official starting and stopping time, as designated by the Weigh-in Chairman.
5. Fish shall be taken on artificial lures only. Only one rod and reel may be used at one time. (i.e., no more than one bait in the water at any one time).
6. If two or more contestants fish from the same boat, each contestant's catch must be continuously and unmistakably identifiable.
7. Trolling will not be allowed. Trolling is defined as propelling the boat by gasoline engine.
8. Depth finders and fish locators are permitted.
9. A member participating in intra-club tournaments will not be allowed to have a non-member fishing in the same boat with him during the time of the tournament unless said non-member is an associate member in good standing or a qualified guest.
10. The maximum number of fish weighed will be ten (10) per stringer per day, unless specific lake rules dictate less.
11. Division Winners:
 - Individual – The three individuals with the most weight of bass.
 - Team – Two members fishing as a team in the same boat with the most weight of bass. May require payment of special fee. One place for each five (5) times entered.
 - Big Bass – Member with most weight for one bass – one place only.
12. Anyone fishing alone is qualified for team competition and may enter the competition by payment of total team entry fee. Members can fish in only one team.
13. Minor associate members who participate in Club tournaments are the responsibility of their sponsor.
14. Guests:

A member or associate member may bring only one (1) guest per tournament and a guest must fish with a member or associate member only. A guest may fish a maximum of two (2) times per year as a guest of the club. Should a guest wish to fish more than two (2) tournaments, the cost of the 3rd tournament would be the difference between the regular club membership cost and the money paid for previous guest fee. The guest fee for each tournament will be \$10.00 accompanied with a signed release of liability statement. The member with whom the guest fishes shall be responsible for the conduct of the guest and his strict adherence to the by-laws and tournament rules. No one

who has been refused membership to the GBC or who has been subject to club discipline will be allowed to fish as a guest of the GBC.

15. All monies due the club for guest fees, special pots, etc. must be paid to an executive officer prior to beginning that day's fishing for the tournament to which the money applies.

16. All federal state and county game laws must be observed.

Section 4. Rules (Special Tournament)

1. The tournament Committee will recommend to the Executive Committee rules for each special tournament.

ARTICLE XI

Annual Awards

Section 1. Period: The period of competition for the annual awards shall commence with the completion of the November tournament each year and shall end with the completion of the November tournament the following year.

Section 2. Determination of Winners: The annual point system will determine the winners in both tournament and annual competition. Points are awarded as follows: 1st Place for each tournament will receive 100 points. 2nd Place will receive 95 points 3rd Place will receive 90 points. The 4th place participant will receive 85 points and each participant following 4th place, in weight order, shall receive one less point than the participant he followed. i.e. 5th place is 84, 6th place is 83, etc. All participants who did not weigh any fish will be awarded fifty (50) points or ten (10) points less than the last participant who weighed fish, whichever is less. Annual awards will be given to one (1) eligible winner with the highest total of points accumulated each year for each five (5) memberships duly paid by June 1st each year subject to a minimum of three (3) places. The total number of tournaments used to determine the annual winners will be two (2) less than the total number of regularly scheduled tournaments each year. Five (5) points will be awarded to each member or associate member for attendance at each regularly scheduled club meeting and who registers that attendance during each such meeting.

In case of a tie on total points, duplicate prizes will be awarded.

Section 3. Eligibility: All members and associate members are eligible for annual awards provided they have:

A. Fished a minimum of six (6) of the club's regular tournaments as a member or associate member.

Section 4. Big Bass: In accordance to Article XI, Section 3, an award will be given to the member or associate member catching the largest bass as determined by weight during the regular tournaments.

ARTICLE XII

Recall of Officers and Expulsion of Members

- Section 1. Recall of Officers: Any and all officers are subject to recall by a vote of the membership. The procedure to be followed is the same as indicated in Article VII, Section 4, on referendum elections. A two-thirds (2/3rds) majority of those members present and voting is required to remove an office
- Section 2. Expulsion of Members: Any member is subject to expulsion from the club for misconduct. The Executive Council upon a favorable vote of at least six (6) of its members will recommend to the membership the expulsion of a member. This recommendation must be made in writing to each member at least ten (10) days prior to voting at a regular membership meeting. A two-thirds (2/3rd) vote of those present and voting is required to expel a member.

ARTICLE XIII

Amendments

- Section 1. General: These By-Laws or any section thereof may be amended or repealed by a favorable vote of at least seven (7) members of the Executive council present at any duly constituted meeting provided that notice of such meeting shall be given to each member of the Executive Council at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting in which the proposed changes shall be submitted to a vote.

Revised January 1, 2019