

Open Team Bass Tournaments



PayBack BA\$\$ Team Tournament Trail



6/4/2017- Burt/Mullet

7/23/2017- Grand River Only!!!

10/01/2017- Houghton Lake

Ramps TBD see Facebook page for updates

\$5,000 First Place!

Guaranteed!

\$400 Team Entry Per Event

Big Bass Pot Included.

No Entries at the Ramp!! Must be registered 14 days prior to each event.

All entries are paid entries!!

5 Fish Two Man Team Limit

Field Capped at 75 Boats!!**

**Blast off order based on draw for entries received by 3/19/2017. Drawing will be held at Ultimate Sport Show Grand Rapids. All entries received after 3/19/17 will be ordered based on paid entry date.

No Off Limits Weather Permitting for Burt/Mullet & Houghton. Grand River will be RIVER ONLY!

Mandatory Rules Meeting: 6:30pm evening prior to events. ALL contestants must be off competition waters by 5:00pm evening prior to events. See Facebook page for meeting info.

Blast Off: TBD at Mandatory Rules Meeting (See Above)

*For the Safety and Integrity of our anglers this is a **TEAM EVENT** you may **not** fish alone.*

For More Information Please Contact...

Tournament Director: Jeff Cox 734-429-2580

PayBackBass@gmail.com

www.PayBackBass.com



Please visit our Facebook page for official tournament rules.

Entry Deadline 14 Days Prior to Each Event!!!

Complete and Sign Below and mail to:

PayBack Bass ATTN: Jeff Cox

6060 Alber Road

Saline, MI 48176

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
| Name | | | Name | | |
| Address | | | Address | | |
| City | State | Zip | City | State | Zip |
| Phone | | | Phone | | |
| Email | | | Email | | |

Waiver

Having acquainted ourselves with the rules, we have completed this application and are enclosing our entrance fee of \$400 per event for the PayBack Bass Burt/Mullet Open. In signing this application we hereby agree to hold harmless, all other contestants, the host, sponsors, tournament officials and their respective agents and/or employees. Furthermore, we waive and release all rights to claims for damages or injury that may be incurred during this tournament. We further state that we maintain current liability insurance on the boat we will use in this tournament. We further understand and agree that the tournament committee reserves the right to refund this entrance fee for any reason, and not accept our application. Payback Bass reserves the right to limit entries. Cancellation: Refunds of entry fees will be made only if cancellation notice is received before mail entry deadline.

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#2

6/4/2017- Burt/Mullet

7/23/2017- Grand River Only!!!

10/01/2017- Houghton Lake

Please circle events you are registering for!!!

Please read rules and regulations CAREFULLY!!

All contestants are subject to polygraph testing at the discretion of the tournament committee.

All entries must be received 14 Days Prior to Event!! No entries will be accepted at the Ramp!!

PayPal Instructions

1. To pay via PayPal send \$413 to paybackbass@gmail.com
2. Please include what event you are registering for and the names of both contestants.

2017 Payback Bass Open Rules

- 1. RULES.** The following rules are the official rules of PayBack Bass ("PayBack Bass Open"). Interpretation of these rules shall be left up to the PayBack Bass Open Tournament Director. The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final in all matters. **THE PAYBACK BASS OPEN RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY TO ANY INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM FOR ANY REASON OR NO REASON, THAT THE PAYBACK BASS OPEN MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE.**
 - 2. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY.** Participation is open to anyone 16 years of age and older, all contestants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a contestant 18 years of age or older. All contestants must complete an official entry form and pay the proper entry fee and any applicable late fees before the tournament deadline.
 - 3. REGISTRATION AND Pre-TOURNAMENT MEETING.** At least one team member must be present at the registration meeting the evening prior to the tournament, see Facebook page or call for details. All entrants must be present half hour prior to sunrise at the designated boat launch the morning of the tournament for boat inspection. Contestants pre-registered may change up to one member of the team up until the entry deadline if necessary.
 - 4. INSURANCE.** All boats competing in the PAYBACK BASS OPEN shall maintain their own liability insurance during all practice (if any) and tournament hours. Contestants assume all risks of loss and waive any or all claims they may have for injury, property damage, consequential damages, or any damage of any nature against any director, official, sponsor or any contestant or other person connected with the PAYBACK BASS OPEN and related events.
 - 5. BOAT LAUNCH AND WEIGH-IN AREA.** PAYBACK BASS OPEN boat launch and weigh-in area will be announced prior to each event, check flier or website/Facebook for details or contact tournament director.
 - 6. BOATS. BOATS MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 16 FEET IN LENGTH,** comply with all Michigan DNR and Coast Guard regulations and have an adequate live well capable of keeping a one day limit of fish alive. All boats shall be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device ("kill-switch"). Maximum horsepower for all outboards used in tournament competition will not to exceed the horsepower capacity set forth on the "Maximum Capacities" placard described below.
 - Each boat must have a clearly legible "Maximum Capacities" (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating affixed to the boat by the manufacturer.
 - 7. BOAT POSITION.** Boat position will be determined by random draw prior to early entry deadline. After early entry deadline, boat position will be determined by order entry received. Boat Position will be discussed at the pre-tournament meeting. Boat position is solely determined by the tournament director and is not subject to protest.
 - 8. BOAT INSPECTION.** All boats will be made available before the start of competition for inspection. At this time all live-wells, all compartments and storage areas as well as anything in the boat will be made accessible to PAYBACK BASS OPEN inspection personnel. NO boat shall be allowed to compete that has not been inspected the day of competition. All boats will also be made available for inspection during and after competition. Any participants who refuse boat inspection by a tournament official will be immediately disqualified and will be ineligible to participate in future PayBack Bass Open events as well as any other events sanctioned by The Bass Federation of Michigan.
 - 9. FISHING RULES.** All Michigan rules regarding fishing will be observed unless the tournament director specifies more stringent regulations. Only those fish caught in normal angling methods will be accepted. **ONLY ARTIFICIAL BAIT MAY BE USED.** Gulp, Gulp Alive and pork trailers are considered artificial bait. **No Live or Prepared Bait allowed!** Entrants must possess any required licenses. Only 1 rod per person may be used at any one time during tournament fishing. **All fish must be hooked INSIDE of the mouth, any fish hooked outside of the mouth must be immediately released. Use common sense but for close calls along the edge of the mouth "INSIDE of the mouth" is deemed as a penetrated hook point that is not visible when the fish's mouth is closed. Immediate culling required, a team's 6th fish must be released before both team members resume fishing. One team member is allowed to fish while the other is in the act of culling. Any team that does not cull and release their 6th fish in a reasonable amount of time will be disqualified. At no time shall a team have in possession more than 5 bass other than when culling. No culling after boat check-in or in the launch area.**
 - 10. SCORING.** Scoring will be based on total weight of bass. There will be a 5 fish limit per 2-man team. A minimum length of 14 inches will be strictly enforced. Bass presented for weigh-in which fail to measure 14 inches shall accrue penalties at the rate of 1 pound for each such bass. DONT KILL YOUR CATCH a penalty of 0.5 pound will be enforced for each dead fish presented for weigh-in. Fish judged to be improper will not be weighed (i.e. white gill, sunken eyes, missing scales, etc.) Big bass will be awarded to the team who weighs the largest smallmouth or largemouth bass. In the event of a big bass tie, the prizes will be divided between the tied teams. Teams may weigh more than one big bass at the discretion of tournament director, only fish will be recorded in the official scoring.
 - 11. BOUNDARIES.** Fishing will be allowed in all legal waters of Burt & Mullet Lakes and all connecting waterways. A 25-yard distance between anchored (powerpole/talon included) boats with trolling motor up will be enforced. Competitors boats may not come into contact with another boat unless in the case of an emergency. The use of a trolling motor while anchored to position the boat, thus blocking other boats is prohibited.
 - 12. TROLLING: No trolling allowed. Also the use of Planner Boards are prohibited.**
 - 13. PRACTICE.** There is no official practice period pre-tournament practice fishing can be done anytime up until 5:00 pm local time the day prior the tournament. **All contestants must be off tournament waters at 5:00pm the day prior to the tournament.**
 - 14. TOURNAMENT HOURS. Blast off will start at Safelight weather permitting, and check-in time will be announced at pre-tournament meeting. BOAT INSPECTION WILL BEGIN one (1) hour prior to sunrise. Check-in procedure and check-in time will be announced at the pre tournament meeting. It is the responsibility of the contestants to check in appropriately.**
- BOAT CHECK-IN WILL BE AT THE BOAT RAMP!!!! PLEASE LEAVE TIME FOR NO WAKE IDLE!!!**
- 15. PROTESTS.** A \$50 protest fee is required to protest another team. Fee will be refunded if protest is deemed valid, this fee can be waived at the discretion of the tournament director.
 - 16. TIES.** In case of a tie, the team with the heaviest big bass weight shall be determined as the 1st place winners. This is for the 1st place only. Ties for lower places shall divide the total prizes of tied places amongst the tied teams. (i.e. a tie for 3rd shall add prize money for 3rd and 4th and divide it equally between the teams).

- 17. LATE RULE.** Check in time will be announced at the pre-tournament meeting. **Any contestants who do not check-in by the designated check-in time & location will be disqualified.** Check in time & location will be announced at the pre tournament meeting.
- 18. SAFETY.** Safe boating shall be observed at all times. During competition, each contestant shall wear a chest type life preserver anytime the main combustion engine is running and in gear. All boats shall be equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device ("kill-switch"), which must be securely attached to the driver whenever the main combustion engine is running and in gear.
- 19. SPORTSMANSHIP.** All contestants are required to follow the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation at all times. Drunkenness will be cause for immediate disqualification at anytime during this contest. The use of illegal drugs will also mean disqualification from this event.
- 20. SEVERE WEATHER.** Under normal conditions, no contestant may leave his/her boat during the tournament hours, except at the weigh-in/launch area. The exception to this rule would be in the event of severe weather or emergency. In this case you may seek shelter as you deem appropriate.
- 21. ALCOHOL USE.** At no time will there be any alcoholic beverages aboard any tournament boat during tournament hours. There will be no use of alcoholic beverages before start of day's competition.
- 22. NO WAKE ZONES.** Boating safety is a must in this tournament! Any and all no wake zones will be observed. This also pertains to areas near other fishing boats please be courteous.
- 23. BREAKDOWNS.** In the event that your boat becomes inoperable, you may be towed to the weigh-in area or ride in with another tournament participant. You must separate/mark your catch when riding in with another contestant. You may receive a tow from any other boat including U.S. Coast Guard, a non-tournament boat, or a tournament boat. You may not leave your boat unless in the case of an emergency or breakdown. The non tournament participant towboats must not come in contact with your boat in any other way than the towrope. Breakdowns are not an exception to the late rule. All contestants must return via water, anyone traveling on land will be disqualified.
- 24. USE OF RADIOS OR CELLULAR PHONES.** *We strongly recommend that each boat have an emergency communication system of either a marine radio or cellular phone.* No fishing information may be relayed via radios or phones. Communication between tournament participants via cellular phones or radios is strictly prohibited except in the event of an emergency. Binoculars or cameras with telephoto lenses will not be allowed to be used in tournament boats.
- 25. Cheating:** Anyone found to be cheating or suspected of cheating will be suspended from all further tournaments sponsored by Payback Bass and prosecuted to fullest extent of the law. None of the above rules shall prohibit a properly designated tournament official from approaching or boarding any competitor's boat at any time during tournament hours. **Polygraph:** Each competitor agrees to submit to a polygraph test should he be accused of any rule violation. The administration and interpretation of the polygraph test shall be solely the responsibility of the Tournament Director and his agents, and shall be used (or not used) at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

| Name #1 | | | Name #2 | | |
|---------|-------|-----|---------|-------|-----|
| Address | | | Address | | |
| City | State | Zip | City | State | Zip |
| Phone | | | Phone | | |
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