



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
284 STATE STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0041

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

Chandler E. Woodcock
COMMISSIONER

December 7, 2011

Dear Bass Club Representative:

The 2012 Bass Tournament Permit Drawing will be held at **7:00 PM, Thursday, January 12, 2012** at the VA Center, Theatre Bldg 210, 1st floor. The VA Center is located off Route 17 in Togus, Maine.

Some changes have been implemented to the 2012 bass tournament permit drawing. These changes will help to streamline the process for both MDIFW and bass clubs. Please read the enclosed document entitled "2012 Bass Tournament Permit Drawing" carefully as it explains the new drawing process in detail.

Please make sure your club has submitted all required weed inspection forms for 2011. If you are unsure of your club's status, please call this office at 287-5261. Clubs that are not in compliance with permit conditions will not be eligible to participate in the 2012 drawing.

ALL clubs registered for the 2012 drawing must select a minimum of three (3) tournaments – **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

All clubs must be pre-registered in order to participate in the 2012 drawing. In order to pre-register, clubs must submit the following to MDIFW **NO LATER than January 3, 2012 (5:00 PM)** the following documents: pre-registration form, executed Affidavit and check made payable to "Treasurer, State of Maine" in the amount of \$156.00 (non-refundable).

Enclosed please find a 2012 bass permit tournament application. Additional application forms may be downloaded from our website (www.mefishwildlife) and will also be available at the drawing.

Bass tournaments may only be conducted on the water body as listed on the permit. Exceptions to allow tournaments to be conducted in additional streams, tributaries, etc. will be limited, but considered on a case by case basis.

Please remember that the 3rd Saturday in July is loon count and no tournaments on that date will be allowed to start assembling before 9:00 AM.

Requests for Multi-day tournaments permits will not be accepted at the drawing. The following water bodies are already taken for the 2012 year under Multi-Day permits: China Lake (6/23, 6/24); Cobbosseecontee Lake (9/8, 9/9); Sebago Lake (9/8, 9/9) and Sebasticook Lake (9/8, 9/9).

Permit application fees are non-refundable. However, if you need to cancel a scheduled tournament, please contact us at 287-5261. This will allow us to notify the Warden Service and make necessary changes in our database that would allow future permits on that water body to be issued and prevent your organization as being shown delinquent in submitting a weed inspection form for that tournament.

Sincerely,

Todd Langevin
Acting, Fisheries Director

2012 Bass Tournament Permit Drawing

WHEN: Thursday, January 12, 2012

WHERE: VA Togus Auditorium, Theatre Bldg 210, 1st Floor, Togus (Augusta), Maine
(same location as in the past)

TIME: Check in time: 6:00 – 6:45; Instructions 6:45 – 7:00; Drawing begins promptly at 7:00 PM

Some changes have been implemented to the bass tournament drawing for 2012 that will help streamline the process for all parties involved. All interested applicants (clubs, organizations, etc.) who wish to participate in the 2012 drawing must be aware of and adhere to the following conditions:

- ***Pre-registration*** – All applicants wishing to participate in the drawing must be qualified and pre-registered in accordance with the following (**NO EXCEPTIONS**):
 - Applicants who purchased a permit(s) for the 2011 season must ensure they have met their obligations of filing all required 2011 Weed Inspection forms in order to be deemed eligible. The forms must be submitted to MDIFW in accordance with the terms of your 2011 permit. Pre-registration requests from those applicants who are not in compliance will not be accepted and will be returned to applicant;
 - Submission of a completed pre-registration form (forms can be downloaded from www.mefishwildlife.com);
 - Submission of an affidavit attesting the organization is legitimate and is committed to holding at least 3 tournaments in 2012 under the applicant's name (forms can be downloaded from MDIFW website);
 - Submission of a non-refundable check in the amount of \$156.00 which commits the organization to select a minimum of three (3) tournaments at the drawing. The non-refundable payment will be applied to the total fees due for all tournaments selected at the drawing during the final application submission process. Applicants will be responsible for fees associated with additional tournaments selected. Organizations wishing to purchase less than three (3) permits can do so starting on February 10, 2012 on a first-come, first-served basis;
 - Pre-registration form, notarized affidavit and check made payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine, for the amount of \$156 must be received at MDIFW office in Augusta **NO LATER** than the close of business (5:00 PM) on **January 3, 2012**. Mail required documents to: MDIFW, Fisheries Division – BASS, 284 State Street, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333. Please note incomplete registration requests will not be processed.

- ***Issuance of Qualifying Applicants & Drawing Order*** – on or about January 6, 2012, MDIFW will publish a list of qualifying applicants who are eligible to participate in the 2012 drawing. Only those organizations listed by MDIFW will be permitted to participate in the January 12, 2012 drawing. The list will also designate the order or drawing position of each applicant. This process will be administered by MDIFW by random selection of qualified applicants.

- **Deferrals** – Only the first round of the drawing will include an opportunity for applicants to defer their first round pick to another applicant. Applicants may negotiate deferrals with other applicants between the dates when the qualifying applicant list has been issued by MDIFW up until the start of the drawing on January 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM. No time will be allotted for deferrals once the drawing has begun.

- **Drawing Details** – the following outlines specific details of the drawing process:
 - Applicants, who arrive after the drawing has begun, will forfeit their position and will be placed at the end of the drawing order for each remaining round. No deferrals of late arrivals will be allowed.
 - Payment – no payments will be accepted on the night of the drawing. Payments must be mailed with final applications in accordance with the requirements detailed below.
 - Confirmation of each applicant's selections of lakes and dates will be issued at the end of the drawing.

- **Securing Permits** – Applicants will have the period between January 12, 2012 and close of business (5:00 PM) on February 9, 2012 to submit final applications, date change requests (forms available for download at www.mefishwildlife.com) and required fees (total permit fees minus pre-registration fee of \$156). No changes to applications, other than date as specified above, will be allowed after February 9, 2012 at 5:00 PM (NO EXCEPTIONS). If applications for tournaments selected at the drawing are not received by February 9th they will be forfeited. Beginning on February 10, 2012 permits for remaining available waters will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - Mail applications along with applicable fees (check made payable to Treasurer, State of Maine) to: MDIFW, Fisheries Division – BASS, 284 State St, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333.

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Fisheries Division
284 State Street, 41 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0041
Phone: 207-287-5261

**2012 Maine Bass Tournament Permit Drawing
Request for Registration**

Name of organization: _____

Representative's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Numbers: Daytime: _____ Cell: _____

Submit form along with an executed Affidavit and check made payable to "Treasurer, State of Maine" in the amount of \$156.00 NO LATER than close of business (5:00 PM) January 3, 2012.

Incomplete registration requests will not be processed.

AFFIDAVIT

I, _____ of _____, ME
Name Town

am _____ of a bass fishing club currently known as _____
Title Name of bass club

I hereby certify that the bass fishing club herein named, although not affiliated with any nationally recognized bass fishing organization, is a bona fide independent bass fishing club having a slate of officers, as follows:

President _____
Vice President _____
Secretary _____
Treasurer _____

I understand that the purpose of this affidavit is to certify eligibility for making application to conduct bass tournaments on Maine inland waters and that obtaining a permit through misstatement, misrepresentation or fraud is a criminal violation under Title 12, Section 7383.

I understand that the information I have provided in this affidavit may be checked for accuracy and that falsely completing this affidavit may result in court action against me.

I certify that all the information given in this affidavit is true and accurate.

Date

Signature

STATE OF MAINE

_____, ss.
(County)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public/Attorney
My Commission Expires:

Note: If you do not belong to a nationally recognized bass fishing organization, please attach list of your members to this affidavit.

**APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A ONE DAY BASS TOURNAMENT ON
MAINE INLAND WATERS**

Weigh-in Tournament (\$52.00) **OR** Catch, Measure, Release Tournament (\$12.00)
 Open **OR** Club

Name of Individual making application: _____

Name of Club or Organization: _____

Address (mailing) _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The above named bass fishing club desires to hold a one-day bass tournament on:

1ST Choice

2nd Choice Alternative

WATERBODY: _____

TOWN: _____

COUNTY: _____

WEIGH-IN LOCATION: _____

DATE _____ from _____ a.m. to _____ p.m.

Weigh-in tournaments are not permitted from May 8th to June 14th (dates inclusive) except in Aroostook, Hancock, Piscataquis and Washington Counties. Weigh-in tournaments in these four counties are not permitted from May 20th to June 30th (dates inclusive).

You must have at least two aquatic plants and live well inspectors at the tournament.

The 3rd Saturday in July is loon count; no tournaments will be allowed to start assembling before 9 AM.

See reverse side of application for definitions and requirements.

Applicant Signature and Title

Date

**NOTE: It is a Class E crime to obtain a permit through fraud, misstatement or misrepresentation.
Title 12 MRSA Section 7373.**

Please make check payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine. Mail completed application, along with check to:
Fisheries Division - BASS, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 284 State St., 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0041.

Definition of a Bass Club

For purposes of determining eligibility to apply for a permit to conduct a one-day bass tournament, a "bass club" is defined as any organized group of five or more bass anglers which is able to satisfy one of the following criteria:

1. Provide current documentation of being a member club in Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society (BASS), Northeast Bass Association (NEBA) or other nationally recognized bass fishing organization; or
2. Provide a current listing of club officers and members along with a signed affidavit affirming that the group, although not affiliated with any nationally recognized bass fishing organization, is a bona-fide independent fishing club.

Requirements (General)

1. Any bass club which sponsors a one-day bass tournament must submit a completed bass tournament questionnaire, when requested to do so by an agent of the Commissioner, provided that such request must be made in writing to the sponsoring club prior to the day of the tournament.
2. All anglers in the tournament must possess a valid Maine fishing license unless of an age where a license is not required.
3. Bass tournament boats must be specifically identified in a plainly visible manner and a roster of participants must be available at the location of the weigh-in.
4. Only one permit will be issued on a waterbody for a specific date.
5. All fishing will be restricted to artificial lures.
6. No weigh-in bass tournaments will be permitted on a body of water less than 500 surface acres.
7. A copy of the tournament permit and a copy of the rules affecting one-day tournaments shall be conspicuously displayed during each tournament at a location accessible to all tournament contestants.
8. There shall be a separate permit for Open and Club tournaments. Club tournaments are limited to a maximum participation of 15 boats. Open tournaments are limited to 35 acres per boat with a maximum of 100 boats. Youth tournaments will be scheduled in cooperation with IF&W and no permit will be required.
9. Tournaments may be Catch/Measure/Release or Weigh-In.
 - a) In Catch/Measure/Release tournaments, all bass caught must be immediately released to the location from which caught.
 - b) All bass retained shall be kept in a livewell being operated with the pump(s) in a mode that constantly exchanges livewell water with fresh lake or river water as a flow-through system, except when boats are being operated under power of the main outboard while changing locations, or while motoring to shore immediately prior to weigh-in, at which time the pump(s) may be operated in a manner that aerates a fixed volume of water in the livewell. All bass taken shall be returned to the water from which it was caught, unharmed as far possible, at the conclusion of the tournament day. The daily limit shall be 5 bass per participant with no weight limit.
10. The total cash value of prizes for single-day tournaments shall not exceed \$25,000.
11. The Commissioner has the authority to put any condition necessary on any tournament to assure that appropriate measures are taken to protect biological resources and address social concerns.
12. Weigh-in tournaments are not permitted in Aroostook, Hancock, Piscataquis and Washington Counties from May 20 to June 30 (dates inclusive). In all other counties weigh-in tournaments are not permitted from May 8 to June 14 (dates inclusive).
13. There will be no more than seven weigh-in tournaments on any water greater than 500 acres, only four of which may be open tournaments.

**BASS TOURNAMENT
DATE CHANGE
REQUEST FORM**

CLUB: _____

WATERBODY: _____

ORIGINAL DATE OF TOURNAMENT: _____

NEW DATE REQUESTED: _____

ALTERNATE DATE: _____

**Please submit this form, along with your completed application to MDIFW NO
LATER than February 9, 2012 (5:00 PM).**

Signature of Club Representative

Date

Return form to: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Fisheries Division - BASS
284 State St., 41 SHS
Augusta ME 04333-0041

For Office Use Only:

Date Received _____

Approved _____

Declined _____