

# 2017 Western Arkansas Kayak Anglers Constitution and Bylaws

## Article I. Name, Purpose, and Definitions

### 1. Name

The name of this group of anglers shall be professionally referred to as The Western Arkansas Kayak Anglers

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of this club is to promote sportsmanship, camaraderie, conservation, and education while enjoying the sport of kayak fishing.

### 3. Definitions

**A. Tournament:** a tournament that has been formatted and structured to support an “Angler of the Year” points race.

**B. Angler of the Year:** the Circuit leader who wins the WAKA AOY points race.

**C. AOY Leader:** the participant who has the greatest amount of points accumulated throughout the season.

**D. Board Zero Tournaments:** in the event that nobody in a tournament scores any legal fish, the total Entry Fees will be paid out to the anglers remaining at the Awards Ceremony. Prizes will be pushed to supplement future tournaments. In the case, of only one angler bringing in the only legal fish, he/she will receive 100% of the entry fees. If there are only two anglers who bring in legal fish, 100% of the Entry Fees will be divided as such: 70% to 1st, 30% to 2nd. If only three anglers bring in legal fish, 100% of the Entry Fees will be divided as such: 50% to 1st, 30% to 2nd, 20% to 3rd. 5. Catch, Photo, Release (CPR): is defined as a measuring parameter to capture photos of score-able/judge-able/targeted fish. Photographs of the targeted fish may be captured by a digital camera with removable sd card only. Smartphones may be used if anglers have the appropriate cables to connect them to computer. Keep in mind that if the picture taking device is not technologically adequate to make concrete judge-able photographs the picture will be considered not judge-able, therefore disqualified.

**E. Roadrunner:** allows the participant after morning registration to trailer/drive their kayak to another part of the lake (must be a legal access point/public launch site, otherwise meaning no trespassing. Obey all laws, honor boxes for parks, etc... you are responsible for those fees, not WAKA).

**F. Hawq Trough:** a STANDARD and only approved Measuring Device which is utilized during CPR, to accurately score a fish's length, for judging purposes.

**G. Unique Identifier:** we utilize only a few digits, or letters, by writing them on top of the hand that we use to hold a fish down and/or placing the id on a wristband to be worn on the same hand, when we

measure it. This unique identifier is required to be in a score-able picture. If it is not, the picture is immediately disqualified.

## **Article II. Membership and Dues**

### **1. Membership** *(required for tournaments only)*

**A.** Membership is free and open to anyone but is subject to approval by any WAKA Tournament Director, and can be revoked at any time for just cause (which may be determined by the Board of Directors).

**B.** Applicants who have been accepted shall become full members upon Tournament Director Approval.

**C.** By accepting membership, the member agrees that all corresponding documents and photos produced for the club shall become club property.

**D.** Membership may be canceled under any of the following conditions

1. Intentional Violation of the Rules.
2. Actions which reflect dishonor and/or disgrace to the club, it's members, and its sponsors.
3. By decision of Tournament committee.

## **Article III. Club Officers: Positions and Duties**

### **1. Positions and Duties**

#### **A. Board of Directors**

1. Presides over all functions of the club

#### **B. President**

1. Mediates and presides over all meetings, reports to board of directors

2. Acts as a representative of the club at all functions

#### **C. Vice President**

1. Assists president in mediation and presides over meetings in his/her absence

2. Acts as a representative of the club at all functions

#### **D. Treasurer**

1. Fulfills all treasuring duties

2. Reports financial status at each meeting

### **E. Secretary**

1. Helps mediate meetings and assist in overall function of club

### **F. Tournament Directors**

1. Organizes and direct tournament events

## **Article IV. Amending the Constitution and Bylaws**

### **1. Method**

**A.** The Constitution & Bylaws may be amended by written proposal only by any current club member. The proposal shall be submitted to the club officers at any time. The written proposal shall consist of a reason why the document should be amended and a solution to the amendment. The written proposal should reference this document. All proposals will not take effect till the following year, if approved by both tournament directors (we will ask for feedback from current members on any proposed amendment via media channels or at tournaments).

**B. Review and Acceptance** 1. The board will review the written proposal and determine if the amendment should be accepted. 2. If agreed upon by unanimous vote, the proposal will be amended.

**C.** Amended Constitution and Bylaws will be distributed to members at the next annual meeting.

## **Article V. Tournament Fees and Payouts**

### **1. Tournament Fees**

**A.** Entry fees for all WAKA Events is \$20 per angler. The entry fee is due and payable prior to the start of each tournament. A Big Bass Side Pot will occur for each tournament through a \$5 Option.

**B.** Payouts, 100% of the entry fees will be paid back to the entrants of WAKA events

**C.** Payout Structure starting in 2017:

**1-30 Anglers: 55% to 1st Place, 30% to 2nd Place, and 15% to 3rd Place**

**31-60 Anglers: 50% to 1st Place, 25% to 2nd Place, and 15% to 3rd Place, and 10% to 4th Place**

**61-100 Anglers: 50% to 1st Place, 25% to 2nd Place, and 15% to 3rd Place, 5% to 4th and 5th Place**

**D.** "Big Bass" side-pot may be entered into by anyone

**E.** In the event that nobody in a tournament scores any legal fish, 100% of the Total Entry Fees will be paid out to the anglers remaining at the Awards Ceremony and only participation points will be awarded.

F. In the event of a tie, the winner is determined by the length of their next biggest fish until the tie is broken.

**Article VI. Points Distribution**

1. Points and Payouts are “Free for All” at every tournament

2. A Points System will be implemented; in which points will be awarded to the individual tournament angler based on the place he finishes in the event. I.e. 100 points will be awarded to First Place, 99pts to Second, 98pts to third, 97pts to fourth, and so on, and so on, for every competitor who registers a fish at Weigh-In. Anglers who Weigh-In at least a single fish will receive their respective tournament distribution points.

3. Anglers who register ZERO fish, but still "Show" will be rewarded with points determined with this formula: 100 Available Pts: Pts Earned by the last person in the Tournament Field to score a single/multiple fish -10pts = Pts Received

1st	100pts	11th	90pts	21st	80pts	31st	70pts	41st
2nd	99pts	12th	89pts	22nd	79pts	32nd	69pts	42nd
3rd	98pts	13th	88pts	23rd	78pts	33rd	68pts	43rd
4th	97pts	14th	87pts	24th	77pts	34th	67pts	44th
5th	96pts	15th	86pts	25th	76pts	35th	66pts	45th
6th	95pts	16th	85pts	26th	75pts	36th	65pts	46th
7th	94pts	17th	84pts	27th	74pts	37th	64pts	47th Last to Score a Fish
8th	93pts	18th	83pts	28th	73pts	38th	54pts	48th Scored Zero Fish, but still showed
9th	92pts	19th	82pts	29th	72pts	39th	54pts	49th Scored Zero Fish, but still showed
10th	91pts	20th	81pts	30th	71pts	40th	54pts	50th Scored Zero Fish, but still showed

4. Anglers who are “No Shows” receive ZERO points. In the layout below, 48th, 49th, and 50th would get 54 points for showing up, but registering no score-able fish.

## **5. Tournament Selection**

***A. Tournament Dates and Locations will be determined by the Tournament Directors, by December, the year prior.***

### **B. Tournament Rules**

1. A tournament participant shall consist of one angler, fishing from one vessel. Human-Powered Vessels only. i.e...Kayaks, Canoes, Float Tubes, and Small Boats are acceptable, if paddled, or pedaled.
2. No trolling motors or sails shall be used during tournament fishing hours.
3. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed at all times.
4. Participants may not pay a guide to fish with them during fishing hours of a tournament.
5. Anglers may not hire a guide 30 Days before a tournament, to fish on an upcoming tournament lake.
6. Participating Anglers may not use a vessel, with a combustible engine, for pre-fishing a tournament lake five days prior to the start of a tournament.
7. Participating Anglers may not fish a Tournament Lake during Off-Limits Periods. This means you can't even be on the water of the particular fishery.
8. Must have a valid fishing license.
9. Participating Anglers must have THEIR OWN HAWG TROUGH and PICTURE TAKING DEVICE (No Sharing).
10. Anglers under 16 years of age may be assisted by their parent/guardian during tournament hours. A parent/guardian may not assist with catching or landing fish. Anglers under 16 must be in their own vessel and have equipment necessary for tournament participation (Hawg Trough, Camera, Tackle)
11. Tournament Directors may fish but must accept being the last out/ first in on the day of the event to make sure things run smoothly. Someone else must score their fish.
12. Anglers must maintain a 100 foot buffer zone from other competitors unless an agreement has been made by both anglers to shorten the distance.

### **C. Safety**

1. Participants are required to wear a Coast Guard approved life preserver at Tournament Start
2. 360 degree lights are mandatory to fish during hours of darkness.
3. Participants must have a sound making device on board with them at all times.
4. All anglers should have a phone during tournament hours, in case of emergency.

#### **D. Inclement Weather Policy**

1. Due to inclement weather, the tournament directors may shorten the tournament hours or cancel it. If weather is deemed hazardous, the tournament directors will institute a one hour delay. If after the one hour delay the weather conditions are still deemed hazardous, the tournament directors will institute one more hour delay before cancelling the tournament. 100% of entry fees will be refunded if event is cancelled. Points and Prizes will not be awarded for the event. Prizes will supplement future tournament payouts.

#### **D. Fishing Areas and Hours**

1. Tournament times will be determined by the tournament directors. Each tournament must be at least 6 hours with the only two exceptions being the second day of a two day tournament, and a change due to inclement weather. The two day tournaments may have shorter hours as determined by the tournament directors.

2. If the event is deemed a road runner members may launch from any public access point on the tournament lake with legal access. Trailering to/from the registration and weigh-in site is permitted, if the lake, conditions, and Tournament Director allow for it. No leaving the registration site during roadrunner tournaments before the scheduled registration time commences ( i.e. if registration is from 5:30-6:30am then you may not leave the registration site until 5:30am, after Registering) If found leaving early you will be IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED.

3. No fishing/"Off Limits" starts on Sunday at 11:59pm, prior to each "Official" Tournament Series Event. "OFF-LIMITS" means: the entire lake is COMPLETELY OFF LIMITS to all types of recreation, for participating anglers.

4. No fishing is allowed from outside your vessel. One Foot must be in your vessel at all times. All Pics must be taken from inside your vessel. Anglers are not allowed to leave their vessels to boat a fish. In the event that an angler is known to leave their kayak to retrieve a "hooked fish" he or she will be disqualified.

5. Participating Anglers are prohibited from gathering information from outside the field of anglers during a tournament hours. Once a tournament has commenced, participating anglers are no longer allowed to share fishing conditions, or tournament advice by phone, or any other messaging device.

#### **E. Tackle and Equipment**

1. Only artificial lures may be used.

2. Trolling is allowed

3. Only one line may be in the water at a time during tournament hours.

#### **F. Weigh-In and Conservation**

1. The bag limit for each tournament shall be five fish per person per day (unless otherwise indicated for a specialty tournament), and we utilize the "Catch, Photo, and Release" method.
2. All tournament contestants must have their scorecards turned in at the designated time for weigh-in. If your scorecard is not in the Turn-In Buckets when "Time" is called, you will be IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED. Another participant (tournament angler) can turn in your scorecard if necessary due to an issue arising with making it back to the weigh-in location on time. If you're scorecard is not filled in properly, you will receive a 1" Penalty. If your Photo Capturing Device is not turned in with your Scorecard, you will also receive a 1" Penalty. This will help ensure a speedy "Judging" Period. If your fish are measured with their mouths OPEN, you will receive a 1" penalty per fish. If any/some/or all of these penalties drop your fish below the 10" legal minimum size, the entire fish will be disqualified. This is to ensure, that our Anglers are properly measuring their score-able fish.
3. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass will be considered for Weigh-In. Each bass must be a minimum length of 10 inches. The "HAWG TROUGH" measuring board will be the "Official" measuring board used by the Anglers and Tournament Director to measure fish. Fish must be measured with the mouth closed and the tail pinched, or un-pinched (Unless otherwise indicated by a Tournament Director).
4. All lengths to be verified by the Tournament Directors, on an as needed basis.
5. A Unique Identifier will be given to the angler at the ramp by the Tournament Director. Each fish must be photographed on a HAWG TROUGH and include the Unique Identifier given by the Tournament Director for the fish to be counted in the Anglers bag limit.
6. To be eligible to qualify for the big bass pot, the fish must be a Minimum of 10", you the Angler must have bought in to the Big Bass Side Pot, prior to tournament start. If there is NO BIG BASS over the WAKA 10" Minimum, the Big Bass Side Pot will roll over into the next respective tournament. If this is the last event, the Big Bass Purse will be reimbursed to all those that "bought in" and are still remaining at the Weigh-In.

## **Article VII. Rule Violations and Protests**

### **1. Rule Violations**

- A. All protests must be submitted in writing to a tournament director within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.
- B. Any violation of tournament rules WILL result in disqualification.

### **2. Protests**

- A. Resolution of the protest will take place at the weigh-in site within 30 minutes of the written protest.
- B. In the event that a decision cannot be rendered at the weigh-in site -the resolution will take place at a scheduled meeting, coordinated by the tournament directors.

## **Article X. Club Standings**

1. The officers shall maintain and publish individual club standings on the club website and social media.

## **Article XI. Awards**

### **1. Awards**

A. The “Angler of the year” award will be given to the member that wins the WAKA AOY points race. The Angler of the Year will receive a prize package donated by sponsors.

B. Tournament Payouts and prizes to be awarded after weigh-in

## **Article XIII World Championship**

1. The top five finishers in the angler of the year points race from WAKA Tournament series automatically qualify for day two of the Tournament of Champions to be held on Lake Fork Texas in Nov of 2017. This is the official world championship of kayak bass fishing.

## **Article XV. Use of logo and likeness**

1. Any and all use of the WAKA logo and/or photos must be approved by the board of directors.