

## 2026 NEBASSIN BIG BOAT membership Form (\$70 adult/\$35 Youth per year)



Boat/Year/Length \_\_\_\_\_

Motor/Size \_\_\_\_\_

Partner 1: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Partner 2: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### NE BASSIN Tournament Rules / Most rules are also online for easier reading

Liability release: In signing this agreement, I signify that I have read and understood all rules and I hereby release NE BASSIN Tournament fishing circuit, its officers, sponsors, agents, and employees, from any and all damages, claims, demands, cost, or expense relating to injury of any persons or damages to any property to any property which I may cause by reason of participating in or in connection with any NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing event. Covenant Not To Sue and Waiver of Subrogation: I further agree that I will never sue NE BASSIN Tournament Circuit for damages on account of any injury damage that I suffer or cause whether known now or which may develop in the future in connection with this or any other NE BASSIN Tournament fishing event. I expressly agree to indemnify and hold NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing Circuit harmless from any liability whatsoever, including court cost and attorney's fees arising with respect to such action. I understand that in waiving my rights to sue NE BASSIN Circuit, I am waiving the right to recovery from NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing Circuit for liability. Verification of liability insurance: I further state that I am a current member of NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing Circuit and that I maintain liability insurance on the boat I will use in any NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing event. Construction: If this agreement and the release, covenant, and waivers contained here in are found by any court to be overly broad in any manner, I ask the court to interpret it as broadly as possible. Reading and Understanding: I signify by my signature that I have read and understood the above agreement and all NE BASSIN Rules.

1. Memberships: Memberships into NE BASSIN is \$70 per person. All anglers 16 years of age or younger before their first NE BASSIN event shall be considered a "Youth" and receive a membership for \$35. All NE BASSIN fishing events are open to all boat makes, models and motor sizes. Anglers fishing the Elite Series of B.A.S.S or the FLW Tour Events as a boater, during the 2026 season are not eligible to participate in any NE BASSIN Events. The Tournament director and other tournament officials are permitted to fish all of his or her NE BASSIN division including the regional.

2. NE BASSIN Tournament Fishing Circuit: All entries must be paid in full 5 days before any NE BASSIN Event. Entry fee may be refunded only if the Director is notified no later than 48 hours before the NE BASSIN Tournament. Boat numbers will be picked the morning of the event and will be handed out following our am meeting. NE BASSIN is limited to the first 15-30 teams depending on the state, division and permit.

3. Scoring: Each tournament will have a 100-point scoring system. Sample Scoring 1<sup>st</sup> place will get your team 100 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place team 99 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place team 98 and so on. All other teams that didn't weigh in any fish will receive 5 points under last place for participating in the event. The team that has the highest final point total in that division will determine the NE BASSIN Division Champions. No Drops are given. 380 points are required to qualify for the NE BASSIN 2-Day regional championship event. A team paying for an event that doesn't fish will receive 5 pts less than last place pts. A team paying for an event that doesn't fish will receive 10 pts less than the last place for that event.

4. Registration: One member of each team is required to be present at the Pre-Tournament Meetings. Failure to appear at the Pre-Tournament Meeting will result in a disqualification not unless the director was contacted before hand and made arrangements that were fair.

5. Teams that qualify for the regional will need to be a member and in good standing for the following year in order to fish that regional event.

6. Weather Delays and Cancellation: In the event of extreme weather conditions such as Tornadoes, Tornado Warnings or Lightning, the tournament director along with the officials will monitor the path of the storms and their length, until it has been cleared by these three entities this tournament will be put on hold until warnings expire or the storms have passed, then and only then will we proceed with this tournament. In the event that the storms or warnings have not passed or expired prior to 9 am the director and staff will make the decision to cancel that day of fishing. Should the tournament be delayed due to weather and we decide to launch, the check in times will stand as posted.

7. Take Off: NE BASSIN events will all start between 6:00 am and 7:30am (Eastern Time) depending on the event. Boat take off numbers will be picked the morning of the event.

8. Check-IN: Check-in will be done by 1 flight. There will be a deduction of 1 lb. per minute of your total weight for every minute late to Check-in. Teams more than 10 minutes late to Check-in will not be permitted to weigh-in that day's catch. The number paddle you were given at the start of the event must be turned in prior to a team weighing in their fish. No paddle, no weigh in and no more events until the paddle is replaced. If you lose your paddle, a team will have to pay \$50 to replace the paddle as a penalty or else no fish will be weighed in and will receive a 0 for the day with no points given. If a team pays and weighs in, a 1 lb deduction will be deducted from that team's total weight.

9. Limits: This is a five (5) fish limit per team/angler. Anyone bringing in more than five (5) fish will have their sack culled to the five (5) fish limit starting with the big fish first. Teams may carry more than five (5) fish but all culling must be done on the water, not on the bank. (State rules)

10. Short Fish Penalties: Only Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted Bass may be brought to weigh-in. All fish brought to weigh-in must be at least 12" long. Short fish will be culled from your sack and your largest fish will be culled from the remaining fish. You will be able to ask for "one" courtesy at each weigh-in/event.

11. Live-well Inspection: Boat must have a working live- well, either built into the boat or portable. Live-wells must have some type of pump or circulator to keep fish alive. All live-wells will be checked before entering the water at all NE BASSIN events.

12. Substitutes: Although Substitutes are not permitted at any NE BASSIN event, we understand things come up. If your declared partner cannot fish a regular season event, you are allowed to sub in any friend/family member twice for a given season/division, otherwise you will have to fish solo. They will have to pay for a full membership into NE BASSIN at \$70, unless they are a youth at \$35. Substitutes are not permitted with any NE BASSIN 2-Day events. If a yearlong partner serious matter/issue comes up, the NE BASSIN board/director will declare one of the Substitutes if applicable or a new partner should and can be found for the year.

13. Boat and Motor: Boats must have required Coast Guard Safety Equipment and must have a motor within the rating limits.

14. Pre-Fishing: All NE BASSIN events will not be closed to pre-fishing. All waters that will be fished will be closed to pre-fishing from 4pm the day before the start time.

15. Off-Limits: Other off-limits areas will be announced at the pre- tournament meeting.

Teams/anglers may not fish closer than 50 yards to another competitor who is fishing unless given permission. If permission is given to one, then all may fish same water. Having a non-contestant sit on a hole for you shall be cause for disqualification. Any team fishing in the off-limits areas will have that day's weight disqualified from the tournament.

16. Weigh-in Bags: Participants may only bring fish to the weigh-in station in a weigh-in bag with water in it, bags will be provided if a team doesn't have one.

17. Dead fish Penalty: For each dead fish a 1/2 pound penalty will be deducted from your total weight. A dead fish will not be weighed-in as big fish. Fish that appears altered or mangled shall be the tournament director's decision to weigh or not to weigh the fish.

18. Life Preserver: During any NE BASSIN event, contestants not wearing their life jackets zipped and secured when the combustion engine is running and in gear will have that day's weight disqualified from the tournament. Life Jackets can be removed once a team has checked in to the "check in" boat.

19. Ties: Ties for big bass will split big bass pot. Ties for placing in the tournament will be broken by big bass. If still tied, both teams will receive the same points.

20. No Live Bait: Only artificial lures can be used in any NE BASSIN event. The use of pork rind is permitted.

21. No Trolling: Trolling with the use of a combustible engine as a method of fishing is prohibited.

22. Sportsmanship: All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation. Drunkenness/drugs shall be cause for immediate disqualification. No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs shall be allowed in the boats during the tournament hours extending through the close of the weigh-in. Any ticket will lead to a disqualification.

23. Leaving Your Boat: Competitors shall remain with their partners in the boat at all times during the tournament. Except in the event of sickness or brief excursions for "nature calling", a severe storm or other such hazards. If for any reason a team decides to leave the tournament waters early, competitors must contact the Director, prior to leaving the tournament. If you have boat trouble, one member must remain with the disabled boat. The other team member may board another competitor's boat with that days catch and bring fish to the weigh-in. Please contact the Director prior to doing so.

24. Cheating: Anyone caught cheating in any NE BASSIN event will be immediately banned from fishing any NE BASSIN event in the future. We reserve the right to have a random truth verification test performed at any time. You may not use a cell phone to gain an advantage over the rest of the competitors.

25. Protest: All protest must be submitted in writing to the director before the close of weigh-in. Verbal protest will not be accepted. The director and the board will meet to discuss any protest and have a final decision made within 24 hours.

26. State Rules: All state rules and regulations must be followed. Teams breaking a State Rule or Regulations will have that day's weight disqualified.

27. Insurance: All members will carry 100,000 / 300,000 liability insurance on any boat they might use during any of NE BASSIN Tournaments. Failure to do so or reporting false information will result in disqualification. Participants must have the company name and either policy number or the name of the agent binding the coverage on the membership form.

28. Refusal of Membership/Entry: We reserve the right to refuse membership or entry into any of NE BASSIN Tournament. All Rules and regulations of NE BASSIN Tournaments are subject to review by NE BASSIN Officials.

29. Awards: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall for the year will get team/angler plaques. Lunker team plaques will also be given to the team with the biggest bass for the year, "who fish all events in that division". The top 1 to 5 teams overall will get a FREE Regional depending on total amount of entries for that division. Top teams per division may have an opportunity to fish for bonus money/awards at the regional event. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams/biggest fish overall at the regional will get team plaques.

30. Good Standing: A single team must fish or pay a minimum of 4 events to be in good standing per year. If a team doesn't fish at least 4 tournaments for that year, the team will not be in good standing with BE BASSIN and will not be able to fish the following year based upon the director's decision. All Teams fishing any division must pay for 3 events upfront with no refund or they will not be able to fish any event.

ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO NE BASSIN, PLEASE CONTACT :

**Jamie Verab**

**10 Buckley Lane – Prospect, CT 06712**

or Jamie Verab • 203-510-8805 • nebassinfishing@gmail.com

\*Partner 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Partner 2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* **\$100.00 per event.** You can send in the **\$20 optional** split Lunker or pay this at the ramp.

\* Memberships per year: **\$70.00** per angler 16 years of age or older per year, **\$35** for youth.

\* You are allowed to mix and match events from either division or state, just be aware that points received in crossing over states or divisions will only help with points to qualify for the regional event. Doing this without fishing all events in a given division will not allow enough points to win that division or come into the top 1-5 boats to possibly get a FREE regional event paid for.

**\* The 2-Day Regional Championship for 2026 is back in NY. You needed to qualify in 2025 and also be a member in good standing in 2026 to fish the 2026 RC. New 2026 members can also be invited by paying or fishing for 3 NEBASSIN big boat events before the regional date above.**

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\* Please check our website at [www.nebassin.com](http://www.nebassin.com) for the most updated and recent dates that you wish to fish for the 2026 NE BASSIN season. Paying for events is on a 1st come 1st serve basis. **Please write down the state, the date(s) with names of the body of water that you wish to fish for the director of each state to reserve your spot.**

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How many memberships: Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Lunker Included? \_\_\_\_\_ (yes or no)

Total Amount of tournaments that you are paying for: \_\_\_\_\_

Boater name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*FREE NEBASSIN T-shirt with paid membership before Feb. 22nd 2026. Size: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**- SEND YOUR FORMS & FEES TO THE CORRECT DIRECTOR(S) BELOW-**

**\* CT Divisions (West & Central): Make checks payable to NE Bassin & Mail to:**

Jamie Verab • 10 Buckley Lane • Prospect, CT 06712

**\* CT NO LIVE FFS Division: Make checks payable to Paul Rescigno & Mail to:**

Paul Rescigno • 55 Glenmoor Drive • East Haven, CT 06512

**\* MA Central Division: Make checks payable to Thomas Leblanc**

**& Mail to:** Thomas Leblanc • 134 King Street • Fitchburg, MA 01420

**\* RI Division: Make checks payable to Chris Tacelli & Mail to:**

Chris Tacelli • 6 Sunset Drive • Smithfield, RI 02917