

Bay Area Bass Busters (BABB)– Code of Conduct

BABB is an organization dedicated to fostering friendships and building relationships through the sport of Bass Fishing. We take pride in continuously advancing our skills as anglers and as individuals, while working to further the sport of Bass Fishing in our communities. Our members serve the club on a volunteer basis driven by our shared passion for the sport rather than monetary compensation. In order to maintain a positive and respectful atmosphere at **BABB** meetings, tournaments, and other club-sanctioned events, we strongly uphold a code of conduct.

Members participating in any **BABB**-sanctioned event are expected to observe this Code of Conduct as well as the specific rules for each event. Members shall conduct themselves professionally at all times, demonstrating integrity, honor, and respect toward fellow members, tournament staff, volunteers, and the general public. Conduct that reflects unfavorably on **BABB**, its members, officers, representatives, tournaments, or sponsors will not be tolerated.

Members competing in tournaments are frequently in the public eye and are considered role models by young people; therefore, it is imperative that members demonstrate good sportsmanship in fishing. Sportsmanship is defined as fair play, respect for opponents and polite behavior while competing in the sport. Members are also expected to conduct themselves with integrity, honor and respect towards guests, fellow members and club officials at club meetings and other events.

(i.) Following are examples of unacceptable behavior by members in **BABB** events that may be considered grounds for disqualification from competition and for rejecting any application for membership.

- Public comments or actions by an angler that could harm the reputation of **BABB**, its officials, or sponsors are prohibited. Displays of anger or displeasure related to fishing competitions are discouraged, especially when in the presence of the public, other anglers, spectators, and/or using social media
- Publicly questioning or criticizing a tournament official or official decision, ruling or penalty except through the proper channels.
- Offensive or slanderous comments with racial, cultural or sexual overtones regarding event officials, event personnel or fellow members.
- Intentionally interfering with a fellow angler's ability to compete.

(ii.) Chemical substance addiction or abuse, conviction of a felony or crimes involving moral turpitude, may be grounds for disqualification from competition and for rejecting any application for membership.

Any member who violates any of the provisions of the Angler Code of Conduct may be subject to reduction of points, forfeiture of tournament winnings, and/or disqualification from **BABB** sanctioned events as deemed appropriate by the **BABB** Board following a hearing. For particularly egregious offenses, the Board may recommend permanent ban from competition or forfeiture of membership. Permanent ban and/or forfeiture of membership will be passed by three-fourths affirmative vote by club members at the next general meeting of the club.

CORE VALUES

History - The future of our club is built on the past, that exists primarily due to the experiences and friendships that have developed as a direct result of fishing and meeting together.

Knowledge – By sharing life and fishing experience we help to improve each other and provide a system of support.

Friendship – We share our experience and create goodwill by belonging.

Competition – It makes us better

Fish Care & Conservation - Commit to “Best Practice” fish management and habitat protection.