



Dear 2023 Anglers,

Thank you for your interest in the Squam Lakes Association's Ninth Annual Squam Canoe Classic: Bass Fishing Tournament on Big Squam! This is a motorless event, open to any vessel that's completely human powered, with the exception of the Adaptive Angler category. The Squam Lakes Association has partnered with Eastern Adaptive Sports to provide a quiet water fishing experience, allowing adaptive anglers the opportunity to fully participate in this event. All registrations for the Adaptive Angler category will be handled through Eastern Adaptive Sports (EAS) and participants must fish on an EAS vessel.

This is your information packet which includes tournament rules, a sticker gunnel ruler, log sheet and several lead-free jigs to try out. All rules are explained, any questions or special needs a participant might have can be addressed by emailing bass@squamlakes.org. *Please note that if you pick up your packet in advance you DO NOT have to come to the SLA on the day of the tournament.* If for some reason you have not registered online please do so as this must be done prior to tournament day.

This year's Squam Canoe Classic is a three part tournament series and you are welcome to register for more than one tournament date.

Tournament 1: June 24, 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Tournament 2: July 15, 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Tournament 3: August 12, 8:00 AM- 1:00 PM

You can register by visiting: <https://squamlakes.org/calendar> and clicking on the date of the tournament that you'd like to participate in

This is a catch and release tournament. All fish must be measured and immediately released. A photo of the catch against a ruler (one sticker gunnel ruler provided per entrant) and a complete data sheet must be submitted via email to bass@squamlakes.org by 1:00pm on the tournament day so be sure to plan for this. Entries submitted after 1:00pm will be disqualified.

This year there will be no in person check-in but we are bringing back the **BBQ that starts at Noon**. There is no need to come to the SLA on tournament day unless you are launching your boat there or want to join us for the BBQ. Winners will be announced just after 1pm.

Thank you for participating in our Ninth Annual Squam Canoe Classic Bass Series celebrating fishing, quiet nature, sportsmanship and family fun. Good Luck!

Squam Canoe Classic 2023 Rules and Regulations

Before Registration: As a reminder, this tournament requires that each angler must use *Lead Free Tackle*, as required by law. Please join your fellow anglers to make the switch to non-lead tackle today and help protect New Hampshire's lakes and wildlife!

Please familiarize yourself with the current NH Fish and Game state regulation:

New Hampshire State Law prohibits the sale and freshwater use of lead fishing sinkers and lead jigs weighing one ounce or less in New Hampshire.

A "lead jig" means a weighted hook that weighs one ounce or less and is prohibited regardless of whether it is painted, coated, or covered by some other substance or by attached skirts.

Registration: There is no registration fee for the Squam Canoe Classic but be sure to register early because the tournament will be capped at 20 boats. If you will have more than one person in your boat please include their registration information at time of registration. All registrants must register online and pick up an information packet before the start of the tournament or they will not qualify.

Watercraft: All boats must be human powered. This includes canoes, kayaks, paddle boards, float tubes and rafts. This is a 20 boat max tournament, sign up today to claim your spot!

Catch and Release: This is a catch and release tournament. **All fish must be measured and immediately released.** A photo of the catch against a ruler (one sticker gunnell ruler provided per entrant) and a completed log sheet (or legible photo of log) must be submitted via email at bass@squamlakes.org no later than 1:00pm on tournament day. Provide yourself with time at the end of the day to submit your entry.

Fishing Tackle: Only lead-free artificial lures, including flies shall be used. Live bait is not permitted. All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner and in accordance with the rules and regulations of the State of New Hampshire. Please see following page for more detailed information.

Tournament Start / Finish Times and locations: Fishing should only occur on Big Squam for this tournament regardless of launch site. Anglers may launch from any legal location; the Squam Lakes Association, Dog Cove, and the public boat launch or from any private launch spot on Big Squam if participant secures permission from landowner. The check-in point is at the Squam Lakes Association Resource Center though there is no physical check-in. You are considered checked in once you register online & pick up this information packet. All entries (photo of fish against ruler and data sheet) must be submitted via email to bass@squamlakes.org by 1:00pm the day of the tournament.

Important! All fish caught as part of this tournament must be documented on your data sheet, which must be submitted to the SLA for permit reporting purposes. A photo of your largest bass to be entered into the contest (no more than two submissions per angler per tournament) and the data sheet **must be received by the SLA by email at bass@squamlakes.org no later than 1:00pm**. Late arrivals/submissions will not be accepted.

Additional Rules and Regulations

Fishing competitively for black bass in New Hampshire has intensified substantially over the last decade. With this in mind, it has become increasingly important for bass tournament sponsors and participants to abide by the following rules, in an effort to minimize potential conflicts with other user groups and to maximize the survival of bass that are caught and subsequently released during the event.

- All NH fishing regulations apply. Anglers 16 and older must hold a valid NH fishing license.
- This tournament is permitted for catch and **immediate release** of all fish.
- Only black bass (large and smallmouth) are eligible for entry in the tournament.
- Show consideration at all times at the launch ramp by alternating the launching and retrieving of boats with other boaters, allowing equal access to the ramp. Show consideration at all times on the water. Respect other lake users' space and activities.
- Keep a 150' distance from loons.
- Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times by all tournament participants. Each participant is required to have a Coast Guard approved life preserver and all safety equipment required by the State of New Hampshire boating laws on board.
- Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially in regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of property owners or non-competitors who may be on the tournament waters. Any act of a participant that reflects unfavorably on the Squam Lakes Association and its efforts to promote fisheries, conservation, clean waters and courtesy, shall be reason for immediate disqualification.
- Due to the negative impacts that exotic invasive plants and animals can have on NH's aquatic communities, it is imperative that all anglers check their boats and trailers for aquatic invasive species prior to launching and when leaving a waterbody.
- No alcohol permitted at the tournament sites – before, during, or after – any tournament. You will be disqualified from that tournament and banned from participating in any future Squam Lakes Association tournaments.



FORM

BASS TOURNAMENT RECORD

Complete and return via email by 1pm. Include photo against measure sticker.

CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS:			
FISHING LOCATION:			
TOURNAMENT DATE:			
FISHING TIME:	START:	END:	
Length Bass 1		Length Bass 2	
Largemouth/Smallmouth		Largemouth/Smallmouth	
TOTAL NUMBER OF LARGEMOUTH RELEASED ALIVE:		TOTAL NUMBER OF SMALLMOUTH RELEASED ALIVE:	
Other Fish Number Caught		Other Fish Species	
COMMENTS: Please use the comments section to give us any other relevant information, ie: weather, conditions, etc			