

2016 Xtreme College Series Rules

- 1. INTERPRETATION & ENFORCEMENT:** These rules will remain unchanged during 2016. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament director. Decisions of the tournament director are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal. It is each contestant's responsibility to read all items before entering. Xtreme Bass Series rules will apply in all events unless superseded by federal, state or local laws. Xtreme Bass Series reserves the right to refuse any membership or tournament entry fees or entry forms for any reason. XBS officials and directors decisions will be final in all matters. Each contestant agrees to report any rule violation to the tournament director immediately upon discovery of the violation. Failure to report violations may be cause for disqualification. The violation of a tournament rule may result in, but is not limited to, weight loss, the loss of weight up to a particular time in the tournament day, the loss of weight for the entire day, the loss of the heaviest one-day catch, the loss of the heaviest bass for the day, disqualification from the entire tournament or ineligibility to participate in future Xtreme Fishing tournaments.
- 2. MEMBERSHIP:** The nonrefundable membership fee is \$35 per person per year. Only paid members may participate in Xtreme Bass Series tournaments. Anyone fishing with a non-current membership will be disqualified. No points or credit for tournament will be awarded for non-current members.
- 3. ELIGIBILITY AND FLORIDA STATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION:** Participation is open to students who are registered, full-time undergraduate or graduate students at a Florida four-year college or university or registered, full-time undergraduate students at a community college on the date of the tournament they are fishing or the preceding semester in the case of tournaments held during the summer session. Classes must be in session at the time of the tournament for new freshman to be considered full-time undergraduate students. Students enrolled in online-only universities are not eligible. Contestants must be members of the Xtreme Bass Series and members of a college fishing club. Any person age 17 or under must be a team partner with a person age 18 or older. Persons under 18 must have the signature of his/her parent or legal guardian on the tournament entry form. Contestants must fish as a team. Fishing a tournament alone is not permitted. Contestants must have in their possession a current student identification card from the college or university they are representing and a valid fishing license for the waters they fish. Random checks may be conducted at each tournament. Failure to provide proof of a current college ID card and/or valid fishing license within a reasonable amount of time when requested by the tournament director will result in disqualification for that day and any preceding days in which the license was required for the tournament. Contestants are required to follow all applicable federal, state and local regulations and laws. Any violation of such regulations and laws may result in disqualification from the tournament. . Any angler that pays \$2500.00 or more on any one entry fee more than twice a year is not eligible to fish in the Xtreme Bass Series. Xtreme Bass Series is aligned with the Florida State Team Championship. The Top 4 teams in Team of the Year points will qualify for the 2017 Florida State Team Championship. Holdover money from each event will be used to help cover entry fees and other costs associated with competing in the 2017 FSTC. In the event that the amount of holdover money does not equal the cost of entry fees, the Team of the Year will have entry fees paid for in full and the remaining qualified teams will be required to pay the difference, less the amount of holdover money.

4. **PARTNER SUBSTITUTION:** A team may only have one alternate as needed, but all alternates must pay a membership fee. All points credits shall remain with the team captain for the entire season.
5. **TEAM ENTRY:** Registration for the 2016 Xtreme College Series season is open to members of the Xtreme Bass Series who are registered, full-time undergraduate or graduate students at a Florida four-year college or university or registered, full-time undergraduate students at a community college who are also members of a college fishing club as outlined in paragraph 3. Entry fees are \$120.00 per team, per event. \$10.00 of entry goes towards the Big Bass pot. \$10.00 goes towards FSTC holdover. Remaining 80% of entries to be paid back at each event. Entries will be taken at the ramp the morning of the tournament in the form of CASH. Checks will not be accepted at the ramp, ONLY CASH. Teams who wish to pre-register may do so by mailing entry along with check or money order. Mail-in entries must be received 10 days prior to the tournament date. Submit check/money order to: Xtreme Bass Series, attn: Xtreme College Series P.O. Box 2204, Land O'Lakes, FL 34639. Check or money order must be received 10 DAYS PRIOR TO TOURNAMENT DATE. Published payouts for each tournament are based on 30 team entries per event. Payouts will be adjusted accordingly based on number of registered teams. FSTC entry fee is \$250.00 per team.

6. 2016 Xtreme College Series Payout

Place	Prize
1	\$1080.00
2	\$600.00
3	\$400.00
4	\$200.00
5	\$120.00
BB	\$300.00

*Based on a field of 30 teams. Payouts will be adjusted accordingly based on number of registered teams.

8. **INSURANCE:** All boats used in Xtreme Bass Series tournaments must have a mandatory minimum of \$100,000.00 liability insurance. This is the user/owners responsibility.
9. **SAFETY:** Safe boating must be observed at all times. Each contestant is required to wear a fastened U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is running and in gear from boat check until weigh-in each day of the tournament. All boats must be equipped with an emergency ignition-shutoff device that must be securely attached to the driver's body whenever the combustion engine is running. All persons must be seated and a driver must be behind the steering wheel in full control of the boat whenever it is on plane. At the discretion of the tournament director, tournament days may be shortened, postponed or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions.

Competitors may leave their boat and seek shelter in bad weather or when danger is eminent. They must, however, stay within sight of each other.

10. **BOAT AND HORSEPOWER REGULATIONS:** Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. All boats must contain a properly aerated live well space to maintain a live limit catch of bass. All boats must have an operating kill switch that must be attached to the operator at all times when the outboard motor is running and in gear. Violation of any of the above rules may be cause for disqualification. If running lights are not working you may be held at take off. XBS officials or directors reserve the right to refuse entry to any boats that does not meet tournament standards. No airboats, canoes, or pontoon boats are permitted.
11. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** All contestants are required to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and to conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, to XBS, XBS's sponsors, the sport of fishing and XBS's efforts to promote the sport. Conduct not complying with these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- Violation of, or failure to comply with, any of the rules for the 2016 Xtreme College Series.
 - Consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or any kind of mind-altering substance during registration or tournament hours extending through the weigh-in procedure.
 - Abuse of, or addiction to, mind-altering substances.
 - Suspension/disqualification, probation or ban from any tournament or fishing organization.
 - Any other words, conduct or actions reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with tournament rules, or which fail to comply with the standards set forth in the first sentence of paragraph 11.

In case of any conduct not complying with the standards outlined above, Xtreme Fishing shall have the right to refuse an application to compete, to deny a confirmed application to compete by returning the entry fee (minus deposit), to disqualify a contestant or impose any penalty outlined in paragraph 1.

12. **CELL PHONES AND RADIOS:** The use of mobile communication devices, including but not limited to, cell phones, marine radios, walkie-talkies, CBs, etc., during tournament hours is strictly prohibited except in an emergency, severe weather, breakdowns or to communicate with lockmasters about locking, to communicate with the tournament director or to communicate with Xtreme Fishing Series officials. If boat installed electronics fail, teams may use cell phone GPS and mapping apps with approval from the tournament director.
13. **PERMITTED FISHING METHODS:** Fishing is defined as having a lure attached to a line and a rod and reel with the rod in hand. All bass must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. All lures must adhere to state regulations. Only artificial lures may be used, with the exception of pork trailers and biodegradable soft baits. State regulations prevail in the use of Alabama rigs and similar umbrella-type rigs. Only ONE fishing rod may be used at a time. You may not fish on or from any structure above the deck. All fishing must be done from boat deck. No wading or trolling is allowed. All fish must be caught from the boat. All traditional rods & reels are allowed including fly rods and flipping poles. Trolling as a method

of fishing is strictly prohibited. Trolling is defined as operating the combustion engine/trolling motor to extend a cast or lengthen a retrieve. No rod may be left unattended with line or lure in water. All bass caught while sight-fishing must be hooked inside the mouth.

14. **PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat except areas posted or otherwise designated as “off-limits,” “no boats,” “keep out,” “restricted,” “no trespassing” or “no fishing” (or similar language or markings intended to restrict public access) by Xtreme Fishing, commercial property owners and/or local, state or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a contestant’s boat that was first anchored. An anchored boat is a boat held in a stable position by a line attached to a weight or by a Power-Pole, Talon or similar shallow water anchor with the trolling motor in the up position. All fishing must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. The cutting of trees, bushes and/or logs after morning boat check and/or the removal of official local, state or federal barricades at any time to make an area more accessible by boat is strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification from the tournament. The use of cables, ropes, chains or any type of block and tackle system to maneuver a boat into fishing waters is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification from the tournament. Contestants must leave and return to the check-in by boat. The boat must remain in the tournament waters during the tournament day. No tournament boat may be loaded on a trailer before the weigh-in except with the permission of the tournament director. In the event of equipment failure or emergency the tournament director must be notified as soon as it is safe to do so.
15. **TOURNAMENT HOURS:** Safe light until 3:00pm, this may be adjusted by tournament director. Each team will be assigned a boat number at sign-up the morning of each tournament based on order of registration. At check-in, all teams must return their boat chip prior to their designated return time.
16. **CHECKPOINTS AND LATE PENALTY:** There will be only one checkpoint for boat check in the morning and one check-in point in the afternoon. Failure to go through boat check and checkout in the morning or failure to check in at the check-in point will result in disqualification. All fishing must cease upon check-in. Any team checking in after his announced check-in time will be disqualified.
17. **LIVE FISH AND FISH LIMITS:** All contestants must use care in handling and keeping fish alive for release after weigh-in. All fish will be brought to the weigh master in weigh bags with enough water to keep the fish covered until weigh-in. A tournament limit will be (5) fish per team. We will be pulling size permits for all events and there will be no minimum size limit. No culling of dead fish. No culling at ramp or in host marina. No retaining bass in live well and not weighing those fish, this is the same as culling at the ramp. Dead fish penalty will be .50 pounds per dead fish. Teams must not have more than (5) fish in the live well at any time. All teams are required to use weigh bags distributed out by Xtreme Fishing. Teams are not permitted to use their own weigh bags.
18. **SCORING SYSTEM:** Each team’s weight will be measured in pounds and hundredths of ounces. The highest weight will be 1st Place and receive 100 Points for the event. Each descending weight will receive (1) point less than the previous weight. All teams that do not weigh fish will receive (5) points less than the last team that weighs fish. If a team is

disqualified for any reason they will receive (0) points for that tournament, BUT WILL RECEIVE CREDIT FOR FISHING THE TOURNAMENT.

19. **TIES:** In the event of a tie, it will be broken first by total number of fish for the tournament, then by total number of live fish for the tournament, then winnings will be split evenly amongst the teams.

20. **PROTEST AND POLYGRAPH:** Xtreme Bass Series members may submit a protest during the tournament morning prior to launch or immediately following the weigh-in of the last team's catch, but before the start of the awards presentation. Protests shall be in writing and accompanied by a \$100.00 deposit. The burden of proof of a rules infraction will be the responsibility of the angler filling the protest. This deposit will be refunded providing the protest be upheld, otherwise, the deposit shall be forfeited to Xtreme Bass Series. Any member may be required to submit to a Polygraph or truth verification test. Failure to submit to either of these tests will result in disqualification from this tournament and will not be eligible to fish in any future Xtreme Bass Series tournaments. Any angler making an accusation against another contestant without submitting a written protest accompanied by a \$100.00 deposit may be subject to disqualification from current and future Xtreme Bass Series events.