



Blue Fish Sustainable Bass Fishing Tournament Conservation Tips

- 1.** Keep boat livewells clean and free of mold. Ensure pumps and aeration systems are operational.
- 2.** Avoid fishing bass at depths below 25-feet. Make sure you have the training and tools required to fish Bass showing signs of Barotrauma.
- 3.** Use knot-free rubber nets to prevent scale and fin damage. Hold bass away from clothing and boat decks to protect fish slime.
- 4.** Use pliers to quickly remove fish hooks. Cut off deeply set hooks to minimize injury instead of attempting their removal.
- 5.** Use non-puncturing weighing and culling technologies. Release culled Bass below gunnel height to avoid stressing or stunning bass.
- 6.** Maintain constant livewell temperatures by adding just enough non-chlorinated ice to ensure stable water temperature. Avoid replacing livewell water when transiting warm shallow bays.
- 7.** Keep bass in livewells until invited by tournament officials to approach the weigh-in station. Keep bass in weigh-in bags for no longer than 2 minutes.
- 8.** Dispose used soft plastic baits, fishing line, and lead weights and jigs responsibly.
- 9.** Empty and clean boat livewells, bilges and boat trailers before departing the launch to prevent transporting invasive species.
- 10.** Report tagged fish, unethical behaviour and water quality issues to relevant authorities.