22nd Annual

USA BASSIN

CLASSIC

KENTUCKY LAKE

APRIL 30th THRU MAY 2nd

KENTUCKY LAKE
THE SOUTH'S GREAT LAKE

EVENT SCHEDULE

APRIL 30TH
- REGISTRATION: 4:00 PM
- PRE TOURNAMENT MEETING: 5:00 PM

MAY 1ST
- LAUNCH: 6:00 AM
- WEIGH-IN: 2:00 PM

MAY: 2ND
- LAUNCH: 6:00 AM
- WEIGH-IN: 2:00 PM

Entry $200.00

2025 USA Bassin Classic Champions
Levi Kohl & Grant Meisenhelter

MERCURY Pro Team · Strike King · Lew's · Millertech Performance Lithium Batteries · Jackson Kayak · DEX · Rick Step.com · Seaguar · amphibia · Connect-Ease · Team C&O Marine · Brownie's Marine · Orion Coolers

www.usabassin.com

Meeting & Awards Location: Marina Dr, Gilbertsville, KY 42044

Angler 1: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State:_____
Phone:_____
Email: _____

Angler 2: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State:_____
Phone:_____
Email: _____ Youth Angler DOB: _____

Boat Manufacturer: _____ Model:_____ Engine Manufacture: _____ Engine Size: _____

Subscribe To USA Bassin News Letter ☐ USA Bassin Member Number (Not Required To Fish Open Tournament): _____

Liability Release: In consideration of membership in U.S.A. BASSIN Tournament Fishing Circuit (" USA BASSIN") as well as being granted permission to participate in the fishing tournaments and other events held or sponsored by USA BASSIN (the "Events"), THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY RELEASES, DISCHARGES, WAIVES AND RELINQUISHES ANY AND ALL ACTIONS OR CAUSES OF ACTION INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERT DAMAGE, OR WRONGFUL DEATH OCCURRING TO HIM/HERSELF ARISING OUT OF, RELATED TO , OR CONNECTED WITH IN ANY MANNER ENTRY OR PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENTS, wherever or however the same may occur and for whatever period said activities may continue, and the undersigned agrees that under no circumstances will he/she or his/her heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns prosecute or present any claim for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death against USA. BASSIN, LLC, USA BASSIN: The Next Generation, Inc. or any of their principals, officers, directors, employees, or agents ("Released Persons") for any of said causes of actions, whether the same shall arise by the negligence of any of said persons, or otherwise. The undersigned further and separately agrees to indemnify, save, and hold harmless Released Persons from any loss, liability, damage, or cost, including but not limited to court costs and attorney's fees, that they may incur, in connection with participation in Events, whether caused by the negligence of Released Persons or otherwise. This release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the applicable law. The undersigned further states that he/she has carefully read the foregoing, knows the contents thereof, and has signed this release as his/her own free act. Any member agrees, by his or her signature on this agreement, to a polygraph or voice stress analysis examination, commonly referred to as a truth verification test, and to abide by its conclusion. Truth verifications test(s) will be used at USA BASSIN'S sole discretion and administered by it or its agents. Refusal to take or failure to pass the examination as determined by USA BASSIN will result in disqualification, at the sole discretion of USA BASSIN. The undersigned HEREBY WAIVES TRIAL BY JURY in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by or against the undersigned regarding any matter whatsoever in connection with the tournament. Verification of liability insurance: I, the undersigned, further state that I am a current member of USA BASSIN and that I maintain liability insurance on the boat I will use in any USA BASSIN Tournament Fishing event. Attorney's Fees: Only USA BASSIN and Released Persons are entitled to recover their attorney's fees. The undersigned is not entitled to recover attorney's fees regardless of the outcome of any litigation or settlement. The laws of the State of Indiana, excluding only its choice of law provisions, shall govern the validity, enforcement, and interpretation of this Contract. Any dispute or cause of action under this Contract shall exclusively be filed and resolved in a state court located in Lawrence County, Indiana and the undersigned irrevocably agrees to submit to personal and subject matter jurisdiction in the same. I signify by my signature that I have read and understand the above agreement and all USA BASSIN Rules

Angler 1 Signature: _____ Angler 2 Signature: _____

1. Membership: USA Bassin Membership fee shall be $30.00 per person. All members under the age of 19 before August 31 of the current year shall be considered a "Youth" and receive a free membership. A current USA BASSIN membership shall provide members the privilege to compete in all USA Bassin tournaments. Anglers currently competing in BASS Bassmaster Elite Series and the Major League Fishing (MLF) Bass Pro Tour shall not be eligible to participate in any current or the immediate-year-following USA BASSIN Tournament season. The USA Bassin tournament directors USA Bassin officials are permitted to compete in USA BASSIN events. The USA Bassin season shall be from September 1 through August 31 of the following calendar year. USA BASSIN reserves the right to refuse membership or entry into any USA BASSIN event.

2. Tournament Entry Fees: Entry fees will vary by specific event. Refer to tournament information for specific entry fees. Ten (10) dollars of each entry will go to the tournament's Big Bass pot. Some tournament locations may require a lake usage fee or sales tax. Directors reserve the right to alter tournament entry fees on an event-by-event basis.

3. Scoring: Five Tournament format: Scoring 1st place –100 points; 2nd place-99 points 3rd place –98 points, etc. Teams not weighing fish shall receive fifty points. Ten Tournament format: Scoring 1st place –50 points; 2nd place-49 points 3rd place –48 points, etc. Teams not weighing fish shall receive twenty-five points. Divisional Champions shall be determined by the team with the highest final total points in the specific division. Should a team split, all points will remain with Team Member 1. Teams shall accumulate points by competing in USA BASSIN tournaments. Team points earned will be automatically added to the standings of that division you fished as well as the National Points Standings located at usabassin.com.

4. USA BASSIN Teams: Teams shall consist of two anglers. Members may fish alone and be considered a team. All teams that finish the season with 250 points or more in the National Point Standings shall be eligible to compete in a USA BASSIN Regional Tournament of their choice. Teams may compete in more than one Regional Tournament. Members competing in more than one division who may be qualified for any USA BASSIN Regional Tournament using different partners may choose which partner they wish to compete in Regional Tournaments. The remaining partner may fish a USA BASSIN Regional Tournament alone, or may fish in another Regional(s) using that partner.

5. The Next Generation Teams: Next Generation Teams may consist of either an adult and a youth or two youths. One team member must be at least 16 years of age. All Next Generation teams that finish the season with 150 points or more in the National Point Standings shall be eligible to compete in the Next Generation Classic event. Teams that finish the Season with 250 points or more shall be eligible to fish both the Next Generation Classic and Regional event(s) of their choice.

6. The Co-Ed Teams: Co-Ed teams shall consist of one male and one female member. All Co-Ed teams which finish the season with 150 points or more in the National Point Standings shall be eligible to fish in the Co-Ed Classic event. Co-Ed teams who finish the season with 250 points or more shall be eligible to fish Regional event(s) of their choice.

7. Substitutions: Any current USA BASSIN member or a family member may serve as a substitute in a divisional tournament and team points will be retained. A family member is classified as grandparents, parent, spouse, sibling, child, grandchild, or in-laws of the same. A team may use a substitute only TWO times during a specific division's season. Members may fish any division solo or declare a partner prior to the start of the third tournament within a specific division. An adult may not fish alone in a Next Generation Division and be considered a team. Teams may substitute only with another youth when fishing Next Generation events. Co-Ed Teams may only substitute with the same sex as the member that is absent when fishing a Co-Ed event. Members may not fish a Co-Ed event alone. Regional and Classic Tournaments: Members may only compete in Regional and Classic tournaments with their declared partner(s). If your declared partner cannot fish a Regional or Classic event, members may compete alone. Two members of the same team may not compete in the same Regional or Classic under the same membership number. Teams shall not compete alone in a Next Generation or Co-Ed Classic.

8. The USA BASSIN Tournament of Champions: The USA BASSIN Tournament of Champions will be conducted during the USA BASSIN Classic Week. The top 10 teams in this event will receive a cash payback. There are six (6) ways to qualify for this event: **1.** Be the Divisional Champion of any USA BASSIN Division, **2.** Catch the Biggest Bass in your Division, **3.** Finish the season in the top 200 in the National Points, **4.** Finish in the top 3 at a Regional event, **5.** Catch the Biggest Bass in a Regional Event, **6.** Finish in the Top 3 or weigh the largest bass at a USA BASSIN Open event. This option will only be available to current USA Bassin teams competing in the Open.

9. Ties: Ties for USA BASSIN TEAM TRAIL Divisional Champions will be broken by the team that has the heaviest total weight for the season. Ties for USA BASSIN TEAM TRAIL Regional & National Champions, Regional & National Points Champions and all place finishes will be broken by Big Bass.

10. Short Fish Penalties: All fish presented at weigh-in shall be legal size as determined by state regulations for that body of water. Short fish will be culled from a team's catch as well as the largest remaining bass. A courtesy measuring board will be available.

11. Trolling: Only ONE fishing rod may be used at a time. Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. Trolling is defined as operating the combustion engine(s) to extend a cast or lengthen a retrieve. Only artificial lures can be used in all USA BASSIN tournaments. The use of pork trailers is permitted.

Mail Membership form to Tournament Director
Contact USA BASSIN at usabassinfishing@gmail.com for details on becoming a director!!
All Federal, State, and Local laws, rules, markings, orders, and warnings must be followed. Violation of any laws may be cause for disqualification.

12. Boat and Motor: Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment. Each boat must have a clearly legible "Maximum Capacities" (or comparably titled) placard that includes a maximum horsepower rating affixed to the boat by the manufacturer. All boats must contain a properly aerated livewell space to maintain alive a limit catch of bass. Falsifying information on any entry form and/or altering the horsepower numbers on the motor or rating placard shall be cause for disqualification from the tournament and may result in ineligibility to compete in future USA Bassin tournaments.

13. Dead Fish Penalty: Bass shall be kept alive by use of a properly aerated livewell. Eight ounces will be deducted from the total weight for each dead bass presented for weigh-in. Dead fish will not be weighed as big fish. Fish appearing altered/mangled shall not be weighed. A five-bass limit format will be used at tournaments. Exceptions shall be made in accordance with specific guidelines of the fishery. Teams bringing more than five bass to weigh-in will have their catch culled to five bass starting with their biggest bass. All culling will occur on the water and teams may not possess more than five bass without culling.

14. Late to weigh-in: There will be a one (1) pound per minute penalty for every minute late to check-in. After fifteen (15) minutes, teams shall be disqualified. Check in requirements may differ at events. Contact the tournament director for specific guidelines.

15. Registration: Registration at the tournament site shall begin no later than one and one-half hour before the start of the tournament. All teams are required to be at the ramp thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Registration will close thirty minutes before the start of the tournament. Paying entries fees after the tournament registration time will be accepted only at the director's discretion. Tournament directors will only accept cash at registration (NO CHECKS). All teams may pre-register by mail for a tournament. If pre-registering, entry forms must be post marked at least ten (10) days prior to the tournament. Entry fee(s) may be refunded or rolled over to the next tournament if the director is contacted before the start of the tournament. Failure to contact the tournament director will result in a forfeit of entry fee. Direct all entries to the tournament director of the event desired to fish. Tournament takeoff positions will be determined by when the tournament director receives your entry or by a drawing at registration (please contact the director for take-off procedures). Pre-tournament meetings shall be conducted thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of each tournament. Divisions that have a limited number of entrants based upon government regulations shall accept entries on a first come-first served basis.

16. Weigh-in procedures: All contestants will be instructed at the pre-tournament meeting on weigh-in procedures. Each team shall present their catch to the tournament official(s). Once presented, no other person shall handle the fish except tournament officials. No person other than a tournament official may manipulate the scales; weigh-in basket, or weigh-in equipment.

17. Livewell Inspection: Prior to the start of a tournament, the Tournament Director or their designee shall physically inspect all livewells.

18. Sportsmanship: All contestants are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and conservation and shall conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, USA Bassin, and USA Bassin Sponsors. The following shall be cause for immediate disqualification with no appeal available: 1. Drunkenness, 2. Use of illegal substances, 3. Physical or verbal abuse of USA BASSIN officials and other members, 4. Possession of alcohol or illegal substances in the boat or on your person during hours of the tournament to include weigh-in procedures, 5. Boat operation in an unsafe or unsportsmanlike manner. At the discretion of tournament official(s), tournament days may be shortened, postponed, or canceled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. Safe boating shall be observed. Each contestant shall be required to wear a fastened U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device anytime the combustion engine is running from launching until weigh-in on the day of the tournament.

20. Off-Limits: Tournament director shall announce any off-limits areas at the pre-tournament meeting. Teams fishing in the off-limits areas shall be disqualified from that tournament. Contestants may fish anywhere on tournament waters available to the public and accessible by boat except areas posted or otherwise designated as "No boats," "Restricted," "No trespassing" or "No fishing" by local, state, or federal officials, or within 50 yards of a contestant's boat that was first anchored. may not fish closer than 50 yards to another competitor who is anchored with the trolling motor up unless given permission. If permission is given to one, then all may fish in the same water. "Hole-sitting' by a non-competitor shall be cause for disqualification. All U.S.A. BASSIN Divisional, Regional & Classic Tournament locations will NOT be closed to pre-fishing unless otherwise noted.

21. Leaving Your Boat: All competitors shall remain in the boat during a tournament. Exceptions shall be 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 shall attempt to contact the director prior to departing. In the case of boat trouble, one member shall remain with the disabled boat. The remaining member may board a competitor's boat with that day's catch and bring fish to weigh-in. The tournament director shall be contacted prior to doing so.

22. Cheating: Anyone determined to have cheated in an event will be immediately banned from fishing in any future USA BASSIN events. USA Bassin reserves the right to require truth verification test(s) be performed at any time. Cellular devices shall not be used to gain a competitive advantage. All protests must be submitted in writing to the Classic director prior to the close of weigh-in. Verbal protest will not be accepted. 23. Insurance: All members shall carry liability insurance on any watercraft used during competition in USA BASSIN Tournaments. Failure to do so or providing false information shall result in immediate disqualification.

24. Tournament Rules: These rules shall remain unchanged during the current season. Rules and regulations for specific tournaments are subject to change at any time prior to the start of that tournament. For the most up-to-date version of the rules, go to usabassin.com and/or contact the tournament director.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

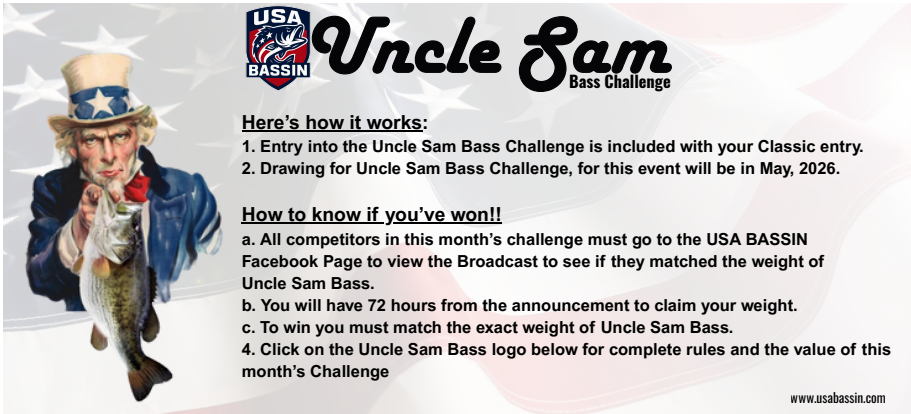
Day #1 Launch Order

- Boats 1-25 - 6:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Boats 26-50 - 6:15 am to 2:15 pm
- Boats 51-75 - 6:30 am to 2:30 pm
- Boats 76-100 - 6:45 am to 2:45 pm
- Boats 101-125 - 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Boats 126-150 - 7:15 am to 3:15 pm
- Boats 151-175 - 7:30 am to 3:30 pm
- Boats 176-200 - 7:45 am to 3:45 pm
- Boats 201-225 - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Boats 226-250 - 8:15 am to 4:15 pm

Day #2 Launch Order

- Boats 226-250 - 6:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Boats 201-225 - 6:15 am to 2:15 pm
- Boats 76-200 - 6:30 am to 2:30 pm
- Boats 151-175 - 6:45 am to 2:45 pm
- Boats 126-150 - 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Boats 101-125 - 7:15 am to 3:15 pm
- Boats 75-100 - 7:30 am to 3:30 pm
- Boats 51-75 - 7:45 am to 3:45 pm
- Boats 26-50 - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Boats 1-25 - 8:15 am to 4:15 pm

- The Tournament will start at 6:00am (Central Time) each morning.
- Day 1 Take Off will start with boat number #1 and continue until all boats have been released.
- Day 2 Take Off will be by reverse order.
- Boat numbers will be given out based on when we receive your entry.



Tournament Directors

Tim Mills
Phone: 270-889-1187
Email: tmills2306@aol.com

Scott Gaither
Phone: 812-797-3521
Email: scottgaither@yahoo.com

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Qualification:

- All teams that participated in a Regional event for the 2025 season are eligible to compete in the Silver Cup.
- Teams finishing in the top 30% at a regional may choose between the Silver Cup or the USA Bassin Classic.
- A team is not permitted to enter both the Silver cup and Classic events. However, teams may participate in the Tournament of Champions alongside a Classic Event if qualified.
- Licensed guides currently working on Kentucky Lake are not eligible for the championship week events.
- Starting in 2020, any team winning this event more than three times will be disqualified from participating in the Championship events.

Dates:

- The lake will remain open for pre-fishing (there will be no closures).
- Official Practice begins on April 15th, 2026, and continues through the end of Championship Week.
- During Official Practice, teams must not utilize a guide or communicate with anyone not participating in Championship week to avoid gaining an unfair advantage.

Registration & Pre-Tournament Meeting:

- Date: April 30th, 2026
- Day 1: May 1st, 2026
- Day 2: May 2nd, 2026
- Rain Out Day: May 3rd, 2026

Registration Information:

- Registration will take place at the Kentucky Lake Dam Boat Ramp starting at 4:00 PM on Thursday, April 30th, 2026, followed by the pre-tournament meeting at 5:00 PM.
- At least one team member must attend the pre-tournament meeting; failure to do so will result in disqualification. A proxy may attend in your place without a fee.

Weather Delays and Cancellations:

- Small Watercraft Wind Advisory: If projected winds reach **18 mph** during tournament hours (as per The Weather Channel App), that day's tournament will be canceled.
- In case of extreme weather, such as tornadoes or lightning, the tournament will be paused until all warnings expire or the storms pass, after which the tournament will resume.
- If weather delays occur and we launch, check-in times will remain as posted.
- If storms or warnings are still present before **10:00 AM**, the director will decide whether to cancel the fishing day.

Examples:

- If Day 1 is canceled, the Day 1 takeoff schedule will repeat on Day 2, resulting in a one-day shootout.
- If Day 2 is canceled, the Day 1 leaders will be declared winners.
- Should both scheduled days be canceled due to weather, Sunday, will be utilized as a rain day, following the Day 1 takeoff schedule. This applies only if both days are canceled.
- If all three days are canceled, a lottery draw for the grand prize will take place, and $160.00 of the entry fee will be refunded.

Entering the Event:

- The entry fee for the event is $200.00.
- All mailed entries must be postmarked by April 1st, 2026.
- USA BASSIN will accept VISA or MasterCard payments until April 15th, 2026 (a 7% service fee applies for credit card payments).
- Entries will not be accepted after April 15th, 2026, or during registration.
- This event is limited to 250 teams**.
- Boat numbers will be assigned based on the order of entry receipt.

Refunds:

- If USA BASSIN is contacted by April 15th, 2026, a refund of $160.00 will be issued.
- No refunds will be available after April 15th, 2026.

To request a refund, email your mailing address and event name to: usabassinfishing@gmail.com.

Pay Entry By Mail:

Please Make Checks Payable to: USA BASSIN
Mail To:
USA BASSIN
P.O. BOX 1126
BEDFORD, IN 47421.

Pay By Card:

CLICK HERE

THERE WILL BE A 7% SERVICE FEE ADDED ON FOR PAYING WITH A CREDIT CARD.