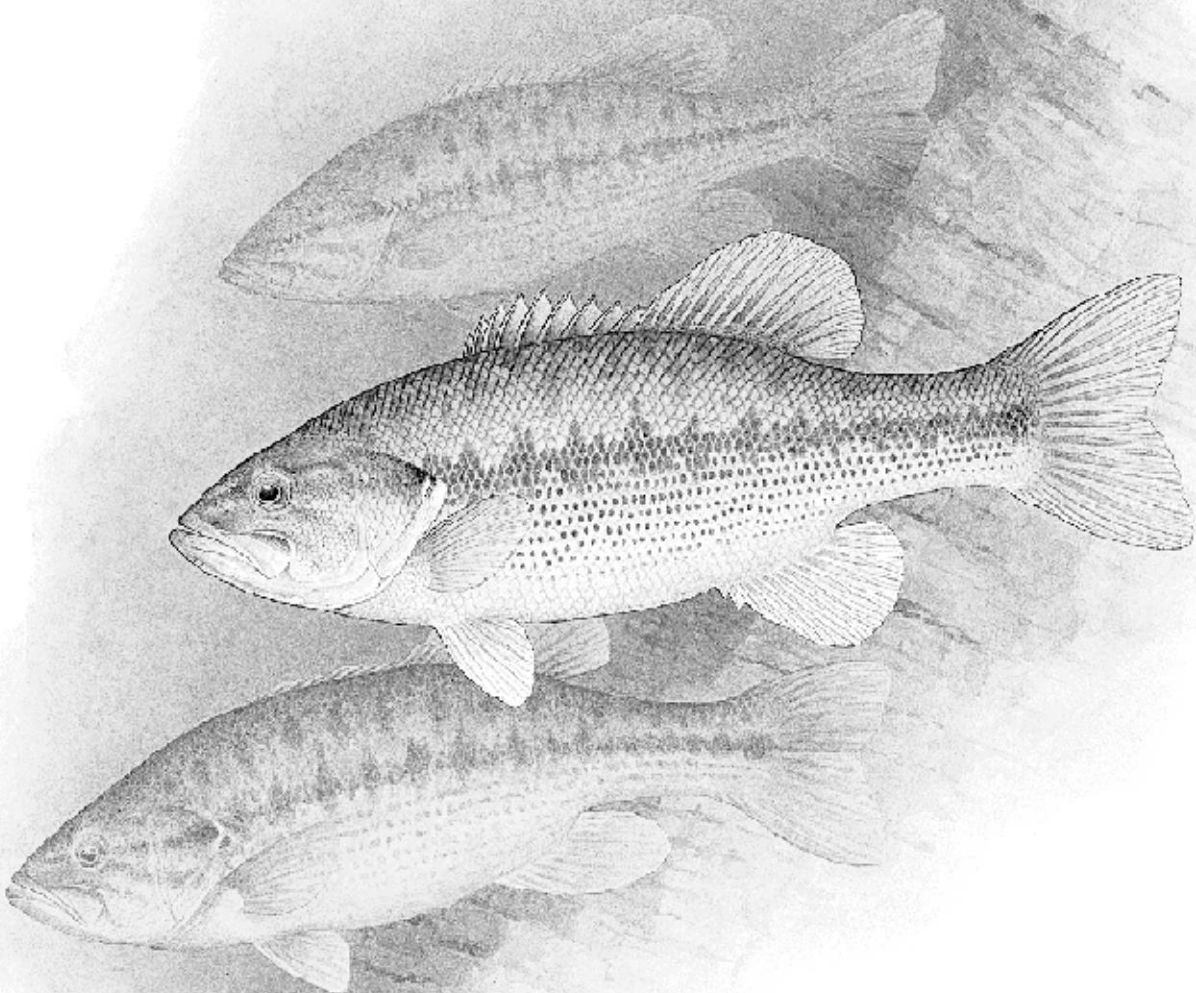




Bass Tournament Results 2019



**Kentucky Department of Fish
and Wildlife Resources**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) would like to thank all the tournament organizers that participated in the voluntary tournament scheduling system and reported their tournament catch data following each event. This program would not be possible without their participation. Listed below are the 2019 program participants. The data that each of these organizations provided is valuable for the completion of this publication.

2019 Program Participants

- Anglers Outpost and Marine
- Barn Owl Classic
- Bass For Gas
- Bite Me Baits of Kentucky
- Casey County High School Fishing Team
- Chad Coleman
- Choo Choo Bass Anglers
- Early Bird Bassmasters
- FLW
- FLW Fishing
- FLW Outdoors- College Fishing
- FOCAS
- GCHS Bass Fishing Team
- Hanging Rock Bass Club
- Indy Bass Club
- Kentucky BASS Nation
- Kentucky Bassmasters Bass Club
- Mercer County Bass Team
- Montgomery Co. HS Fishing Team
- North Oldham HS Fishing Team
- NWTF Cave Run Chapter
- Pedro Bass Club
- Pikeville Area Family YMCA
- Prestonsburg Healthcare Center
- Rodbenders Bass Club
- SAF (Student Angler Federation)
- Shimano/ G loomis
- Southern Kentucky Hunting & Fishing
- The Steel City Bassmasters
- TMAA Bass Club
- Trail of Dreams Tournament Series
- USA Bassin- Beaver Lake Division
- USA Bassin- Cave Run Spring Division
- USA Bassin- Team Tournament Trail
- Zoneton Fire Department

INTRODUCTION

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) began the voluntary tournament-reporting program in 1999. After 20 years, the primary objective of collecting data from bass tournaments across the state and summarizing that data into an annual publication has remained the same. In this publication, anglers will find information on the average winning weights, average weight of big fish, average weight per keeper bass, average number of keeper bass weighed per boat, angler success rates, catch rates by season and historical trend data broken down by each waterbody reporting three or more events. This is valuable information when planning tournaments for the upcoming year.

KDFWR encourages everyone to participate in our voluntary tournament scheduling/reporting program to help relieve congestion issues at boat ramps and on the water. This system will assist tournament organizers with identifying if a ramp is over capacity, provides another avenue to promote tournaments and makes other recreational boaters aware of scheduled events so they can use another ramp that may be less crowded. Furthermore, at the end of each event the tournament organizer will receive a follow-up email reminding them to submit the catch data for that event. This useful tool and other valuable information pertaining to tournament registration requirements, tournament guidelines, proper bass handling and archived annual bass tournament statistics can be found at (<http://fw.ky.gov/Fish/Pages/Tournament-Fishing.aspx>). This program was designed to avoid the need to regulate fishing tournaments in Kentucky. The success of this program is very dependent on everyone's participation.

For additional information pertaining to scheduling tournaments or reporting catch data, feel free to contact KDFWR at:

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#1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY. 40601
Phone: 502-892-4470

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In 2019, 339 tournaments were scheduled on the KDFWR tournament-scheduling site. Of those tournaments, 114 (33.6%) reported their catch data which has been about the average reporting rate for the past 5 years. Additional tournament data was collected online increasing the sample size to 369 bass tournaments. Of the 369 events, there was at least one tournament hosted on 30 different water bodies, which included 15 large ($\geq 1,000$ acres) reservoirs, 12 smaller (< 1000 acre) lakes and 3 river systems. However, only 24 of the 30 waterbodies hosted three or more events, which is required to be included in these lake specific statistics and rankings.

Overall, the average length of a 1-day tournament in 2019 was 7.5 hours with tournaments ranging from 3.0- 9.0 hrs. The majority of tournaments lasted only 1 day (95.4%) while 2-day (4.1%) and 3-day (0.5%) events were less common. Eighty percent of tournaments occurred during daylight hours compared to the 20.0% of tournaments occurring at night. Team format tournaments (2 anglers fishing for a single limit) represented 84.0% of reported tournaments while individual angler tournaments comprised 16.0% of the events. On average, there were 24 angling-units (number of individual anglers or teams) per tournament in 2019. Data collected determined that 88.1% of the tournaments utilized a 5-fish daily limit; however, some tournaments enforced smaller daily limits to either comply with special fishing regulations, adapt to a shorter tournament duration, or adopt a "Big Fish" format.

Based on tournament data statewide, 68.1% of anglers successfully weighed in a bass during a tournament. The average angling-unit weighed in 2.38 keeper-size bass that had an average weight of 2.26 lbs. The average statewide winning weight based on a standard 8-hour day was 12.33 lbs with the average angling unit weighing in 5.38 lbs. On average, 20.4% of all angling-units successfully weighed in a full limit of bass. The average big bass per tournament statewide was 4.49 lbs (Table 1).

Tournament data was used to rank the top 10 Kentucky waterbodies in six categories relating to angler success, number of keeper bass weighed in per angling-unit, size of the bass being weighed in and winning weights (Table 1). Keep in mind that different creels and minimum length limits across the state can affect how a waterbody ranks in each category.

The percent of successful angling-units was determined by dividing the total number of tournament participants weighing in a legal-size bass by the total number of participants at each waterbody. The top three water bodies in this category in 2019 were Laurel River Lake (95.1%), Lake Linville (92.5%) and Williamstown Lake (90.0%).

Fagan Branch Lake (4.96), Willisburg Lake (4.32) and Williamstown Lake (3.63) had the highest average number of keeper-size bass weighed in per angling-unit across the state. This average was calculated using the total number of keeper-size fish weighed in for the year divided by the total number of angling-units for each waterbody.

The average weight per bass weighed in by waterbody was determined by dividing the total pounds of fish weighed in by the total number of fish weighed in for each waterbody. The highest average weight per bass was recorded at Cedar Creek Lake (4.77 lbs); keep in mind this lake has a trophy bass regulation allowing only 1 bass over 20 inches to be weighed in. Kentucky Lake (3.21) was the only other lake that averaged over 3.00 lbs/bass.

In order to rank the waterbodies based on the average 1st place winning weight, all the tournaments were standardized to a 1-day, 8-hour event. Laurel River Lake recorded the highest average winning weight of 18.30 lbs, followed by Kentucky Lake Tailwater (16.99 lbs) and Lake Beshear (16.94 lbs).

The average total weight of an angling-unit in an event at each waterbody was determined by multiplying the average number of keeper bass caught per angling-unit at each waterbody by the average weight of a bass weighed in at that waterbody. This weight is representative of what the average angling-unit would expect to weigh in. The top three average total weights per angling-unit

by waterbody include Laurel River Lake (9.21 lbs), Kentucky Lake Tailwater (8.37 lbs) and Lake Beshear (7.87 lbs).

Tournament data was also broken down into seasons: spring (March – May), summer (June – August), fall (September – November) and winter (December – February) to provide more detailed information on how each of these waterbodies fish throughout the year. Overall, the largest majority of tournaments occur during the spring (43.1%) and summer (38.8%), followed by fall (16.5%) and winter (1.6%). Seasonal results for individual waterbodies can be found in Table 2.

Waterbodies that had data collected for at least 3 years from 2010-2019 are represented in Table 3. This information allows tournament organizers and anglers to look at trend data over the past 10 years, illustrating waterbodies that are trending up, down or remaining constant year after year.

Table 1. Top 10 rankings for Kentucky's bass tournaments based on catch data from 2019. A minimum of three tournaments was required for waterbody to be included in these ranking.

Ranking	Percent of Successful Anglers/Teams	Average Number of Keeper Bass Caught per Boat	Average Weight (lbs) per Bass Weighed In	Average 1st Place Weight (lbs) per 8 Hour Day	Average Total Weight (lbs) per Boat	Average Weight (lbs) of Big Bass
1	Laurel River Lake 95.1	Fagan Branch Lake 4.96	Cedar Creek Lake 4.77	Laurel River Lake 18.30	Laurel River Lake 9.21	Lake Beshear 6.07
2	Lake Linville 92.5	Willisburg Lake 4.32	Kentucky Lake 3.21	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 16.99	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 8.37	Lake Malone 5.69
3	Williamstown Lake 90.0	Williamstown Lake 3.63	Lake Beshear 2.98	Lake Beshear 16.94	Lake Beshear 7.87	Cedar Creek Lake 5.50
4	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 86.5	Lake Linville 3.57	Lake Barkley 2.93	Green River Lake 15.34	Willisburg Lake 7.82	Lake Barkley 5.01
5	Fagan Branch Lake 84.4	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 3.30	Laurel River Lake 2.88	Lake Cumberland 15.30	Kentucky Lake 7.25	Laurel River Lake 5.00
6	Lake Barkley Tailwater 83.1	Laurel River Lake 3.20	Lake Malone 2.66	Lake Barkley 15.08	Green River Lake 6.96	Green River Lake 4.98
7	Green River Lake 82.8	Green River Lake 3.20	Yatesville Lake 2.54	Lake Barkley Tailwater 13.54	Lake Cumberland 6.84	Lake Cumberland 4.94
8	Lake Beshear 82.0	Lake Cumberland 3.01	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 2.53	Yatesville Lake 13.06	Herrington Lake 6.08	Kentucky Lake 4.90
9	Nolin River Lake 80.1	Lake Barkley Tailwater 2.97	Taylorsville Lake 2.46	Kentucky Lake 12.96	Lake Barkley Tailwater 6.00	Nolin River Lake 4.86
10	Beaver Lake 78.6	Herrington Lake 2.80	Lake Cumberland 2.27	Herrington Lake 12.51	Williamstown Lake 5.95	Kentucky Lake Tailwater 4.86
Statewide Average	68.1	2.38	2.26	12.33	5.38	4.49

Table 2. Summary of 2019 bass tournament data from Kentucky lakes by season. A minimum of three tournaments were required for waterbody to appear in this table.

Water Body	Total # of Events	# of Ind. Events	# of Team Events	Total # of Angling-units	# Bass Weighed-In	Percent Success	Average # of Keeper Bass per Boat	Average Weight per Bass (lbs)	Average 1st Place Weight (Standard 8h Day)	Average Weight of Big Bass (lbs)
Barren River Lake										
Spring	4	2	2	74	234	70.3	3.60	2.14	10.73	3.63
Summer	6	3	3	244	466	68.9	1.91	2.19	12.96	4.34
Fall	1	0	1	92	413	88.0	2.25	2.02	12.12	5.06
Total	11	5	6	410	1,113	73.4	2.71	2.18	11.97	4.13
Beaver Lake										
Spring	6	0	6	65	150	78.5	2.31	1.05	5.33	2.73
Summer	2	0	2	19	41	78.9	4.10	1.13	8.00	3.62
Total	8	0	8	84	191	78.6	2.27	1.07	6.00	2.95
Cave Run Lake										
Spring	12	2	10	206	481	74.8	2.33	1.27	8.44	3.96
Summer	6	0	6	66	203	77.3	3.08	1.43	11.50	3.65
Fall	3	0	3	91	138	59.3	1.52	1.31	8.39	3.99
Total	21	2	19	363	822	71.3	2.26	1.32	9.30	3.87
Cedar Creek Lake										
Spring	5	0	5	58	7	10.3	0.12	5.10	4.21	5.44
Summer	1	0	1	13	8	46.2	0.62	4.48	9.97	5.68
Total	6	0	6	71	15	16.9	0.21	4.77	5.09	5.50
Fagan Branch Lake										
Spring	1	0	1	22	---	68.1	---	---	6.00	2.54
Summer	2	0	2	23	114	100.0	4.95	3.48	5.48	3.03
Total	3	0	3	45	114	84.4	4.95	0.70	5.65	2.86
Green River Lake										
Spring	9	2	7	165	476	80.0	2.88	2.48	14.59	4.91
Summer	12	2	10	190	740	86.8	3.89	2.15	17.35	5.34
Fall	6	0	6	127	324	80.3	2.55	1.80	12.58	4.37
Total	27	4	23	482	1,540	82.8	3.20	2.18	15.34	4.98
Guist Creek Lake										
Spring	8	2	6	92	69	39.1	0.75	2.31	6.55	4.19
Summer	1	0	1	8	30	100.0	3.75	1.83	15.50	5.25
Fall	5	0	5	9	54	90.7	2.61	1.94	13.82	4.26
Total	14	2	12	109	153	60.4	1.56	1.94	9.79	4.29
Herrington Lake										
Spring	15	0	15	209	80	56.5	2.05	1.92	14.35	4.65
Summer	25	0	25	445	253	56.6	2.69	2.83	11.69	3.72
Fall	7	0	7	150	247	70.0	3.69	1.57	11.46	4.32
Total	47	0	47	804	580	59.1	2.80	2.17	12.51	4.11

Table 2 (con't). Summary of 2019 bass tournament data from Kentucky lakes by season. A minimum of three tournaments were required for the waterbody to appear in this table.

Water Body	Total # of Events	# of Ind. Events	# of Team Events	Total # of Angling-units	# Bass Weighed-In	Percent Success	Average # of Keeper Bass per Boat	Average Weight per Bass (lbs)	Average 1st Place Weight (Standard 8h Day)	Average Weight of Big Bass (lbs)
Kentucky Lake										
Spring	7	2	5	617	1,436	60.6	2.33	3.29	14.45	5.80
Summer	6	4	2	90	188	74.4	2.09	2.75	11.04	4.49
Fall	3	2	1	37	53	56.8	1.43	2.72	13.09	5.55
Total	16	8	8	744	1,677	62.1	2.25	3.21	12.96	4.90
Kentucky Lake Tailwater										
Spring	3	0	3	32	122	87.5	3.81	2.43	15.53	4.72
Summer	8	2	6	116	367	86.2	3.16	2.57	17.54	4.91
Total	11	2	9	148	489	86.5	3.30	2.53	16.99	4.86
Lake Barkley										
Spring	13	4	9	246	432	69.5	1.76	3.22	15.80	5.40
Summer	24	2	22	499	933	72.1	1.87	2.85	16.07	5.16
Fall	7	2	5	74	111	70.3	1.50	2.62	11.44	4.13
Winter	1	0	1	8	9	62.5	1.13	2.23	6.87	2.72
Total	45	8	37	827	1,485	71.1	1.80	2.93	15.09	5.01
Lake Barkley Tailwater										
Spring	2	1	1	24	67	79.2	2.79	1.61	10.70	4.89
Summer	3	0	3	38	127	81.6	3.34	2.35	16.91	4.88
Fall	1	1	0	15	35	93.3	2.33	1.63	9.11	3.82
Total	6	2	4	77	229	83.1	2.97	2.02	13.54	4.71
Lake Beshear										
Spring	7	1	6	127	325	81.1	2.56	3.10	20.29	6.54
Fall	1	1	0	6	26	100.0	2.17	1.58	5.23	2.75
Total	8	2	6	133	351	82.0	2.64	2.98	16.94	6.07
Lake Cumberland										
Spring	14	5	9	1,058	3,479	78.3	3.29	2.35	16.74	4.96
Summer	1	0	1	6	16	100.0	2.67	1.76	8.16	3.28
Fall	5	1	4	860	2,377	64.7	2.76	2.16	13.73	5.34
Winter	2	0	2	61	99	62.3	1.62	2.25	15.14	4.57
Total	22	6	16	1,985	5,971	71.9	3.01	2.27	15.30	4.94
Lake Malone										
Spring	6	0	6	76	85	46.1	1.12	2.66	10.98	5.69
Total	6	0	6	76	85	46.1	1.12	2.66	10.98	5.69
Laurel River Lake										
Spring	5	0	5	41	131	95.1	3.20	2.88	18.30	5.00
Total	5	0	5	41	131	95.1	3.20	2.88	18.30	5.00

Table 2 (con't). Summary of 2019 bass tournament data from Kentucky lakes by season. A minimum of three tournaments were required for the waterbody to appear in this table.

Water Body	Total # of Events	# of Ind. Events	# of Team Events	Total # of Angling-units	# Bass Weighed-In	Percent Success	Average # of Keeper Bass per Boat	Average Weight per Bass (lbs)	Average 1st Place Weight (Standard 8h Day)	Average Weight of Big Bass (lbs)
Lake Linville										
Spring	3	0	3	40	143	97.5	3.58	1.30	8.68	4.12
Summer	2	0	2	27	96	85.2	3.56	1.50	14.47	4.68
Total	5	0	5	67	239	92.5	3.57	1.38	10.99	4.34
Nolin River Lake										
Spring	8	0	8	182	337	67.6	1.85	2.15	10.57	4.82
Summer	3	0	3	66	193	90.9	2.93	2.21	16.27	5.12
Fall	4	0	4	111	320	91.0	2.88	1.96	14.15	4.74
Winter	2	0	2	37	106	89.2	2.86	1.99	10.82	4.89
Total	17	0	17	396	956	80.1	2.52	2.00	12.44	4.86
Ohio River										
Spring	6	0	6	57	132	71.9	2.32	1.52	7.93	3.15
Summer	20	9	11	230	450	70.0	1.96	1.69	8.14	3.21
Fall	1	1	0	60	46	50.0	0.77	1.31	3.48	3.76
Total	27	10	17	347	628	66.9	1.81	1.63	7.77	3.22
Rough River Lake										
Spring	8	1	7	552	605	38.4	1.10	1.89	10.96	4.52
Summer	4	0	4	120	287	88.3	2.39	1.96	13.79	4.57
Fall	6	0	6	247	445	64.4	1.80	1.95	13.84	4.78
Winter	1	0	1	29	29	51.7	1.00	1.93	9.10	3.12
Total	19	1	18	948	1,366	51.9	1.44	1.92	12.37	4.54
Taylorsville Lake										
Spring	3	1	2	49	89	67.3	1.82	2.61	14.27	4.21
Summer	8	2	6	167	189	58.1	1.13	2.43	9.77	3.95
Fall	6	0	6	41	57	63.4	1.39	2.30	8.63	4.37
Total	17	3	14	257	335	60.7	1.30	2.46	10.16	4.15
Williamstown Lake										
Spring	1	0	1	6	29	100.0	4.83	1.73	12.17	3.69
Fall	4	0	4	24	80	87.5	3.33	1.60	9.59	4.02
Total	5	0	5	30	109	90.0	3.63	1.64	10.10	3.95
Willisburg Lake										
Spring	2	0	2	27	---	59.3	---	---	11.02	5.41
Summer	4	0	4	41	---	85.4	---	---	12.17	4.28
Total	6	0	6	68	---	75.0	---	---	11.78	4.65
Yatesville Lake										
Spring	4	0	4	147	329	61.9	2.24	2.47	15.60	4.58
Summer	4	1	3	64	138	76.6	2.16	2.72	11.03	4.75
Total	8	1	7	211	467	66.4	2.21	2.54	13.06	4.66

Table 3. Historical trend data (2010-2019) describing black bass angler success on Kentucky waterbodies as reported from tournament directors. A minimum of three years of tournament data had to be recorded for the lake to appear in this table.

Variable	Barren River Lake										Cave Run Lake									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	27	24	28	21	17	15	16	21	9	11	--	--	--	3	--	3	10	16	16	21
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	2.71	3.07	2.61	2.91	3.03	2.62	2.15	2.77	2.80	2.71	--	--	--	0.84	--	0.15	2.35	2.15	2.59	2.26
Percent successful	84.9	91.4	74.2	84.3	83.0	81.3	77.1	86.4	85.7	73.4	--	--	--	52.3	--	12.8	65.5	69.3	74.7	71.3
Average weight per bass	2.31	2.19	2.41	2.29	2.21	2.20	2.23	1.97	2.15	2.18	--	--	--	1.58	--	2.54	1.17	1.23	1.08	1.32
Average weight of big bass	5.15	5.29	5.19	5.21	5.82	4.68	5.21	4.82	4.50	4.13	--	--	--	4.85	--	3.49	3.66	3.92	3.64	3.87
Average 1 st place weight	15.18	15.48	15.91	16.07	15.80	14.66	14.76	14.16	12.52	11.97	--	--	--	5.53	--	4.37	9.33	8.44	8.96	9.30

Variable	Cedar Creek Lake										Dale Hollow Lake									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	5	15	15	--	--	--	6	10	6	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	4	4	--
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	0.18	0.39	0.78	--	--	--	0.42	0.20	0.35	0.21	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.36	2.77	1.12	--
Percent successful	15.4	22.2	21.5	--	--	--	34.4	16.5	28.8	16.9	--	--	--	--	--	--	83.6	81.6	46.0	--
Average weight per bass	4.85	3.48	2.97	--	--	--	4.87	4.48	4.72	4.77	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.70	2.65	2.46	--
Average weight of big bass	5.36	4.66	4.44	--	--	--	5.86	5.12	5.13	5.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.92	5.14	4.24	--
Average 1 st place weight	5.51	6.39	6.04	--	--	--	5.93	6.84	6.63	5.09	--	--	--	--	--	--	14.15	16.05	14.01	--

Variable	Grayson Lake										Green River Lake									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	--	--	--	4	3	5	3	4	--	--	22	16	7	33	9	3	19	28	18	27
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	--	--	--	0.25	0.38	0.23	0.67	0.23	--	--	2.63	2.31	3.21	3.13	2.61	2.75	2.54	2.80	3.06	3.20
Percent successful	--	--	--	19.7	26.0	15.4	41.0	18.3	--	--	64.9	63.8	87.0	81.9	67.3	74.5	70.2	78.2	78.2	82.9
Average weight per bass	--	--	--	2.46	2.45	2.99	2.93	2.59	--	--	2.23	2.25	2.23	2.32	2.52	2.26	2.45	2.35	2.42	2.18
Average weight of big bass	--	--	--	3.34	5.02	3.29	5.40	4.12	--	--	5.00	4.66	4.13	5.28	5.44	4.96	5.67	5.49	5.21	4.98
Average 1 st place weight	--	--	--	5.39	7.88	6.21	9.68	5.73	--	--	13.82	11.55	11.10	14.53	14.76	14.19	16.07	16.00	17.38	15.34

"--" Indicates less than 3 tournaments were reported

Table 3 (con't). Historical trend data (2010-2019) describing black bass angler success on Kentucky waterbodies as reported from tournament directors. A minimum of three years of tournament data had to be recorded for the lake to appear in this table.

Variable	Guist Creek Lake										Herrington Lake									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	7	--	--	--	--	--	12	18	18	14	3	6	5	--	--	--	10	--	--	47
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	1.45	--	--	--	--	--	1.85	2.05	2.03	1.56	3.02	2.26	3.55	--	--	--	2.80	--	--	2.80
Percent successful	67.7	--	--	--	--	--	70.8	75.5	77.1	60.4	95.7	64.0	89.4	--	--	--	85.7	--	--	59.1
Average weight per bass	2.02	--	--	--	--	--	2.10	2.27	1.86	2.03	1.58	1.81	1.63	--	--	--	1.57	--	--	2.17
Average weight of big bass	5.13	--	--	--	--	--	4.67	4.59	4.42	4.29	4.13	4.16	3.93	--	--	--	3.71	--	--	4.11
Average 1 st place weight	9.81	--	--	--	--	--	11.36	12.03	9.53	9.79	12.02	11.81	9.20	--	--	--	8.28	--	--	12.51
Variable	Kentucky Lake										Kentucky Lake Tailwater									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	59	60	24	55	17	23	31	34	30	16	--	--	--	--	--	--	9	23	9	11
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	2.14	3.29	4.06	3.86	2.12	2.62	3.31	2.37	1.84	2.25	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.79	4.01	2.32	3.3
Percent successful	71.7	72.4	80.9	73.2	64.2	72.0	77.0	80.9	61.7	62.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	77.9	91.5	77.6	86.5
Average weight per bass	2.80	2.59	2.60	2.85	3.31	2.34	2.68	3.22	3.00	3.21	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.54	2.58	2.58	2.53
Average weight of big bass	5.54	5.45	6.12	5.71	5.54	6.01	6.13	6.19	5.37	4.90	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.02	5.17	5.70	4.86
Average 1 st place weight	15.97	14.09	15.11	18.43	15.92	15.20	16.31	16.34	11.36	12.96	--	--	--	--	--	--	13.39	16.41	16.27	16.99
Variable	Kentucky River										Kincaid Lake									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of tournaments	3	--	3	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	11	7	3	--	--	--	7	--	--	--
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	0.88	--	1.48	--	--	--	2.88	--	--	--	1.18	1.42	1.16	--	--	--	0.84	--	--	--
Percent successful	40.8	--	59.6	--	--	--	87.5	--	--	--	54.1	60	58.1	--	--	--	35.1	--	--	--
Average weight per bass	1.47	--	1.44	--	--	--	1.34	--	--	--	1.94	1.42	1.95	--	--	--	1.24	--	--	--
Average weight of big bass	3.63	--	3.05	--	--	--	2.72	--	--	--	4.56	4.26	3.43	--	--	--	2.81	--	--	--
Average 1 st place weight	6.53	--	8.56	--	--	--	6.51	--	--	--	11.9	7.42	5.96	--	--	--	8.48	--	--	--

"--" Indicates less than 3 tournaments were reported

Table 3 (con't). Historical trend data (2009-2018) describing black bass angler success on Kentucky waterbodies as reported from tournament directors. A minimum of three years of tournament data had to be recorded for the lake to appear in this table.

Variable	Rough River Lake										Taylorsville Lake									
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of tournaments	23	24	17	14	21	--	--	12	12	16	23	24	20	21	21	--	3	10	41	15
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	1.70	2.27	2.36	2.26	2.48	--	--	2.32	2.57	2.61	0.52	0.65	0.82	0.73	0.89	--	3.07	1.89	1.84	1.92
Percent successful	66.4	79.0	76.2	70.9	70.2	--	--	75.4	82.1	83.7	29.4	37.6	46.5	44.2	51.3	--	80	69.2	58.2	73.6
Average weight per bass	1.82	1.75	2.04	2.18	1.97	--	--	2.06	2.21	1.74	2.30	2.10	2.15	2.21	2.15	--	2.76	2.34	2.46	2.36
Average weight of big bass	4.42	4.04	4.64	5.2	5.3	--	--	4.92	5.84	4.63	3.69	3.33	3.85	3.91	3.88	--	4.14	3.63	3.91	4.44
Average 1 st place weight	9.02	10.61	11.92	14.01	16.11	--	--	13.05	15.95	12.87	6.16	6.01	7.74	12.84	14.47	--	15.91	10.31	10.24	11.36

Variable	Yatesville Lake									
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of tournaments	4	--	--	--	6	6	9	8	10	8
Average # of keeper bass caught per boat	1.16	--	--	--	1.42	0.59	1.17	0.96	1.91	1.74
Percent successful	38.6	--	--	--	65.9	38.7	42.6	43.3	55.5	63.0
Average weight per bass	2.15	--	--	--	2.34	2.61	2.37	2.89	2.39	2.30
Average weight of big bass	3.82	--	--	--	4.45	4.16	3.66	4.71	4.75	4.78
Average 1 st place weight	6.46	--	--	--	11.72	8.86	6.73	8.88	11.92	10.45

"--" Indicates less than 3 tournaments were reported

TOURNAMENT BASS HANDLING GUIDELINES

Tournament anglers and organizers should be aware of proper bass handling needs, especially during the hot summer months. KDFWR recommends that all bass anglers and tournament organizers review the B.A.S.S. sponsored manual, "Keeping Bass Alive", at the link below. KDFWR Fisheries Division endorses these procedures and recommends that all bass tournament sponsors and anglers adopt these as standard practices, especially during June – August tournaments when water temperatures are high. Additional detailed information on each of the key points can be found at the link provided below. These simple procedures can considerably decrease the amount of stress that a bass experiences throughout a tournament. Reducing this stress can increase the chance of survival once the fish are released.

<http://www.bassmaster.com/tips/keeping-bass-alive>

Key Points:

- **Protect the Slime Coat**
 - Avoid dropping fish on floor of boat
 - Use soft knotless nylon or rubber landing nets
 - Hold fish vertically by lower jaw without touching fish's body
- **Minimize Hook Removal Injury**
 - Use pliers or hemostat to remove hooks
 - Learn hook-reversal techniques
- **Minimize Air Exposure**
 - General Rule: Fish should not be out of water any longer than you can hold your breath
- **Culling**
 - Separate small fish into separate compartment
 - Use spring clip culling systems to mark fish, do not use clips that require punching a hole in the fish's mouth
 - Avoid hoisting fish from livewell with culling system.
- **Livewell Basics**
 - Do not exceed at ratio of 1 pound of bass per gallon of water
 - Distribute fish between livewell compartments to reduce crowding
 - Livewell pumps should pump at least 500 gallon of water per hour (gph)
 - Maintain good oxygen levels through continual aerator operation
 - Reduce livewell temperatures by 5-10°F using blocks of ice when water temperatures are above 75°F
 - Add non-iodized salt at 1/3 cup per 5 gallons of livewell water
 - Exchange water half way through tournament to reduce carbon dioxide and ammonia levels
 - Monitor livewell and fish conditions throughout the day.

OTHER HELPFUL TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

- All tournaments should be scheduled through [KDFWR's Tournament Scheduling](#) web site at least 30-60 days in advance.
- Avoid dates and locations where other tournaments are already scheduled; remember that larger reservoirs usually have more than one ramp available each day.
- Contact the marina or agency in charge of the ramp where your tournament is scheduled. Confusion and conflict can be avoided when adequate planning and communication is used. Many ramps have a launch fee.
- Avoid scheduling tournaments around major holidays.
- Respect the rights of other anglers who are using the same ramp as your tournament.
- Minimize the disturbance to campsites and docked boats that could be used for overnight stays.
- Make a plan for the most effective use of available parking spaces to allow non-tournament anglers access to the ramp. Check with Marina operators as they may have alternate parking arrangements for tournament participants.
- Plan the tournament so participants know where and when to launch and park. This avoids confusion and conflict at ramps and marinas.
- Shotgun starts are very unsafe and should be avoided.
- Large tournaments should stagger launch and weigh-in times to prevent "gridlock" at the ramp. Organizers should use support personnel to direct traffic during launching, parking, weigh-in and boat retrieval.
- Each tournament angler should be knowledgeable of all local fishing and boating regulations. They must also possess a valid fishing license, proper boat registration, personal floatation devices and other required equipment.
- If possible, avoid scheduling daytime tournaments during the hotter summer months, which will help reduce extra stress on the fish and minimize mortality.

Kentucky State Parks Registration Requirements

- All tournaments with more than 45 boats held at KY State Park ramp/marina must schedule their tournament using [KDFWR online tournament scheduling site](#).
- Within 15 days of scheduling tournament, the tournament organizer must register with the Kentucky Department of Parks for a special user permit.
- For information and registration forms, contact Kentucky Department of Parks in Frankfort at 800-255-7275.