



2020



HAMILTON

**CENTRAL QUALIFIER
HATCHERY
AUGUST 29**



GREESON

**SOUTHERN QUALIFIER
SELF CREEK
SEPTEMBER 12**



BULL SHOALS

**NORTHERN QUALIFIER
BOAT DOCK
OCTOBER 17**

MILLWOOD

**CHAMPIONSHIP
YARBOROUGH
NOVEMBER 7 - 8**



**\$80 ENTRY PER BOAT
EACH ANGLER MUST ATTEND 2 QUALIFIERS
TO QUALIFY FOR CHAMPIONSHIP**



OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

SPECIAL STATEMENT – COVID-19 AMENDMENTS

The Arkansas Collegiate Series will adapt to comply with state and federal guidelines to minimize the risk of exposure to anglers and tournament staff. The following amendments will be in effect until further notice:

- A face covering (medical style mask or neck/face gaiter is acceptable) will be required when interacting with other anglers or tournament staff within 6 feet proximity. Teammates are not required to mask while on their boat or in their truck together.
- Drive-through registrations will be held at the official boat ramp on Friday evening the day before competition and the morning of competition. Registration times will be announced on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ArkansasCollegiateSeries>) the week of the tournament. Do not exit your vehicle, tournament staff will come to you. If you are able, please register Friday.
- Please print and complete the **registration and liability** form found at the end of this document before coming to register. Hard copies will be available at registration if needed, but this slows the process.
- We will continue **cash only** payment of entry fees at registration (\$80 / boat / event).
- Take-off through check-in will proceed as usual.
- A drive-through weigh-in will be held at the official boat ramp. After checking-in, trailer your boat and enter the weigh-in line. One angler drives the truck, the other angler loads fish into your weigh-in bag and helps tournament staff weigh the fish. The truck driver will not exit the truck at any time during the weigh-in process (unless that angler is fishing solo). Begin loading fish into your weigh-in bag when you are second or third in line to weigh to minimize the time fish spend in bags. Once your fish are weighed and you are back in your truck/boat, exit the weigh-in area. Teams in contention for prizes will be directed to return to nearby parking areas to await awards. Please watch the Facebook Live broadcast to see if you are in the money; updates on smallest weight in the money will be frequent. Maps and specific instructions for each event will be announced on Facebook.
- No spectators may be present at weigh-in. Once anglers have completed weighing their fish, they are expected to prepare their boats for travel and leave unless they are in contention for an award.
- Prize winners will be announced at the end of the Facebook Live broadcast and can either receive their cash prize immediately or have a check mailed to them if they have already departed (valid mailing address and contact information required on registration form!).

We investigated numerous electronic money collection and redistribution options but determined that it would be excessively cumbersome for us to accommodate the variety of options each of you may prefer, we did not want to mandate a specific app or service for everyone to sign-up for, and most of these options would incur either additional fees or risk at some point in the process that we deemed unnecessary. This route will ensure that we maintain 100% payback, satisfy health and safety recommendations, and only incur a few day delay in payment in the event a check must be mailed. Checks will be mailed first thing Monday morning after events if needed.

Additional details and instructions for each event will be published on Mondays prior to events via Facebook. Please Like and Follow @ArkansasCollegiateSeries to receive automatic notifications.

Further sudden amendments to the procedure, **not excluding full cancellation of the season**, are possible. We are wading through uncertainty as much as you are so we must all adapt to information and changes as they emerge. Let's be patient, safe, and make it work!

The following rules will be in effect at every Arkansas Collegiate Series (ACS) event. Failure to comply with these rules may result in weight penalties, disqualification of fish, forfeiture of a day's catch, and/or banishment from future events. The tournament director is solely responsible for the interpretation of ACS rules and their enforcement. You are also required to follow all local, state and federal laws and regulations while participating in ACS events.

ELIGIBILITY

All competitors must be enrolled full-time¹ at an accredited college or university and members in good standing of an institutionally-recognized fishing team/club. There are no age restrictions. First year freshman through Ph. D students are permitted to fish as long as they are enrolled full-time.

SAFETY/PRE-LAUNCH PROCEDURES

1. Registration will begin at the official boat ramp one hour before safe-light. Teams must check-in with the tournament director and pay entry fee before take-off.
2. All boats must launch from the official ramp unless otherwise instructed by the tournament director.
3. Running lights must be installed and working properly at all "safe-light" launches. If, for whatever reason, your lights are not functioning properly, you are required to let everyone else take-off before you do.
4. U.S. Coast Guard-approved life preservers must be worn and completely zipped, buttoned or fastened by both competitors while the outboard engine is **in gear**.
5. Engine kill-switches must be securely attached to the driver while the outboard is **in gear**.
6. All boats must contain all U.S. Coast Guard-required safety equipment for that size/style of boat.
7. Outboards cannot exceed the maximum horsepower rating for that boat.
8. Boat operators must have at least the state minimum liability insurance coverage.
9. Boats must have a livewell with a working aeration system. Ice-chests are acceptable as long as they are large enough to maintain a limit of live bass all day with an aerator installed and working.
10. All competitors are subject to livewell inspection before take-off.

¹ Full-time is determined by the college or university attended.

FISHING

11. Only two competitors per boat.
12. Artificial lures only (exception: pork trailers).
13. Fish must be caught with rod and reel only.
14. Only one rod per angler may be used at a time.
15. No trolling allowed.
16. You must retrieve your previous cast before making another.
17. You may not fish within 50 yards of an anchored² boat.
18. Five fish bag limit per team. If a sixth fish is caught, it or another fish must be culled immediately. No culling at weigh-in. Length regulations depend on location.
19. Dead fish cannot be culled for any reason.
20. You may not leave your boat during tournament hours unless it is to free your boat from an obstruction or in the event that your personal safety is at risk if you stay in your boat. Please call the tournament director if you are in danger or have to abandon your boat.
21. No fishing in areas marked restricted, no fishing, or no boating.
22. You cannot solicit a guide within one month of an event at that location.
23. You cannot solicit fishing information from non-competitors during an event.

24. In the event of a mechanical breakdown that prevents returning to the ramp, you can either have your boat towed back to the ramp or one member of your team can get into another team's boat for a ride back to the ramp. Each team's fish must be in separate live-well compartments or clearly identifiable with cull tags. The team offering the ride must stop fishing until they have delivered the stranded team member to the official ramp.
25. If you leave the event before weigh-in, please inform the tournament director.

² A boat is considered "anchored" when it has deployed an anchor (traditional style, power poles and talons included) and the trolling motor is stowed.

WEIGH-IN

26. Competitors must be at the official ramp by 3:00 pm. A 1.0 pound penalty will be assessed to a team for every minute late. Teams will be disqualified if they are more than 15 minutes late.
27. If a short or slot fish is brought to the weigh-in scales, that fish will be disqualified and a 1.0 pound penalty will be subtracted from that team's cumulative weight.
28. If a team brings more than five fish to the weigh-in scales, the tournament director will cull their bag down to five, starting with the largest fish in their bag, and a 1.0 pound penalty will be subtracted from that team's cumulative weight.
29. There will be a 0.5 pound penalty for each dead fish weighed.
30. In the event of a tie, prizes will be split evenly and both teams will receive equal points.

SCORING

The winning team at each Qualifier receives 100 points, second place receives 99, third receives 98, and so on.

Cumulative season points will determine Team of the Year and launch order for both days of the Championship.

If there is a tie in cumulative season points at the end of the season, total cumulative weight caught by those teams during the season will break the tie.

The Arkansas Collegiate Series participates in the Collegiate Bass Fishing Tournament Series' Bass Pro Shops School of the Year program presented by Abu Garcia. Events that count towards the School of the Year program are indicated by the School of the Year logo on the official Arkansas Collegiate Series Schedule. Per program rules, we are only permitted to count three events per year towards School of the Year. Points for each school participating in qualifying events are determined by School of the Year program guidelines. For more information, visit: www.collegiatebasschampionship.com/bps-school-of-the-year-program-description/



CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION

- 1) Each angler must fish at least two Qualifiers to be eligible for the Championship.

An angler can fish with a different partner at the Championship as long as that partner has also fished at least two Qualifiers. However, points accumulated by those two anglers while fishing with different partners will not count towards the Championship launch order. Launch order for teams with first-time partners will be determined by order of registration the first morning of the Championship.

PRIZES

Cash prizes will be awarded according to the percentages presented in the table "Payout Breakdown." In Qualifier tournaments, \$60 of each team's \$80 entry fee will be paid back out that day to the highest finishing teams. \$10 of each team's entry fee will go towards the big bass award to be paid back out that day. The remaining \$10 of each team's entry fee goes towards the Championship fund to increase cash and prize awards at the Championship. At Championship tournaments, \$70 of each team's \$80 entry fee will be paid back out after day two of the event in addition to the Championship fund collected from each Qualifier tournament. \$10 of each team's entry fee will go towards the big bass award to be paid back out after day two to the team with the single largest bass for the weekend. By the end of the season, 100% of all entry fees collected will be paid back out along with sponsor product prizes and giveaways.

PAYOUT BREAKDOWN

Boats	Places Paid	Payout							
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
1 – 6	1	100.00%							
7 – 13	2	60.71%	39.29%						
14 – 20	3	58.04%	27.68%	14.29%					
21 – 27	4	55.36%	23.81%	11.31%	9.52%				
28 – 34	5	53.13%	21.88%	9.82%	8.04%	7.14%			
35 – 41	6	51.43%	20.71%	8.57%	7.14%	6.43%	5.71%		
42 – 48	7	50.60%	19.64%	7.74%	6.55%	5.65%	5.06%	4.76%	
49 – 55	8	50.00%	19.39%	6.89%	5.87%	5.10%	4.59%	4.08%	4.08%

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT INFO

If you have any questions about the series, please feel free to contact me.

Scott Jones
 ACS Tournament Director
 UAPB Fishing Team Adviser
 jones@uapb.edu
 870.575.8185



This tournament series is made possible by the efforts of the UAPB Fishing Team and by support from the Aquaculture and Fisheries Department at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.



Arkansas Collegiate Series Registration and Liability Form

I hereby release the Arkansas Collegiate Series (ACS), all persons associated with the ACS, sponsors, contributors, the tournament director and the employer of the tournament director from liability in the event that I am injured or harmed, or my personal property is lost, damaged or stolen while participating in, practicing for, or traveling to or from ACS events. I understand that I am solely responsible for my own safety and my personal property on and off the water. I also have the right to disobey orders from the tournament director if I feel that his or her recommendations put my life or property in unreasonable danger. However, I also understand that ACS rules may dictate penalties for disobeying these orders.

I will observe and follow all ACS, local, state and federal fishing and boating laws and regulations, including the possession of a valid Arkansas fishing license.

I agree to allow my photo, video or film likeness to be used for promotion and publicity of ACS events and collegiate fishing.

I understand that my mobile phone number and mailing address are recorded so that the tournament director can contact me in case of emergencies or in the event that I am not accounted for by the end of the tournament weigh-in, and so that any prizes can be mailed to me if necessary.

Please print and complete this form and bring it with you to your first event registration with us.

School (print)

/ /

Boater (print)

Signature

Mobile number

Mailing Address

/ /

City

State

Zip Code

Co-Angler (print)

Signature

Mobile number

Mailing Address

/ /

City

State

Zip Code

Date