



Mancelona Bass Festival, Inc.

P.O. Box 937
Mancelona, MI 49659

Bass Fishing Contest Official Rules

The 2012 festival will utilize a Catch, Photo, & Release (CPR) format for the fishing contest. This maintains the tradition of a fishing contest and keeps in line with current Michigan DNRE rules and regulations.

1. All participants must follow Michigan fishing rules and regulations.
2. The contest will run from date May 26 -June 2, and fish can be registered during regular business hours of *Mancelona Sports* (587-9421), located on US-131 in downtown Mancelona.
3. Participants can fish on any body of water.
4. One photo is required. The preferred minimum size of each photo is 4" x 6".
 - a. **Required Photo 1** must be of the angler and the live fish, with the body of water it was caught visible in the background.
 - b. **Optional Photo 2** of the live fish being measured with a ruler/tape measure/yard stick.
5. Length will be based on distance from closed mouth to pinched tail.
6. Measure to the nearest quarter inch.
7. All photos must be submitted to *Mancelona Sports* by the close of regular business hours on Saturday, June 2.
8. Along with the photo(s), participants must complete and sign a fish registration form available only at *Mancelona Sports*. The form requires the signature of a witness.
9. The final placing may result in a tie.
 - a. Entries with Optional Photo 2 (see #4b above) will be given first priority if the case of ties.
 - b. The second tie-breaker will be the date/time of fish registration, the one registered first places highest.
 - c. The decision of the judge(s) is final.
10. Each registered fish automatically enters that participant in the door prize drawing.
11. Each participant can register multiple fish, as long as each new fish is larger than the previous fish. Each entry count toward the door prize drawing, but only the largest fish entered will count toward a contest prize.
12. The winners, top three places, will be posted by Sunday, June 3, at *Mancelona Sports* and on the official Mancelona Bass Festival web site (www.mancelonabassfest.org).
13. Winners, top three places and door prizes can collect their prizes during regular business hours of *Mancelona Sports* starting on Sunday, June 3 and ending on Sunday, June 10.



Mancelona Bass Festival, Inc.

P.O. Box 937
Mancelona, MI 49659

RECOMMENDATIONS:

REMOVING THE FISH FROM NET/WATER

Grasp the fish by the lower jaw, do not touch the gills. Maintain a firm grip. Put your other hand under the belly of the fish to support its "weight." Lift fish from net, be gentle but swift.

THE PHOTO

Is your camera person ready? It should take approximately 15 seconds to take the photo(s). Do not keep the fish out of the water unnecessarily long. If needed, refresh the fish in water between photos.

THE RELEASE

- Lay the fish back into the water with both hands. Maintain control of the fish by holding its tail.
- While maintaining control of the fish, swim it in a *forward direction*. Do not pull the fish backwards.
- Allow the fish time to re-gain its strength.
- When a fish is revived it will swim out of your grip or control.
- Stick around for a few minutes afterward to make sure of survival.

Thanks for your support of the Mancelona Bass Festival and the Bass Fishing Contest.