



2010 PAA Bass Pro Shops Tournament Series Member Observer Information Packet

The 2010 PAA Bass Pro Shops Tournament Series presented by Carrot Stix is a series of four bass fishing events comprised of the best touring professional bass fishermen from the PAA, Bassmaster Elite Series and FLW Tour.

A full field will consist of 150 anglers competing for a purse of more than \$400,000 in cash and prizes. The top 15 professionals based on an accumulation of points earned from the first three events will qualify for the 4th annual Toyota Texas Bass Classic in Montgomery, Texas. The TTBC will be held Oct. 1-3 on Lake Conroe.

Anglers will compete from their individual boats in the Tournament Series. A non-fishing observer will accompany each angler to assure the ethics of the PAA are followed and the integrity and validity of the rules are adhered to by all contestants.

The order of finish for each event will be determined by pounds and ounces. All anglers will compete for two days. The field will be cut to the Top 30 for the third day. The final finish will be based on an accumulated weight for all three competition days.

As an official member Observer, you can spend up to three days learning from the nation's top pros while they compete head-to-head with one another. There is no better way to learn tournament tactics, decision-making or how to win than to watch an event from the boat! Tournament Series events will be televised and promoted throughout the fishing industry, so the competition will be intense.

Although official member Observers cannot fish in the Tournament Series, there will be unique opportunities to fish with the pros. The PAA Pro-Am will be a small event open to amateur anglers who will be paired with a pro for an event on a nearby lake on Saturday. Pro-Am participants will not be able to observe on Saturday; however, those who observe on Days 1 and 2 will receive priority entry into the Pro-Am.

Observer Guidelines

Observers must be at least a General Member of the PAA. There is a \$50 entry fee, which puts you in the boat with the nation's top touring pros. This entry fee is paid one time per event and entitles the observer to participate up to all three days in each event.

In addition to the experience, observers also are registered in a shared-weight competition for Bass Pro Shops gift cards and prizes. To be eligible observers must participate in both Days 1 and 2.

Observers will be paired with their partners for both days at the Wednesday night registration meeting at Bass Pro Shops. On Day 1, the observer will earn the same weight as their Day 2 Pro. On Day 2, the observer will earn the same weight as their Day 1 Pro. At the conclusion of Friday's weigh-in, the Top 20 observers, based on their Pros' combined weight, will win \$100 Bass Pro Shops gift cards and other special merchandise prizes.

Although observers won't be eligible for the competition and prizes if they sign up for a single day, they are welcome to do so. The \$50 entry fee and membership requirements are the same, regardless of the number of days selected.

The final day of competition, Saturday, will consist of 30 Pros and 30 Observers. Any observers who participate in both Days 1 and 2 will receive priority placement on Day 3. In addition to two days of participation, priority consideration will be given to the order of observer registration for the event. Those who sign up earliest and for Days 1 and 2 will have the highest priority for entry into Day 3.

Observers are required to complete all necessary paperwork including Liability Release, Event Travel Survey, and Official Entry Form.

All observers are required to check-in at registration on Wednesday of competition week at Tournament Headquarters, which will be the local Bass Pro Shops store, between the hours of 3-5 p.m. All paperwork must be received and completed no later than 5 p.m. on registration day to participate.

All observers **MUST** attend the Wednesday pre-tournament meeting, which will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will allow observers to become informed of any last-minute rule changes or necessary information specific to the event.

- All observers will receive a pairing form informing them of which angler they have been paired with for the first two days of competition. The anglers will receive the same information.
- All parties will receive contact information for one another, including name, telephone number(s), and lodging.
- Anglers and observers should meet immediately following the pre-tournament meeting to determine a designated meeting time and location for the following day.
- If the observer can also meet with their second day angler after the meeting, it would help alleviate confusion and facilitate the process.
- If the observer is not able to meet with their second day angler at the meeting on Wednesday, they should contact him by cell phone to determine the meeting location and time for the second day of competition. There also will be opportunities to meet one another at the Day 1 weigh-in.
- For all observers participating on Saturday, you will be given the angler number of finish for your partner on Saturday (ex. John Doe observer is paired with angler in position #3 and Brian Snowden is in position #3 after Friday's weigh-in. Therefore John Doe and Brian Snowden are paired for Saturday). The angler in that position will contact you by cell phone on Friday night to coordinate when and where to meet on Saturday morning. The angler will not be aware of their observer until the Top 30 meeting immediately following the Friday weigh-in.
- If an observer cannot make contact with their pro, they may contact tournament staff at a number designated during the Pre-Tournament Meeting for assistance.

Observers should bring their own life jackets each day of the event that they are participating.

Observers should also be prepared for any type of weather and wear appropriate clothing for a full 8 hours on the water. Observers may not bring any tackle or fishing equipment, nor may they fish with the Pro's equipment during the tournament hours. Observers need to be sure to bring an appropriate amount of food and water, while being conscious of storage space.

Small cameras or video cameras would be a great way to capture the observer experience; however, remember that you will be on a boat. Equipment could get wet, damaged, or lost in inclement weather. Observers bring this equipment at their own risk. Neither the PAA nor the Pro angler is responsible for any observer's damaged or lost equipment during participation.

Observers may be photographed, interviewed and/or filmed by Fish PAA Television (Careco Media or its designee) and/or local news media on the water and at the launch or weigh-in site. Photographs taken by Observers on the water during competition may be requested by PAA officials and used on the PAA web site or in other promotional materials. Observers relinquish any and all rights in perpetuity and will not receive compensation for any interviews, photographs or television broadcasts.

At the conclusion of each competition day, once the bass are bagged for weigh-in observers do not need to accompany their Pro through the weigh-in process. Observers may stay to watch the weigh-in or leave. If the Observer is participating the following competition day, he should make sure where and when to meet their Pro the following morning.

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Off Limits: No information, and off-limits are in effect 30 days prior to the first competition day, with the exception of the designated Official Practice.

Official Practice: Three official practice days prior to competition. No competitors will be allowed on tournament waters during designated Off Days.

Wednesday Registration: **Tournament Headquarters**
*Mandatory Bass Pro Shops
3:30-5:30 p.m. Local Time
www.basspro.com for directions

Pre-tournament Meeting: **Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.**
*Mandatory

Competition Days:

Takeoff: **TBA at Pre-tournament meeting**

Check-In: **TBA at Pre-tournament meeting**

Weigh-In: **Thursday and Friday - Lakeside**
Saturday – Bass Pro Shops

Top 30 Meeting: **Friday at the Conclusion of Weigh-in - Lakeside**
*Mandatory

Relevant Angler Rules for Consideration

- 1 **Registration:** Each angler will be required to register in person at the designated location and time. Failure to register in person during the prescribed hours shall result in a \$50 fine. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** All anglers must have required information including Event Travel Surveys turned into tournament staff before the end of official registration meeting prior to each event. Any competitor who has not contacted the Tournament Director 30 minutes prior to the tournament meeting may be disqualified from participating in the tournament. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** It is each competitor's responsibility to check the schedule of events for registration time and location. It is mandatory that all contestants attend the pretournament meeting.

2. **Pairings:** Pros and observers will be paired for each tournament competition day. Pairings will be announced at Tournament Registration for the first two days of competition and then posted in a designated location for the final day of competition. All contestants must meet with their assigned observers during pairings at the tournament meeting and after each competition day. Pros and observers should advise each other of their lodging, phone number, and establish a meeting time and place for the next morning before take-off. Tournament officials have no responsibility for finding missing observers. The tournament director at his/her discretion may reassign observers prior to the morning take-off. When anglers/observers check out at the beginning of the day, they must stay together and within sight of each other and each other's catch throughout the day until the weigh-in is completed except in case of emergency. In the event of a needed restroom break, contestants are allowed to leave the boat, at which time all fishing must cease until partners are back together in the boat.
3. **Safety:**
 - (a) During the official practice and competition, competitors and observers must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type III PFD. The PFD must be worn at all times while the combustion engine is operating. The preserver must be strapped, snapped or zipped securely and maintained in that condition until the combustion engine is shut off. Violation of this rule shall be reason for disqualification.
 - (b) Tournament officials have the right to delay, shorten or cancel the start of an official tournament day due to bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather. Weather delays on full field days resulting in half of the tournament day being lost (first flight take-off and check in) may result in cancellations. Full field may be carried over to cut days.
 - (c) PAA reserves the right to impose boat speed limits during any or all tournaments. The decision is left exclusively to the discretion of the Tournament Director.
 - (d) In the event of an emergency situation, competitors should call 911 first and then notify tournament officials.
 - (e) Competitors are allowed to leave the boat and seek safe shelter in bad weather where danger may be imminent.
4. **Scoring:** Tournament standings and final winners shall be determined by the pound/ounce or pounds/hundredths weight of each competitor's catch during the competition days of the tournament. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Spotted, Redeye or Shoal bass will be weighed. The limit shall be five (5) of the above species and varieties per day, unless otherwise specified by tournament officials. At no time shall a competitor have in his or her possession more than the tournament limit. Tournament officials will conduct checks for violation of this provision, and in the event a competitor has more than the above-described limits in possession, shall cull down to the limit described, beginning with the largest bass first. The official length for bass shall be determined by the Tournament Director and announced at the Tournament Briefing. Only bass as described above which measure the official length or more on the longest straight line, shall be weighed. Bass presented for weigh-in, which fail to measure the official length, shall result in a penalty of 1 pound for each such bass, which penalty shall be deducted from the total score of the competitor. Any bass that appears to have been mangled, mashed, mauled or otherwise altered will be weighed and credited only at the discretion of tournament officials. After competitors check in at the official checkpoint they **MUST** present all **LEGAL** fish in their possession to a tournament official to be counted, measured and weighed. Once a competitor's catch is measured, counted and verified by a tournament official, that competitor may not return to the boat until their catch has been weighed and recorded. Bass must not be stringered at any time during the tournament. Culling tags or clips are allowed. Specially designed bags which increase survival rate will be furnished by the Tournament Director and must be used for the weigh-in.



Official 2010 PAA Tournament Series Observer Entry Form

Locations:

July 8-10	Lake Cherokee, Morristown, TN
August 12-14	Lake Norman, Charlotte, NC
September 9 – 11	Lake Tawakoni, Garland, TX
October 14-16	Table Rock Lake, Branson, MO

Entry Fees: \$50.00 and at least a General PAA Membership entitle Observers to participate for up to all three days. Whether participating for one, two, or three days, the fee is the same.

Off Limits: No information and no fishing by contestants 30 days prior to the first official practice day of each event.

Priority: Observers on the final day will have priority entry assigned to those who sign up for all three days of competition, with the earliest 3 day sign up having top priority.

Cancellation: Cancellation after registering and paying as an observer will result in forfeiture of entry fee; however membership will remain in effect for the stated 12 months.

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Email: _____
(Please be prepared to provide lodging information at registration: Hotel, City, Room Number)

Events registering (check all that apply):

LAKE CHEROKEE LAKE NORMAN LAKE TAWAKONI TABLE ROCK **Number of Days Participating:** _____

(Return by fax to 270-527-2032)

PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY – READ BEFORE SIGNING

In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by Professional Anglers Association, Inc., ("PAA"), I acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1. The risk of injury, disability, death, loss or damage to my person or property from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I have been advised by PAA, and have had the opportunity to seek legal counsel with respect to the legal effect of this document; and,
3. I knowingly and freely assume all risks referred to above, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of PAA, its officers, officials, directors, shareholders, agents, and/or employees, other participants, and sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and leasers of premises and property used to conduct the event ("releasees") or others, and assume full responsibility for risks arising from my participation; and,
4. I willingly agree to comply with the terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the immediate attention of the nearest official; and,
5. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assignees, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless releasees, with respect to any and all injury, disability, death or loss of damage to person or property, which I suffer or which I am found to have caused in whole or in part by my negligence or intentional misconduct, whether arising from the negligence of the releasees, or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
6. I agree to submit to a polygraph examination and understand that failure to pass the examination will result in disqualification.
7. **I agree that I have received a copy, reviewed and understand the Official Tournament Rules for the 2010 PAA Tournament Series events and I agree to abide by all of the rules.**
8. I certify that the number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number.
I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT AND THE ATTACHED RULES. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS AND UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY.

PUBLICITY

In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in the tournaments, events, programs, and related activities conducted by PAA, I ("Participant") hereby grant to PAA, its assignees and/or licenses (collectively "Sponsors" including television production companies contracted by PAA), the unconditional right to use my name, voice, photographic likeness, biographical information, fishing tips and/or instructions in any medium whatsoever, including by not limited to video/audio productions, merchandising, promotions, articles, and/or press releases, in connection with PAA tournaments, events, programs and related activities conducted by PAA without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time. I understand that I will not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. If Participant wins any of PAA's events, the Participant's name, likeness, and biographical information may be used in connection with the advertising and promotion. The Participant specifically consents and agrees to such use without restriction as to changes or alterations from time to time, and further understands and agrees that any sue will be without payment of any royalties or any additional compensation to Participant. The Participant signifies by his/her signature below that he or she has read and understands the foregoing provisions.

X _____ Age: _____ Date: _____ Tax ID: _____

Participant Signature

Print Participant's Name Here

**FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE
(UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)**

I, as parent/guardian do hereby certify that I have legal responsibility for the participant and I agree and consent to his/her release as provided above of all the releasees, and for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's or ward's involvements or participation I these programs as provided above, even if arising from the negligence of the releasees, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X _____ Date: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Print Parent's/Guardian's Name Here

(Return by fax to 270-527-2032)



Registration Survey

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How many members in your party? _____

Where are you Staying?

Please Circle:

HOTEL

CONDO

HOUSE

Name of Property: _____

Address/City of Property: _____

Number of Rooms: _____ Number of Nights: _____ Rate: _____

Does you plan to stay in the area longer than the tournament? Yes or No

If YES, How many days before or after the tournament? Days Before: _____ Days After: _____

Are you planning to visit any additional attractions or theme parks?



2010 PAA Bass Pro Shops Tournament Series Pro-Am Highlights

The PAA Bass Pro Shops Tournament Series Pro-Am will be an opportunity for anglers to fish with some of the nation's top professionals in a fun relaxed atmosphere.

At each Series stop, a limited number of Pros will be participating in the event separate from the Series event on Saturday, the final day of competition. The Pro-Am will be held on a nearby body of water, use the Catch, Weigh, Release format and be regulated as a paper tournament. Anglers will police themselves and keep track of the weight in their respective boats. Tournament finishes will be based on the total weight in pounds and ounces, up to the tournament limit.

Amateurs must enter the event in pairs, making for a total of three team members per boat. Each team will consist of two amateurs and one pro, and the catches of all three anglers will be recorded on the score card and counted towards the tournament limit.

All amateur contestants must be at least a General Member of the PAA.

Announced event details include:

- Field size will fluctuate between 24 and 36 teams per event, depending on location
 - The first 20 teams registered per event will be confirmed participants
 - 21-36 will be waitlisted and notified 30 days prior to competition
- Two-person amateur teams (Must register together at sign-up)
- Amateurs will be paired with PAA Pros by random draw
- Pairing Meeting will be conducted at the conclusion of the Friday weigh-in lakeside
 - Amateur teams must be present for the Pairing Meeting
- \$350 per team per event
- Prizes will consist of Bass Pro Shops Gift Cards and merchandise awards
- Each contestant will also receive a complementary lunch in conjunction with the event
- Competition will not exceed 6 hours and will conclude in time for Pros and Amateurs to attend the final day weigh-in at Bass Pro Shops

Complete event details, specific times, and lakes will be announced May 1, 2010. Those interested may request to be added to the Pro-Am Communication List, which will receive first notification of additional details. Sign-ups will begin Friday May 6, 2010 at 8 a.m. CST. Those interested in being notified of additional details in advance of sign-ups should contact the PAA office to be added to the list.