

2018 RTT
Constitution and Bylaws
Article I. Name, Purpose, and Definitions

1. Name

The name of this group of anglers shall be professionally referred to as The Razoryak Tournament Trail (RTT)

1. Purpose

1. The purpose of this club is to promote sportsmanship, camaraderie, conservation, and education while enjoying the sport of kayak fishing. The partner clubs will collaborate to crown a state champion at the end of each season.
2. Also, to function as a dynamic and effective link with other kayak bass fishing organizations throughout the US, and the World, along with promoting/partnering with only the best companies the fishing industry has to offer.

3. Definitions

1. Tournament: a tournament that has been formatted and structured to support an “Angler of the Year” points race.
2. Angler of the Year: determined by each qualifying club
3. AOY Leader: the participant who has the greatest amount of points accumulated throughout the season.
4. Board Zero Tournaments: in the event that nobody in a tournament scores any legal fish, the total Entry Fees will be paid out to the anglers remaining at the Awards Ceremony. Prizes will be pushed to supplement future tournaments. In the case, of only one angler bringing in the only legal fish, he/she will receive 100% of the entry fees. If there are only two anglers who bring in legal fish, 100% of the Entry Fees will be divided as such: 70% to 1st, 30% to 2nd. If only three anglers bring in legal fish, 100% of the Entry Fees will be divided as such: 60% to 1st, 30% to 2nd, 10% to 3rd.
5. Catch, Photo, Release (CPR): is defined as a measuring parameter to capture photos of scoreable/judge-able/targeted fish. Photographs of the targeted fish may be captured by a digital camera with removable sd card only. Smartphones may be used if anglers have the appropriate cables to connect them to computer. Keep in mind that if the picture taking device is not technologically adequate to make concrete judge-able photographs the picture will be considered not judge-able, therefore disqualified.
6. Roadrunner: allows the participant after morning registration to trailer/drive their kayak to another part of the lake (must be a legal access point/public launch site, otherwise meaning no trespassing. Obey all laws, honor boxes for parking, etc... you are responsible for those fees, not RTT Club).
7. Hawg Trough: a STANDARD Measuring Device which is utilized during CPR, to accurately score a fish's length, for judging purposes.
8. Unique Identifier: we utilize only a few digits, or letters, by writing them on top of the hand that we use to hold a fish down and placing the id on a wristband to be worn on the same hand, when we measure it. This unique identifier is required to be in a score-able picture. If it is not, the picture is immediately disqualified.

Article II. Membership and Dues

1. Membership (required for tournaments only)

1. Membership is free and open to anyone but is subject to approval by any RTT Tournament Director, and can be revoked at any time at the directors discretion for behavior that adversely affects the group by the angler or his/her affiliates.
2. Applicants who have been accepted shall become full members upon Tournament Director Approval.

3. By accepting membership, the member agrees that all corresponding documents and photos produced for the club shall become club property.
4. Membership may be canceled under any of the following conditions
 1. Intentional Violation of the Rules.
 2. Actions which reflect dishonor and/or disgrace to the club, it's members, and its sponsors.
 3. By decision of Tournament director.
6. Tournament Directors and presenting clubs– organizes and direct tournament events leading to the state championship.
 1. Natural State Kayak Anglers
 2. River Valley Kayak Anglers
 3. Kayak Bass Anglers of Central Arkansas
 4. Twin Lakes Kayak Anglers
 5. Northeast Arkansas Kayak Anglers

Article IV. Amending the Constitution and Bylaws

1. Method

1. The Constitution & Bylaws may be amended by written proposal only by any current club member. The proposal shall be submitted to the club officers at any time. The written proposal s shall consist of a reason why the document should be amended and a solution to the amendment. The written proposal should reference this document. All proposals will not take effect till the following year, if approved by all tournament directors (we will ask for feedback from current members on any proposed amendment via media channels or at tournaments).

2. Review and Acceptance

1. The board will review the written proposal and determine if the amendment should be accepted.
2. If agreed upon by unanimous vote, the proposal will be amended.
3. Amended Constitution and Bylaws will be distributed to members at the next annual meeting.

Article V. Tournament Fees and Payouts

1. Tournament Fees

1. Entry fees for all RTT Events is \$20 per angler. The entry fee is due and payable prior to the start of each tournament. A Big Bass Side Pot will occur for each tournament through a \$5 Option. (\$5 tourney x fee may also be added if director uses this service)

2. Payouts

1. 100% of the entry fees will be paid back to the entrants of RTT events
2. Payout Structure starting in 2018:
 1. Payout structure will be determined by each qualifying series as long as all entry fees are paid back to the anglers.

2. Zero Board Tournaments

1. In the event that nobody in a tournament scores any legal fish, 100% of the Total Entry Fees will be paid out to the anglers remaining at the Awards Ceremony and only participation points will be awarded.

3. Ties

1. In the event of a tie, the winner is determined by the length of their next biggest fish until the tie is broken. If anglers each only have one fish and are tied, pot will be split and equal points given to all parties who are tied.
2. AOY Tie Breaker – Anglers best 4 finishes, then 3, etc... until tie is broken. If tie remains then there will be a 4 hour fish off on lake tbd.

Article VI. Points Distribution

1. Points and Payouts are “Free for All” at every tournament

2. A Points System will be implemented; in which points will be awarded to the individual tournament angler based on the place he finishes in the event. I.e. 100 points will be awarded to First Place, 99pts to Second, 98pts to third, 97pts to fourth, and so on, and so on, for every competitor who registers a fish at Weigh-In. Anglers who Weigh-In at least a single fish will receive their respective tournament distribution points.

3. Anglers who register ZERO fish, but still "Show" will be rewarded with points determined with this formula: $100 \text{ Available Pts} - \text{Pts Earned by the last person in the Tournament Field} = \text{Pts Received}$

1. Anglers who are "No Shows" receive ZERO points. I

Tournament Selection

Tournament Dates and Locations will be determined by the Tournament Directors, by November, the year prior.

Tournament Rules

1. A tournament participant shall consist of one angler, fishing from one vessel. Human-Powered Vessels only.

i.e...Kayaks, Canoes, Float Tubes, and Small Boats are acceptable, if paddled, or pedaled.

2. No trolling motors or sails shall be used during tournament fishing hours.

3. All state, federal, and local laws must be obeyed at all times.

4. Contestants will abstain from consuming alcoholic beverages until after tournament hours.

5. Any excessive alcohol consumption or verified drug use after an RTT sanctioned event can/will result in dq and/or expulsion from the RTT for time period determined by board of directors. (Use common sense, we have young anglers and their families present)

6. Participants may not pay a guide to fish with them during fishing hours of a tournament.

7. Anglers may not hire or use a guide 30 Days before a tournament, to fish on an upcoming tournament lake.

8. Participating Anglers may not use a vessel, with a combustible or electric motor, for pre-fishing a tournament lake after 11:59 pm on the Wednesday prior to the event.

9. Participating Anglers may not fish a Tournament Lake during Off-Limits Periods. This means you can't even be on the water of the particular fishery. OFF Limits period begins at 11:59 pm on the Wednesday before the tournament.

10. Must have a valid fishing license.

11. Participating Anglers must have THEIR OWN HAWG TROUGH and PICTURE TAKING DEVICE

12. Tournament Directors may fish but must accept being the last out/ first in on the day of the event to make sure things run smoothly. Someone else must assign their identifier and score their fish. If using tourneyx or other GPS enabled software tournament director may not fish event.

Safety

1. Participants are required to wear a Coast Guard approved life preserver at all times, during tournament hours.

2. A light source is mandatory to fish or launch during hours of darkness.

3. Participants must have a sound making device on board with them at all times.

4. All anglers should have a phone during tournament hours, in case of emergency.

5. If an angler must be towed in their tournament day immediately is over, if they are towed from spot to spot for convenience then both anglers will be disqualified.

4. Inclement Weather Policy

1. Due to inclement weather, the tournament directors may shorten the tournament hours or cancel it. If weather is deemed hazardous, the tournament directors will institute a one hour delay. If after the one hour delay the weather conditions are still deemed hazardous, the tournament directors will institute one more hour delay before cancelling the tournament. 100%

of entry fees will be refunded if event is cancelled. Points and Prizes will not be awarded for the event. Prizes will supplement future tournament payouts.

5. Fishing Areas and Hours

1. Tournament times will be determined by the tournament directors. Each tournament must be at least 6 hours with the only two exceptions being the second day of a two day tournament, and a change due to inclement weather. The two day tournaments may have shorter hours as determined by the tournament directors.

2. If the event is deemed a road runner members may launch from any public access point on the tournament lake with legal access. Trailering to/from the registration and weigh-in site is permitted, if the lake, conditions, and Tournament Director allow for it. No leaving the registration site during roadrunner tournaments before the scheduled registration time commences (i.e. if registration is from 5:30-6:30am then you may not leave the registration site until 5:30am, after Registering) If found leaving early you will be IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED. If there is a Friday night or online registration anglers may be on the water at any time prior to set first cast time.

3. No fishing/"Off Limits" starts at 11:59 pm on the Wednesday prior to each "Official" Tournament Series Event.

4. No fishing is allowed from outside your vessel. All Pics must be taken from inside your vessel. Anglers are not allowed to leave their vessels to boat a fish. In the event that an angler is known to leave their kayak to retrieve a "hooked fish" he or she will be disqualified.

5. Participating Anglers are prohibited from gathering information from outside the field of anglers during a tournament hours. Once a tournament has commenced, participating anglers are no longer allowed to share fishing conditions, or tournament advice by phone, or any other messaging device.

6. There needs to be a 50 ft or full cast length distance between two anglers, do not cut off other anglers while fishing or crowd them if they are working a spot.

6. Tackle and Equipment

1. Only artificial lures may be used.

2. Only one rod per person may be in use at any one time. Each cast must be completed before another is made.

3. Trolling is allowed, still adhering to the 1 line in the water at a time policy. i.e. if you're Trolling a line, you can't be casting a line, or Trolling two lines at once.

7. Weigh-In and Conservation

1. The bag limit for each tournament shall be five fish per person per day (unless otherwise indicated for a specialty tournament), and we utilize the "Catch, Photo, and Release" method.

2. All tournament contestants must have their scorecards turned in at the designated time for weigh-in. If your scorecard is not in the Turn-In Buckets when "Time" is called, you will be IMMEDIATELY DISQUALIFIED. Another participant (tournament angler) can turn in your scorecard if necessary due to an issue arising with making it back to the weigh-in location on time. If your scorecard is not filled in properly, you will receive a 1" Penalty. If your Photo Capturing Device is not turned in with your Scorecard, you will also receive a 1" Penalty. This will help ensure a speedy "Judging" Period. If your fish are measured with their mouths OPEN, you will receive a 1" penalty per fish. If any/some/or all of these penalties drop your fish below the 10" legal minimum size, the entire fish will be disqualified. This is to ensure, that our Anglers are properly measuring their score-able fish. (See Addendum 1)

3. Do not cover the eye of the fish with hand, this is to ensure fish is alive while photographed

4. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass will be considered for Weigh-In. Each bass must be a minimum length of 10 inches. The "HAWG TROUGH" measuring board will be the "Official" measuring board used by the Anglers and Tournament Director to measure fish. Fish

must be measured with the mouth closed and the tail pinched, or un-pinched (Unless otherwise indicated by a Tournament Director).

5. Clips in the mouth are allowed but if they obstruct TD from seeing bottom lip touching board picture will be disqualified. If the clip keeps the mouth from closing, deductions will be applied. NO OTHER RESTRAINING DEVICES (rubber bans, straps, etc..) around the fish.

6. All lengths to be verified by the Tournament Directors, on an as needed basis.

7. A Unique Identifier will be given to the angler at the ramp by the Tournament Director. Each fish must be photographed on a HAWG TROUGH and include the Unique Identifier given by the Tournament Director for the fish to be counted in the Anglers bag limit.

8. To be eligible to qualify for the big bass pot, the fish must be a Minimum of 10", you the Angler must have bought in to the Big Bass Side Pot, prior to tournament start. If there is NO BIG BASS over the RTT 10" Minimum, the Big Bass Side Pot will roll over into the next respective tournament. If this is the last event, the Big Bass Purse will be reimbursed to all those that "bought in" and are still remaining at the Weigh-In.

Article VII. Rule Violations and Protests

1. Rule Violations

1. All protests must be submitted in writing to a tournament director within 15 minutes of the final weigh-in.

2. Violation of some tournament rules can result in disqualification or inch deductions.

2. Protests

1. Resolution of the protest will take place at the weigh-in site within 30 minutes of the written protest.

2. In the event that a decision cannot be rendered at the weigh-in site - the resolution will take place at a scheduled meeting, coordinated by the tournament directors.

Article X. Club Standings

1. The officers shall maintain and publish individual club standings on the club website and social media.

Article XI. Awards and Banquet

1. Awards

1. The "Angler of the year" award will be given to the member that wins the respective clubs AOY pts race The Angler of the Year will receive a prize package donated by sponsors.

2. Angler of the year will be determined by adding up an anglers 5 highest scoring finishes on their respective trail. (If an angler fishes more than 5 events they will drop their lowest scoring events)

Article XII. State Championship

1. Anglers that compete in at least 4 RTT partner club events will qualify to fish the Arkansas State Championship in the fall.

2. Any tournament winner from any RTT event also qualifies for the state championship.

3. This event will require a \$40 entry fee with optional \$10 big bass side pot (all entry fees carry over from day one to day two)

4. All other RTT rules apply at the Arkansas State Championship.

Article XV. Use of logo and likeness

1. Any and all use of the RTT/AKA logo and/or photos must be approved by the board of directors.

Addendum 1 to RTT Rules and Bylaws – Acceptable Photo

The RTT uses the standard Catch Photo Release method for measuring fish, it is a standard method used across kayak trails all over the country. Using this method fish are measured facing left, against

the bump board, with dorsal fin away from angler. The only variables being the mouth open vs closed, tail pinched vs unpinched, and type of measuring boards that may be used. These issues are addressed directly in the bylaws under section 6.7.

This addendum will more clearly explain what an acceptable picture looks like in RTT sanctioned events. Any variation can result in deductions from the anglers totals and/or disqualification of the photo.

Some common deductions and dq reasons

1 inch Deductions Photo Disqualification

Mouth open

Entire mouth not visualized in photo

Improperly filled out scorecard

Tournament Director's Discretion

Fish not touching board

Fish on board backwards

Fish on board upside down

Entire fish not seen in photo

Unable to see measurement lines

Eye Covered

Tournament Director's discretion

