



MEMBER PACKET

2019-2020

Guardians Bass Club

New Member Info

About Us:

The idea of the Guardians Bass Club was conceived in late 2016 when it was discovered that there were no opportunities for competitive youth fishing in New Braunfels or the surrounding communities. While there have been individual bass fishing teams formed in the past, there has never been a sustainable, organized program until now.

In April of 2017 our original 9 members competed in their first tournament on Lake Travis and since then we have grown to over 40 anglers representing 16 area middle and high schools as well as home-schoolers.

Our mission is to create a sustainable bass fishing club for area youth, keeping intact Christian-centered ideals and guiding principles and in doing so, to develop future leaders in our community who have outstanding character, values and share a love for the outdoors.

Introduction:

- **Board of Directors:** Brian and Stacy Berry, and Richard Belluardo make up the Board for our organization. Brian and Stacy Berry serve as club advisors and are responsible for team meetings and schedules.
- **Organization:** As our club has grown, meetings and activities are primarily student-led, with annual elections held for positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Media/Communications Chair.

Choosing A National Affiliation:

There are two main national organizations that support high school fishing in Texas. One is B.A.S.S. and the other is the TBF (The Bass Federation), which is under FLW (Fishing League Worldwide). We are currently part of TBF/SAF although there is a possibility that our club eventually will have dual membership in FLW and B.A.S.S.

About TBF:

The Bass Federation Inc., (TBF) is a member of the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. TBF is owned by those we serve and dedicated to the sport of fishing. The Federation is the largest and oldest, organized grassroots fishing, youth and conservation organization there is. TBF, our affiliated state federations and their member clubs conduct more than 20,000 events each year and have provided a foundation for the entire bass fishing industry for more than 45 years. TBF founded the Student Angler Federation (SAF) and the National High School Fishing program in 2008 to promote clean family fun and education through fishing.

General Info:

- Both male and female members are welcome and in fact, we have seen statistics stating approximately 40% of all SAF members nationwide are females.
- Insurance: Each angler and captain have a \$1M per occurrence in third party General Liability coverage, which is included in the FAN and SAF membership fees. These policies cover any member angler and their boat captain while competing in any FAN or SAF tournament
- A motorized boat is required to fish in all tournaments and anglers are designated as “boaters” or “non-boaters”. Boaters are anglers who have a dedicated captain (usually a family member or friend who owns a boat and who commits to supporting that angler in all tournaments). Non-boaters are anglers who do not have a dedicated captain. Non-boaters are responsible for securing their own volunteer captains for every tournament they want to participate in. We understand that many students who want to fish do not have access to a boat and this will always be our biggest challenge.
Anglers are highly encouraged to reach out to family/friends and find themselves a dedicated captain for the season. Because of our size, GBC is unable to commit to matching up anglers and volunteer captains.
- SAF requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in order to fish in sanctioned tournaments. Our club will follow the same guidelines for academic eligibility and anglers will be required to show their report cards for proof of eligibility for each tournament.
- Tournaments are primarily held on weekends and are across Texas. Academics and family will always take priority and our club will focus on local or regional events as much as possible.

Commitment:

There are no minimum time or tournament commitments required. However, if an angler wants to work towards qualifying for the championship, it is recommended that they fish in as many tournaments as possible to give them the best shot at qualifying. It is also OK if an angler simply wants to compete in individual tournaments whenever he/she is available.

- Team Meetings
 - Educational opportunities
 - Guest speakers
 - Team building
- Practice
 - Most practice will be done independently, although we may have some organized scrimmages to help with team building, education and learning our local waters. Generally speaking, anglers need to fish as soon and as often as possible to gain confidence and skills they can put to use in tournaments.
- Tournaments
 - There are no minimum requirements for competing in tournaments. We encourage anglers to participate in as many as possible if they are interested in moving on to the Championship, however if an angler simply wants to compete in individual tournaments, that is OK too.
 - GBC anglers are eligible to compete in any FLW-sanctioned tournament, regardless of where it is held or which tournament trail it is in.
 - As a club, GBC is committed to the Faith Angler Network tournament trails, which gives us ample opportunity to compete. There are other tournament trails that our anglers may choose to compete in at their discretion.

Faith Angler Network Tournament Trail:

Our club primarily competes in the Faith Angler Network tournaments. This tournament trail has two divisions: FAN Central and FAN South. The only difference is that the FAN South lakes will generally be closer to us. All FAN tournaments are held on Saturdays and there will be 3 tournaments in each division throughout the school year. There are other tournament trails that individual teams may choose to also participate in under the Guardians Bass Club charter, but at their discretion.

Additional Tournament Opportunities:

- Texas High School Bass Fishing Association – this is an established tournament trail across North and East Texas that has a newly-formed Hill Country division. They are an independent tournament series (meaning they are not affiliated with FLW or BASS), they tend to be very large (200+ boats in most of their tournaments) and only allow 9th-12th graders to participate. Their tournaments are held on Saturdays.
- Central Texas High School Tournament Trail – tournaments are held on Sundays and are usually held on lakes north of Austin (Waco, Stillhouse, etc.)
- “Open” Tournaments - These are events organized by various fishing clubs across the state. These are also optional and do not count for AOY or TOY points (they are not qualifiers).

General Tournament Info:

- In each trail, anglers earn points towards Angler of the Year (AOY) as well as earn prizes and scholarship money.
- Tournaments start at daylight and weigh-ins are typically around 2:00 PM.
- Out of town tournaments may require additional consideration for hotel/meals/transportation costs.

Other Considerations:

- **Equipment**
 - a. Anglers are encouraged to have their own rods/reels, as personal preference plays a heavy role. It is NOT necessary to spend a lot of money on this and most times a boat captain is happy to allow the anglers to use their equipment.
 - b. Bait – only artificial lures are permitted. It is up to the angler to decide which type/color they want to use based on the conditions. Boat captains are there to advise and mentor the angler on lure selection, pattern identification, identifying ideal fishing spots etc...and will typically have a wide variety of lures that they will share. However, as the student angler gains experience and knowledge, he/she will most likely have some favorites that they bring along to each tournament.
 - c. **All anglers are required to provide their own life jackets.** Life jackets must be of the vest type, NOT the inflatable tube-style, and must fit properly. Life jackets are required to be worn whenever the big motor is being used on the boat (not when trolling/anchored).
- **Cost - \$160+**
 - a. Total membership fees payable to Guardians Bass Club are \$160 and includes the following:
 - i. Guardians Bass Club Membership \$110/yr (includes tournament jersey, neck buff, baseball cap, car decal and dri-fit short sleeved shirt.
 - ii. TBF (FLW) annual membership \$25/yr
 - iii. Faith Angler Network membership \$25/yr

- b. Boat Captains – it is highly recommended that anglers offer compensation to their volunteer boat captains for their time, gas, boat fuel and incidentals. This recommendation pertains mostly to those anglers who have a captain who they are not related to. \$20 per angler is a customary amount per in-town tournaments. Out of town tournaments may require additional consideration such as additional gas/fuel costs, hotel and meals.
- c. Most tournament entry fees are \$20 per angler. TBF membership gets the angler free entry into all State-Level SAF tournaments.

- **Club Advisors:**

Stacy and Brian Berry
210-313-0409 or 210-865-1946
guardiansbassclub@gmail.com

HOW TO JOIN

1. **Complete pages 8-11** and email to guardiansbassclub@gmail.com **If you don't have a scanner, there is an app for your phone called Genius Scan that will allow you to use your smartphone's camera to scan and email documents**
2. Once your documents are received, you will be emailed an invoice for your dues and any merchandise you ordered with an option to pay through PayPal
 - a. *****If paying with PayPal, please use your bank account rather than credit/debit card. Otherwise we have to pay a transaction fee.*****
 - b. Another payment option is through Zelle or Venmo – contact us for more info.
 - c. If you prefer to mail a check, make it payable to Guardians Bass Club and mail to:
Guardians Bass Club
c/o Stacy Berry
1081 Krona Court
New Braunfels, TX 78132
3. Follow us on Social Media and share with your friends!
 - a. www.facebook.com/guardiansbassclub
 - b. Instagram: @guardiansbassclub

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE
2019-2020**

Date	Location	Qualifier	Organization
Saturday, Sept 21	Lake Travis	Y	FAN Central
Saturday, Oct 19	Lake Belton	Y	FAN Central
Saturday, Dec 7	Canyon Lake	Y	FAN South
Saturday, Feb 22	Medina Lake	Y	FAN South
Saturday, Mar 7	Lake LBJ	Y	FAN Central
Saturday, Apr 4	Choke Canyon	Y	FAN South
Sat-Sun May 2-3	TBD	N	FAN Championship

Tournament dates are subject to change and we may add more dates as tournaments are announced.

GBC Angler of the Year

- Tournament Participation 50 points each tournament (up to 200 points)– any high school fishing tournament
- FAN First Place Finish = 100 points each
- FAN Second Place Finish = 90 points each
- FAN Third Place Finish = 80 points each
- FAN Big Bass = 50 points each
- FAN 4th-10th Place = 30 points each
- FAN 11th-20th Place = 20 points each
- Attend a GBC meeting 15 points each
- A Honor Roll 15 points each report card
- A-B Honor Roll 5 points each report card
- Volunteer Hours = 5 points each hour up to 50 points
- FAN AOY Points = Your actual year-end FAN points

****This list may be edited before the start of the season****

Guardians Bass Club
Angler Profile
2019-2020

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student Phone: _____ Is this a cell #? Y N

Student Email: _____ D.O.B: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Parents Names: _____

Parent Phone: _____ Is this a cell #? Y N

Parent Email: _____

Have you ever been bass fishing? Y N

Have you ever been saltwater fishing? Y N

Do you have your own rod/reel? Y N

Can you use a bait casting reel? Y N

Do you have access to a boat? Y N

Do you have a boat captain? Y N

Do you know how to swim? Y N

What other extra-curricular activities or sports do you participate in? _____

Membership dues include a Tournament Jersey, a short-sleeve dri-fit shirt, neck gaiter, car decal and your choice of a visor or baseball cap. Please indicate your shirt size and visor/cap preference.

Shirt Size: Adult S M L XL XXL (circle one)

Angler Questionnaire
(for website)

1. When you're not fishing, what do you do for fun?
2. Which potential colleges are you considering?
3. Do you have a favorite professional/college sports team?
4. What are your favorite go-to baits/equipment when bass fishing?
5. What do you hope to gain from participating in HS Fishing? What are your goals?
6. What is your most memorable fishing experience/memory?
7. Who is your favorite pro angler and why?
8. What 3 things would you take with you on a deserted island?
9. Favorite food?
10. Favorite type of music?
11. What is one of your favorite bible verses?

**GUARDIANS BASS CLUB
RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

In exchange for participation in the activity of fishing tournaments, fishing scrimmages, and other club activities organized by **Guardians Bass Club, of 1081 Krona Court, New Braunfels, Texas, 78132** and/or use of the property, facilities and services of Guardians Bass Club and its volunteers, I, _____ agree for myself and for the members of my family, to the following:

(parent name)

1. AGREEMENT TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS. I agree to observe and obey all posted rules and warnings, and further agree to follow any oral instructions or directions given by Guardians Bass Club, or the employees, volunteers, representatives or agents of Guardians Bass Club.

2. ASSUMPTION OF THE RISKS AND RELEASE. I recognize that there are certain inherent risks associated with the above described activity and I assume full responsibility for personal injury to myself and (if applicable) my family members, and further release and discharge Guardians Bass Club and its volunteers for injury, loss or damage arising out of my or my family's use of or presence upon the facilities of Guardians Bass Club, whether caused by the fault of myself, my family, Guardians Bass Club or other third parties.

3. INDEMNIFICATION. I agree to indemnify and defend Guardians Bass Club and its volunteers against all claims, causes of action, damages, judgments, costs or expenses, including attorney fees and other litigation costs, which may in any way arise from my or my family's use of or presence upon the facilities of Guardians Bass Club.

4. FEES. I agree to pay for all damages to the facilities of Guardians Bass Club and its volunteers caused by any negligent, reckless, or willful actions by me or my family.

5. APPLICABLE LAW. Any legal or equitable claim that may arise from participation in the above shall be resolved under Texas law.

6. NO DURESS. I agree and acknowledge that I am under no pressure or duress to sign this Agreement and that I have been given a reasonable opportunity to review it before signing. I further agree and acknowledge that I am free to have my own legal counsel review this Agreement if I so desire. I further agree and acknowledge that Guardians Bass Club has offered to refund any fees I have paid to use its facilities if I choose not to sign this Agreement.

7. ARM'S LENGTH AGREEMENT. This Agreement and each of its terms are the product of an arm's length negotiation between the Parties. In the event any ambiguity is found to exist in the interpretation of this Agreement, or any of its provisions, the Parties, and each of them, explicitly reject the application of any legal or equitable rule of interpretation which would lead to a construction either "for" or "against" a particular party based upon their status as the drafter of a specific term, language, or provision giving rise to such ambiguity.

8. ENFORCEABILITY. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement, whether standing alone or as applied to a particular occurrence or circumstance, shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement or of any other applications of such provision, as the case may be, and such invalid or unenforceable provision shall be deemed not to be a part of this Agreement.

9. DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The parties will attempt to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement through friendly negotiations amongst the parties. If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, the parties will resolve the dispute using the below Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedure.

Any controversies or disputes arising out of or relating to this Agreement will be submitted to mediation in accordance with any statutory rules of mediation. If mediation is not successful in resolving the entire dispute or is unavailable, any outstanding issues will be submitted to final and binding arbitration under the rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator's award will be final, and judgment may be entered upon it by any court having proper jurisdiction.

10. EMERGENCY CONTACT. In case of an emergency, please call _____ (Relationship: _____) at _____ (cell) or _____ (home)

I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS RELEASE, I VOLUNTARILY SURRENDER CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS.

Dated: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Student Angler's Name: _____ (printed)

Guardians Bass Club

2019-2020

Code of Conduct

Acknowledgement Form

By my signature below I attest that I have read and been informed of the club's Code of Conduct. I also understand the consequences for any violations.

Print Angler Name: _____

Angler Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

****Sign/Date and return this form along with pages 7-10. Keep the Code of Conduct pages for your reference.**

Guardians Bass Club Code of Conduct and Expectations

Message To The Parents

As a parent/guardian of a GBC angler, you also have committed yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations, which are outlined in this Code of Conduct. Your signature, along with the signature of your angler, indicates that you understand these and agree to cooperate with club leadership in enforcing the Code of Conduct. Compliance is mandatory and essential to the success of the club. Failure to comply may lead to discipline and possible expulsion from the team.

Good sportsmanship is encouraged and expected from our parents, fans and spectators at all times during all events. Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship may result in removal from the event and/or future events.

We look forward to working with you and to supporting your son/daughter as they participate in the sport of High School Fishing.

Message To The Anglers

Guardians Bass Club has a relatively new but distinguished history and reputation of excellence, sportsmanship and integrity in the sport of high school fishing. This reputation was not built overnight. It has taken a lot of dedication, commitment, and hard work by a countless number of people as well as the GBC anglers of past seasons. As a Guardians Bass Club member you must continue to strive to uphold this high standard of excellence.

Once you become a member of the team, you have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of our anglers:

1. The use of vulgar or profane language is unacceptable anywhere and at any time.
2. Appropriate behavior will be exhibited at all times.
3. The highest level of sportsmanship towards both your teammates and your competition will be exhibited at all times.

Philosophy:

Participation in Guardians Bass Club is a privilege, not a right, and should be treated as such. Anglers who choose to join the club accept that they are ambassadors of Guardians Bass Club in tournaments, club events and when out in the community. Any time you wear your tournament jersey, club hat, or t-shirt, you are representing yourself, your family, your club and all those who were members of GBC before you. Your behavior should be above reproach in all areas.

We require that our student anglers represent our highest standards, including our core values of responsibility, accountability, integrity and humility. These expectations include an emphasis on respect for self, others and property; loyalty to self, teammates and club leadership; and exhibiting the ideals of true sportsmanship.

Scope:

The Club Code of Conduct must be followed by our members both on and off the water, but especially when wearing any type of GBC gear. As a student angler, you will be expected to understand and abide by these rules and it is your responsibility to follow them to their fullest.

1. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOURSELF:** The most important of these responsibilities is to develop strength of character and positive values and behaviors. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible benefit from your GBC experiences because your academic studies and your participation in extracurricular activities (including high school fishing) help to prepare you for your life as an adult.
2. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR CLUB:** You assume a leadership role when you are on any type of athletic team (fishing or otherwise). The students at your school and citizens of your community know you and will judge our club by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the water. Because of this leadership role, you can make positive contribution to school and community pride. In addition, you are a role model for younger anglers who will look up to you and hope to be in your shoes one day. Be sure the example you set is a positive one.
3. **RESPONSIBILITIES TO OTHERS:** As a team member you also have a responsibility to your family. It is impossible for you to succeed in high school fishing without the support of your parents and family. Just as your behavior reflects on the club, it also reflects on your family. When you know that you have competed with enthusiasm, honor and to the best of your ability at all times and with the utmost sportsmanship, you can be proud of yourself and your family can be justly proud of you.

Mission/Belief Statement

Our mission is to create a sustainable bass fishing club for area youth, keeping intact Christian-oriented ideals and guiding principles and in doing so, to develop future leaders in our community who have outstanding character, values and share a love for the outdoors. It is also our intent to provide the opportunity for improving fishing skills and learning valuable life skills which include Cooperation, Sportsmanship, Pride, Respect and Leadership.

Guardians Bass Club believes:

1. That student anglers will have opportunities to develop leadership characteristics through competition, teamwork and volunteer opportunities and that these leadership skills will carry into the future.
2. That student anglers serve as role models within the community and are expected to act in a manner that reinforces that role.
3. That self-discipline and sportsmanship are essential.
4. That pride builds respect of self and others, which helps create strong and lasting friendships and relationships.
5. That participation in Guardians Bass Club is not a right but a privilege; with that privilege also comes responsibility.
6. That the sport of high school fishing should be fun and should always provide opportunities for learning.

Sportsmanship

It is important for both anglers and parents to help us maintain an outstanding reputation for good sportsmanship. We must all work hard to conduct ourselves in a commendable manner. Always observe the following guidelines for good sportsmanship:

1. The good name of our club is more important than any tournament won by unfair means.
2. Be supportive of all anglers, captains and officials before, during, and after all tournaments.
3. Recognize and show appreciation for the fine performance of your competition.
4. Be proud of our club's reputation and work hard to protect it.
5. Cheer for your teammates, not against the competition.
6. Don't allow others' negative sportsmanship to become an excuse to do the same.

RULES AND EXPECTATIONS:

I. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- a. SAF requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 (a "C" or better) in order to fish in sanctioned tournaments. Guardians Bass Club follows the same guidelines for academic eligibility.
- b. It is the responsibility of the Angler to submit a signed Academic Eligibility Form (found on our website) no later than 3 days – and no earlier than 7 days – prior to each tournament.
- c. If an angler is not maintaining a "C" or better in all classes, he/she is ineligible to compete in that tournament but has the opportunity to compete in future tournaments provided their grades meet eligibility requirements.

II. SPECIFIC ANGLER STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS

- a. **ALCOHOL, DRUGS & TOBACCO ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** The possession, use, consumption, or any other improper or unlawful involvement of any kind with illegal drugs, controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, E-Cigarettes, or Vapor Pens, is strictly prohibited. Also prohibited is the distribution, abuse or misuse of over the counter medications, prescription drugs, or other chemicals and substances
- b. **HAZING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Because hazing is unsafe and can discourage participation as well as negatively affect a student's enjoyment in club participation, all forms of hazing are strictly prohibited. Hazing includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. Any gesture or written, verbal or physical act that a reasonable person should know will have the effect of harming someone or cause someone to have a reasonable fear of harm to his or her person, or damage to his or her property.
- c. **GROSS MISCONDUCT.** Gross misconduct is defined as cheating, fighting, or unfavorable notoriety, violation of a civil or criminal law, or any socially unacceptable behavior that brings discredit to the angler, parents, school or club. **This includes any unacceptable behavior on social media.**
- d. **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR.**
 - i. The use of vulgar or profane language is unacceptable anywhere and at any time.
 - ii. Unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable – whether it is directed towards your teammates or your competition.

- III. **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY.** While social media and networking are fun and valuable, there are certain considerations we need to keep in mind when using these tools. Below are guidelines to follow

when club members are representing Guardians Bass Club on social media, regardless of whether these are considered club or personal spaces.

- a. Use good judgement – behave in a way that will make you and others proud and reflect well on the club. Regardless of your privacy settings, assume that ANYTHING you have shared on social media is public information.
- b. Be respectful – Always treat others in a respectful, positive and considerate manner.
- c. Post images with care -
 - i. Respect brand, trademark and copyright information.
 - ii. Remember that when you are in a tournament jersey, you are also representing our sponsors.
 - iii. Understand that your actions/photos while wearing GBC gear will be closely scrutinized by others.

This Code of Conduct is not a complete list of undesirable conduct by anglers. Any student angler whose conduct is in violation of this Code or is a discredit to the angler or the club in any manner will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the GBC Leadership Team on a case-by-case basis. Disciplinary action may include a warning, exclusion from a tournament or other club activity or even expulsion from the club depending on the severity of the violation.

By my signature below I attest that I have read and been informed of the above Code of Conduct. I also understand the consequences for any violations.

Print Angler Name: _____

Angler Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sign and keep this page for your records. Sign and date the Acknowledgement Form and return it with your registration forms.