



OFFICIAL BASSMASTER CASTINGKIDS RULES

1. Participation and Eligibility: Participation in the Bassmaster CastingKids program is open to anyone between 7 and 14 years of age. The contestants will compete in two age groups, 7-10 and 11-14. Age will be determined by the state BASS Federation Nation leadership based on date of state finals or December 31, 2009, whichever works best for the state. Proof of age to the satisfaction of program officials is the responsibility of the parents or legal guardians of the competitor and will be required prior to competing at the state level.

2. Participation in State Championships: A child may compete and qualify in any state local event, but may compete in only ONE State Championship. The parent or guardian must declare on the Competition Registration Form whether or not the child has competed in any other CastingKids State Championship.

3. Registration and Official Practice: Each competitor must register in person at the site of the Bassmaster CastingKids competition. After registration, each participant will be given an opportunity to practice on a contest lane.

4. Conduct of the Competition: Zebco® spincast rods and reels will be provided for use in all Bassmaster CastingKids competitions. All competitors will be required to use these rod-and-reel combinations. Under no circumstances will competitors be allowed to provide their own tackle. After sufficient practice, as determined by the program officials, all competitors will enter the contest lane(s). Each competitor will be required to flip to an official target from 10 feet away, pitch from 20 feet away, and cast from 30 feet away. **The club is not to deviate from the order of first flipping, then pitching and finally casting. This format will be consistent at the local, state and national level of competition.** Scoring is based on a points system. The competitor who scores the most points wins. Points are determined by where the lure comes to rest on the target. While a lure is allowed to bounce either forward or backward prior to coming to rest on the target, a competitor may not pull the lure backward once it has hit the target. If this is done, a zero is scored. If the lure is on the line dividing the 20-, 30-, 40-, or 50-point areas, the official score is the area where that part of the lure to which the line is attached rests. **Bouncing the lure off the backboard will be allowed.** Each competitor will be given two (2) chances from each distance using the method for that distance. The three best scores (one each from 10, 20, and 30 feet) will be totaled and that total will be the competitor's score. Total possible score is 150 points. Total-score ties will be broken by casting from the 30-foot position until there is a winner in each age group.

5. Definitions:

a. Flip: Any underhand pendulum-type cast where the reel is engaged (spincast reel) prior to the attempt. The line does not have to be held. The contestant will be allowed to swing the lure over the target to determine range, so long as the lure does not touch the target.

b. Pitch: Any underhand pendulum-type cast with the reel disengaged (spincast reel) so as to allow the weight of the lure alone to pull off the line needed to reach the required distance. At the start of the pitch, the lure must be a minimum of two (2) feet past the rod tip. **Using the flipping technique at the pitching line will not be allowed.**

c. Cast: Any overhand or sidearm cast with the reel disengaged (spincast reel) so as to allow the weight of the lure to pull off the line needed to reach the required distance. At the start of the cast, the lure must be within one (1) foot of the rod tip. If a child chooses to use the sidearm cast, make sure he/she has enough clearance at the lane site to safely accommodate a sidearm cast.

— SPECIAL NOTE —

It is imperative that these rules are strictly adhered to on the local, state and national level to bring consistency to all levels of the CastingKids competition.