

Mancelona Bass Festival, Inc.

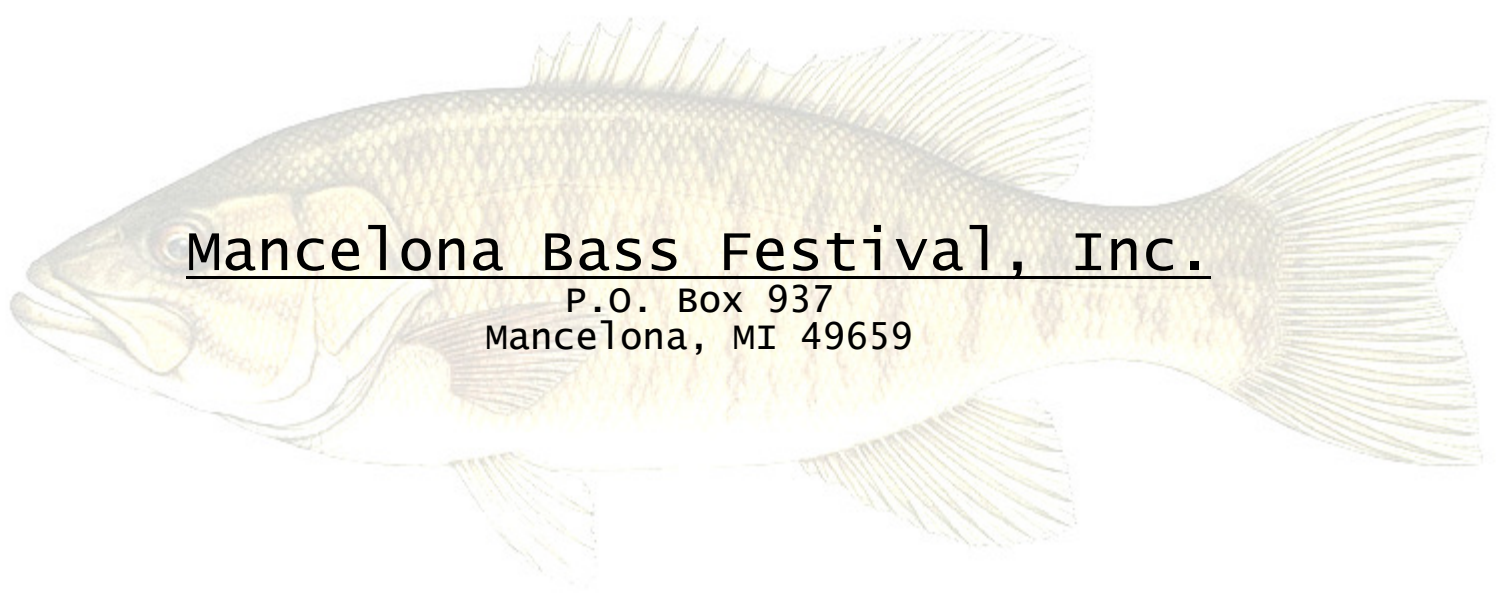
P.O. Box 937
Mancelona, MI 49659

Bass Fishing Contest Rules

The 2009 festival will utilize a Catch, Photo, & Release (CPR) format for the fishing contest. This will maintain the tradition of a fishing contest and keep in line with current Department of Natural Resources rules and regulations.

Participants will be required to purchase an official contest measuring stick (\$1) at Mancelona Sports before taking to the water. These will be available at the start of normal business hours on Thursday, June 4.

1. All participants must follow Michigan fishing rules and regulations.
2. The contest will run from June 4-June 6, during regular business hours of Mancelona Sports.
3. An official contest measuring stick must be purchased before taking to the water. These can be shared.
4. Participants can fish on any body of water.
5. Two photos are required. The minimum size of each photo is 4" x 6".
 - a. **Photo 1** must be of the angler and the live fish, with the body of water it was caught visible in the background. If fishing alone, the angler must still get a photo of the live fish with water visible in the background.
 - b. **Photo 2** must be of the live fish being measured with the official measuring stick behind it.
6. Length will be based on distance from closed mouth to pinched tail.
7. Measure to the nearest quarter inch.
8. All photos must be submitted to Mancelona Sports by the close of regular business hours on Saturday, June 6.
9. Along with the photos, participants must complete and sign a fish registration form.
10. The final placing may result in a tie.
 - a. Ties will be broken by date/time of fish registration. When two or more fish of the same length are entered, the one registered first places highest.
 - b. The decision of the judges is final.
11. All registered fish automatically enter that participant in the door prize drawing.
12. Only one fish can be registered per participant.
13. The winners, top five places, will be posted by 10:00am on Sunday, June 7, at Mancelona Sports and on the official Mancelona Bass Festival web site (www.mancelonabassfest.org).
14. Winners, top five places and door prizes (20+), can collect their prizes during regular business hours starting on Sunday, June 7 and ending on Sunday, June 15.



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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 both required photos. Have the official measuring stick in position. 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 Bass Fishing Contest.