

District 5 is pleased to announce a 4-H Virtual Bass Fishing Tournament to be hosted statewide and within districts desiring to participate. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at 903-834-6191 or via email at jlmcswain@ag.tamu.edu

- See tournament information within this memo for county agents.
- Information for 4-H families on tournament guidelines, schedule of contests, and rules of play are attached for distribution.
- Bass tournament will be open to any 4-H member across the state.
- A marketing flyer is attached for your use. **As this is a virtual tournament with fishing pictures to be posted on Facebook for judging, be sure to add this flyer to your social media outlets and county websites.**

Event Guidelines

Tournament Schedule

Species	Dates	Fishing Times
Bass	March 7, 14, and 21	8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Entry Requirements

- Register on 4-H Connect beginning **January 21, 2020** at <https://texas.4honline.com>
- After registering on 4-H Connect, participants must join the Facebook 4-H Fishing group by clicking [here](#) or going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202432833284039/> at least 2 days before the tournament begins.

Contests

- Statewide (individual or team)
- Districts (individual or team) 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11
- Big Bass (individual)

Entry Fees

- 4-H youth may enter the statewide, district and big bass contests in following combinations:
 - **State only** – compete against all entered 4-H’ers across the state.
 - **State and Big Bass** - compete against all entered 4-H’ers across the state and for the Big Bass prize of a replica of the winning fish and bragging rights.
 - **State and District** – compete against all entered 4-H’ers across the state and against other registered district participants for separate awards and prizes. Districts 2, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11 are also hosting a district-level tournament in conjunction with the state contest.
 - **State, District and Big Bass** - compete against all entered 4-H’ers across the state and against other registered district participants for separate awards and prizes and for the Big Bass prize of a replica of the winning fish and bragging rights.
- \$25 per individual per state and/or district contest (may participate in all three dates with one-time entry fee to state or state and district).
- Optional Big Bass individual entry (additional add-on contest competing against all other Big Bass registered 4-H’ers across the state) - \$5
- Bass teams are comprised of 3 or 4 members of any 4-H age division (mixed teams are permitted).

District Registration Deadlines

- Entry to 4-H Connect by **March 3, 2020**

Entry Limitations

- There are no limits on the number of individuals or teams entered by county.

Location

- Fish anywhere permitted by law (freshwater, ponds, stock tanks, rivers, lakes, etc.).
- Boats are not required.
- Post entry pictures for judging on Facebook during specified dates and times.

Awards

- Presentation of awards for each contest will be held at the county-level at a date determined by county agents.
 - 1st place will be presented a medal and an award to be determined by 4-H Fishing committee. 2nd and 3rd places will receive a rosette and an award to be determined by 4-H Fishing committee.
 - If registered in the optional “Big Bass” contest, the top placing big bass (based upon fish length and girth) will be presented a replica of the winning fish.
- Entry via 4-H Connect gives permission to the District office to use the participant’s name, photograph as needed for marketing and promotion purposes.

Educational Opportunities

- 4-H members that join the Facebook 2020 4-H Fishing group, will have the opportunity to view Texas Parks and Wildlife skill-based videos on using fishing gear, selecting lures and other topics of interest.
- Optional weekly skill-a-thon activities will also be available to check a member’s knowledge of fishing skills and techniques.