

2025 IHSA BASS FISHING STATE TOURNAMENT

Regional Tournament Information Sheet

Site of tournament:	Lake Decatur
Tournament Manager:	Phil Applebee, Maroa-Forsyth High School phil.applebee@mfschools.net Work: 217-794-3463x1105 Cell: 217-519-3089 Jason Doty, Maroa-Forsyth jason.doty@mfschools.net
Date:	May 15, 2025. If weather causes this tournament site to be postponed the rescheduled date will be Monday, May 19, 2025.
Schools entered:	Argenta (A.-Oreana), Cerro Gordo, Mahomet (M.-Seymour), Maroa (M.-Forsyth), Mt. Zion, Warrensburg (W.-Latham)
Check in time/location:	5:15 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.
Fishing times:	6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. All regionals and sectionals will be set for at least five (5) hours of fishing and cannot exceed eight (8) hours on the water. They might have to be varied because of weather. It is considered a complete tournament if 2 ½ hours of fishing occurred at the regional/sectional tournament. If the tournament is postponed until the next Monday, no fish caught on the original date (Thursday) will count towards the tournament weigh-in on the make-up date. All boats must be back in the designated weigh in area by the appointed end of fishing time, or a boat may be penalized according to the Terms and Conditions.
Rosters:	To be turned in at check in – (A Team Roster Form is included in the bass fishing manual downloadable on the IHSA website). Please remember, the principal's signature must be on the form.
Safety check:	All boats must meet the safety check as designated by the State. (See attached list of what is needed to pass this safety check.)
Equipment check:	All coaches and participants must wear a coast guard approved life jacket and protective eye wear the entire time on the boat.
Lake restrictions:	List of all lake restrictions for all regionals and sectionals is included. Please review the restrictions for your assigned lake at the bottom of this sheet. (Such as motor restrictions, no fish areas, etc.)
Limits:	Each boat must have a bump board and no fish under 12 inches may be kept. Only 5 fish may be in the live well at any one time in the boat. The five fish limit applies to the team on that boat. The participants may release one fish to replace it with a larger one, if they have met the 5 fish limit. All fish must be kept alive. Penalty will be assessed for any dead fish. No dead fish may be culled. (See Bass Fishing Terms and Conditions.)
Communication:	All boats are required to have a cell phone and must provide the tournament manager the number of that cell phone in case of an emergency or bad weather conditions.
Uniforms:	School uniforms can only have the school's name and/or logo and the student's name on them. Any sponsorship the school has secured cannot be displayed on the student's uniforms or on the coach/driver of the boat. Sponsorship logos may be displayed on the boats that are in the tournament.

License:	All participants must have a current Illinois fishing license unless they are under the age of 16.		
Pre- fish at Regionals & Sectionals:	There is no limit on how many times you pre-fish regional/sectional lake. Please make sure you have contacted the regional or sectional lake contact person to make any necessary arrangements. Any costs associated with pre-fishing are the responsibility of the school or angler(s).		
Awards:	A plaque will be presented to the winning team and medallions will be presented to the team boat that caught the largest bass.		
Sectional:	The top six boats will advance to the sectional at Clinton Lake on May 22, 2025.		
<u>Lake Decatur</u>			
Boat Ramp:	Lake Decatur Marina (2203 East Lake Shore Drive, Decatur 62521) in Nelson Park		
Restrictions:	<p>Fishing and the taking of aquatic life from boats is hereby prohibited in Lake Decatur in that area lying west of a line 300 feet upstream from the east side of the public highway known as U.S. Route 51. Fishing and the taking of aquatic life from the Lake Decatur dam, dam spillway, spillway rocks and water intake structure is prohibited. Species limits specified in the aforementioned Illinois Compiled Statute and Illinois Administrative Code citations must also be abided by. The taking of any fish or aquatic life from the Lake for commercial use or resale is allowed only with prior written approval by the Lake Supervisor or designee. It shall be unlawful to use, set or place or control any bank lines, bank poles, limb lines, trotlines, snag lines, fishing jugs or any similar devices in, on or adjacent to Lake Decatur. All persons using Lake Decatur for the taking of any fish or aquatic life shall use the same so as not to create any unsanitary conditions in or about Lake Decatur or so as not to pollute Lake Decatur and make it unwholesome or unfit for use. E. It is unlawful to operate a motorboat equipped with an internal combustion engine on the Lake without at least one U. S. Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher, so placed as to be readily accessible and in such condition as to be ready for immediate and effective use. No boat used or operated on the Lake shall be equipped with toilet facilities except closed chemical toilets which must be approved by the Lake Supervisor or designee. Nothing herein shall be construed as permitting any boat to be operated at a speed greater than is safe and prudent under the circumstances, and the operator thereof shall observe all signs and other regulations placed by the City on or near the Lake.</p> <p>The Alabama Rig, or other multiple rig variations, is prohibited during any IHSA Bass Fishing State Series competition.</p>		
District Fisheries Manager:	Jim Garavaglia	217-345-2420	
Illinois Conservation Officer:	Jeremy Ausmus	309-319-5426	Jeremy.ausmus@illinois.gov Region 3, District 19
Lake Contact Person:	Chris Murphy	217-424-2837	
	Joe Nihiser, Lake Decatur Lake Patrol Office	217-424-2837	
Appeals:	The Tournament Committee shall act as jury of appeals. Schools wishing to make an appeal to the committee concerning a violation of the Terms and Conditions must do so in writing prior to the conclusion of the weigh in of the last fish. All appeals shall be submitted to the tournament manager or his designee. The decision(s) of the tournament committee shall be final in all matters pertaining to the IHSA Bass Fishing Terms and Conditions.		