



2026 KHSAA State Championship on Kentucky/Barkley Lakes Hosted by Calvert City, KY May 8-9, 2026

Tournament Director:

- Scott Ellison
270.205.6864 or scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com

High School Fishing Contacts:

- Joey Bray, National Youth Director SAF\TBF
580.716.4251 or Joey@federationangler.com
- Scott Ellison, MLF
- 270.205.6864 or scott.ellison@majorleaguefishing.com

Competition Waters:

- Kentucky & Barkley Lakes. Kentucky Dam south to Highway 79 bridge in Paris, TN and Barkley Dam south to Highway 68/80 Bridge. You can fish the bridges, but not beyond them.

Venue and Lake Boundary Map:

- Click [here](#) for a map showing venues and lake boundaries.

Lodging:

- Please contact Kentucky Lake CVB at 270.527.3128.

Practice:

- Competition waters are open for practice until 6 p.m. May 7.
- The purchasing of, or bartering for, information or the hiring of fishing guide services will not be permitted after April 22.

Boat Operation:

- Contestants are not permitted to drive the boat when the combustion engine is in operation. Each boat will be driven by a coach or volunteer driver. Contestants may operate the trolling motor. Coaches and volunteers may provide assistance, including information about locating and catching fish, but are not permitted to fish.

Catch and Size Limit:

- Five bass per team; minimum 15 inches for all bass.

License Requirement:

- A Kentucky fishing license is required for students 16 and older. Click [here](#) to purchase.

Format:

- The qualifying teams from each of four 2026 KHSAA Bass Fishing Regionals are invited to compete. Each team can weigh a maximum of five bass each day. The 2026 KHSAA Bass Fishing Champions are determined by the heaviest two-day catch. Ties will be broken first by heaviest bass from either day of competition then by total number of bass.

KHSAA Contact:

- Joe Angolia
859.299.5472, ext 235 or jangolia@khsaa.org

Registration:

- All qualified teams must register online at HighSchoolFishing.org by 5 p.m. Central time Monday, May 4.

Mandatory Check-in:

- Thursday, May 7, 6-7 p.m.
- MLF Weigh-in Trailer or Kentucky Dam Village Convention Center 113 Administration Drive Gilbertsville, KY
- Anglers, coaches & captains must attend.
- Pretournament meeting immediately following check-in.

Takeoff and Weigh-in:

- Friday & Saturday, May 8-9
- Takeoff: 6:30 a.m. All-Female Division First
- Weigh-in: 2:30 p.m. All-Female Division
- Weigh-in: 2:45 p.m. Co-ed Division
- Kentucky Dam Marina
466 Marina Drive
Gilbertsville, KY 42044

Items to Bring:

- Signed [liability release](#)
- Personal floatation device
- Valid student ID
- Valid Kentucky fishing license if 16 or older
- Sunscreen & sunglasses
- Rods and reels
- Line cutters & needle-nose pliers
- Lures & tackle
- Rainsuit
- Jersey or shirt representing your school

Rules:

- KHSAA, the Student Angler Federation and MLF expect strict adherence to the following rules by all contestants. KHSAA, SAF and MLF also recommend the use of livewell additives to help promote the healthy release of bass. In the event of an emergency, please call 911 first and then notify the tournament director. Click [here](#) for the complete KHSAA Bass Fishing rules (pages 61-64).

Schedule:

Please note all times listed are Central time

- **Thursday, May 7**
 - 6 – 7 p.m. Check-in at the Kentucky Dam Village Convention Center
 - 7:05 – 7:45 p.m. Rules meeting in person at the Kentucky Dam Village Convention Center
- **Friday, May 8**
 - 5:45 a.m. All teams report to Kentucky Dam Marina
 - 6:15 a.m. All boats must be in the water and staged by the courtesy dock near the break wall at Kentucky Dam Marina
 - 6:30 a.m. Takeoff (Boats 1-90) at Kentucky Dam Marina from the courtesy dock near the break wall
 - All-Female Division launches first (boat # TBD)
 - 2:45 p.m. Weigh-in at Kentucky Dam Marina
 - **Check-in at courtesy dock near the break wall**
 - **2:30 p.m. All-Female Division Flight**
 - **2:45 p.m. 1st Coed Division Flight (Boats 1-30)**
 - **3 p.m. 2nd Coed Division Flight (Boats 31-60)**
 - **3:15 p.m. 3rd Coed Division Flight (Boats 61-90)**
- **Saturday, May 9**
 - 5:45 a.m. All teams report to Kentucky Dam Marina
 - 6:15 a.m. All boats must be in the water and staged by the courtesy dock near the break wall at Kentucky Dam Marina
 - 6:30 a.m. Takeoff (Boats 90-1) at Kentucky Dam Marina from the courtesy dock near the break wall
 - All-Female Division launches first (boat # TBD)
 - 2:45 p.m. Weigh-in at Kentucky Dam Marina
 - **Check-in at courtesy dock near the break wall**
 - **2:30 p.m. All-Female Division Flight**
 - **2:45 p.m. 1st Coed Division Flight (Boats 61-90)**
 - **3 p.m. 2nd Coed Division Flight (Boats 31-60)**
 - **3:15 p.m. 3rd Coed Division Flight (Boats 1-30)**