



To: 2024 Bass Fishing State Final Qualifiers
From: Kurt J. Gibson
Re.: Congratulations
Date: May 1, 2024

On behalf of the Illinois High School Association, Board of Directors, and Bass Fishing Advisory Committee, congratulations on qualifying for the 2024 IHSA Bass Fishing State Finals.

Enclosed in this State Finals Qualifier packet you will find information that will assist you in your preparation for the state finals. Should you have questions regarding the state finals, please feel free to contact the IHSA. Included in this packet are the following items:

- Cover letter
- State Final Meet Contact Information
- State Final Time Schedule
- State Final Meet Personnel
- State Final Information
- Lake Evacuation Plan
- State Final Safety Meeting Agenda
- State Tournament Boat Safety Checklist
- Map of Carlyle Lake
- Driving Directions
- Additional Resources
- 'Do What's Right' Sportsmanship Announcement

Good luck at state finals!



State Final Contacts

School officials of teams advancing to the IHSA Bass Fishing State Final Meet at Carlyle Lake should find this information useful.

1. **Tournament Inquiries**

If your school should have questions about the state final, you may call the IHSA office.

2. **Other State Final Contacts**

Kurt J. Gibson	IHSA Associate Executive Director	(309) 663-6377
Emma Carstens	IHSA Administrative Assistant	(309) 663-6377

3. **Press Credentials Prior to State Finals**

Matt Troha	IHSA Assistant Executive Director	(309) 663-6377
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4. **School Press Credentials**

Matt Troha	IHSA Assistant Executive Director	(309) 663-6377
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BASS FISHING STATE FINAL SCHEDULE — 2024

CARLYLE LAKE

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Check in for pre-fishing at the Marina Boat Ramp.
Pre-fish begins immediately after boat has been safety checked –
5:00 p.m. Pre-fish ends – all boats must be back at the Marina
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Additional boat checks at Carlyle High School

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024

6:00 a.m. Tournament check in at the Marina Boat Ramp
7:00 a.m. Tournament begins Day 1
3:00 p.m. Boats 1-25 and all Unified Boats return to docks for weight in
3:15 p.m. Weigh in begins on Main Stage (Walk up)
3:15 p.m. Boats 26-50 return to docks
3:30 p.m. Boats 51-75 return to docks

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

6:00 a.m. Tournament check in at the Marina Boat Ramp
7:00 a.m. Tournament begins Day 2
3:00 p.m. Boats 51-75 and all Unified Boats return to docks for weigh in
3:15 p.m. Weigh in begins on Main Stage
• Top 10 boats from Day 1 weigh in last on Day 2
3:15 p.m. Boats 26-50 return to docks
3:30 p.m. Boats 1-25 return to docks
4:30 p.m. Awards presentation



2024 State Final Tournament Personnel

Master of Ceremonies:	Kevin Hunt, MLF
Weigh-In Supervisors:	Robert and Tonya Nicholson, Diana Hunt, MLF
Weigh-In Organizers:	Trent Purcell, Carlyle; Scott Steward, Salem
Boat Release:	Kevin Hunt, MLF
Boat Ramp Supervisor:	Trent Purcell, Carlyle
Boat Check-In:	Al Crocker, Carlyle
Boat Safety Check:	Carlyle Lake Corp of Engineers, Conservation Police Officers
Communications:	Kurt Gibson, IHSA
Boat Shuttle:	Scott Steward, Salem



State Final Information

1. **State Final Housing:** Sectional champions advancing to the State Final tournament need to make their own hotel/motel arrangements or the weekend. A list of area hotels can be found on the IHSA Bass Fishing page. It is our suggestion you make reservations immediately upon completion of the Sectional.
2. **School Packets:** Head Coaches can pick up their school packets during boat checks on Thursday. School packets will include participant passes for the teams and coaches. (See Terms and Conditions for details.)
3. **Passes:** Schools will be allowed to have personnel on site in accordance with the IHSA Bass Fishing Terms and Conditions. Only rostered participants will be allowed on site and on boats.
4. **Admission Prices:** There is no admission price to the IHSA Bass Fishing State Finals.
5. **Safety Check:** All boats must meet the safety check as designated by the DNR.
6. **Equipment Check:** All coaches and participants must wear a coast guard approved life jacket and protective eye wear the entire time on the boat.
7. **Lake Restrictions:** Lake information will be provided to coaches at the safety meeting held virtually on Monday evening, May 13, 2024.
8. **Exact fishing times:** On each day of the state tournament, fishing is scheduled to begin at 7:00 a.m. On each day, boats will return to the docks in flights based on their release time beginning at 3:00 p.m. in order to avoid any weight deduction penalty. The only variance to these fishing times would occur if a weather alert has been issued by tournament management.
9. **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. (See Bass Fishing Terms and Conditions.)
10. **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.
11. **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 uniforms or on the coach/driver of the boat. Sponsorship logos may be displayed on the boats that are in the tournament.
12. **License:** All participants must have a current Illinois fishing license, unless under the minimum age requirement.
13. **State Final Tournament:** The Bass Fishing Tournament will be held at Carlyle Lake on Friday and Saturday, May 17-18, 2024. Up to seventy-five (75) teams will compete in the State Final Tournament.
14. **Opening Ceremonies:** On each day of competition, boats will be released to Carlyle Lake for fishing following the National Anthem. On day one of the state finals, boats will be released in order of the random drawing conducted by IHSA staff in advance of the tournament. On day two of the state finals, the boats will be released in reverse order of the day one release (Ex.: the last boat released on day one of the state finals will be the first boat released on day two).
15. **Results:** Results of the state finals, members of the advisory committee, and additional bass fishing information can be found on the IHSA web page www.ihsa.org. Click on Bass Fishing.
16. **Concessions:** Concessions will be available during the tournament.

Have a great state final! Let us know if we can make your experience even better!



2024 IHSA Bass Fishing State Championship Emergency Plan for Lake Evacuation

1. All boats must have a cell phone. That cell number must be given to the tournament manager no later than boat checks on Thursday.
2. All boat captains and head coaches will be given the cell number of IHSA contact Kurt Gibson prior to the beginning of the state finals.
3. The following boat launch areas will be used as designated sites to dock and seek indoor shelter in case of an emergency: Dam West Marina located by lake marker number 1, CSA (sailboat marina) located by lake marker number 2, Keyesport Marina located by lake marker number 7, Boulder located by lake marker number 14 and Coles Creek Recreation Area located between lake markers 16 and 17.
4. There will be a designated contact person in each of these areas directing you to an indoor area and asking you what your boat number is.
5. The designated contact person will record all boat numbers that come into their evacuation area and require everyone to stay inside the shelter area until they are released by IHSA staff.
6. Each contact person will relay to IHSA staff the numbers of each boat that is secured in that specific evacuation area.
7. Corp of Engineer boats will be located at the Dam West Boat Launch and will be ready to search for any missing boats that do not report in to one of the evacuation areas.
8. **If weather forces an evacuation of the lake, each boat will be notified through an automated phone relay system. There is NO need to reply to that message; simply listen and follow directions.**
9. Once you have received the message, you are to stop fishing **immediately** and proceed to the nearest evacuation point on the lake and report in to the contact person. The IHSA contact will identify himself to you at that point.



The Safety Meeting for the 2024 IHSA Bass Fishing State Finals will be conducted virtually on Monday, May 13, 2024, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Qualifiers will be sent a link to the meeting prior to this date.

Safety Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome/Introductions
- II. Schedule of Events
- III. Boat Release
- IV. Weigh-ins
- V. Alternates
- VI. Awards
- VII. Sportsmanship
- VIII. Safety/Lake Evacuation

All qualifiers should make sure of the following:

- They have provided cell phone number(s) for phones that will be on boat during competition
- They have informed tournament management if there are any boats that will need to be boat checked on Friday



Illinois High School State Tournament Boat Safety Check

School Name _____

Boat (Please circle) 1 or 2

Vessel Registration No. _____

Tournament Date: _____

Number of Occupants _____

Inspector: _____

Vessel Owner: _____

Boat Dismissal # _____

Name of adult boat captain: _____

Cell Phone # _____

Safety Inspection: (Teams should have everything ready and out in the boat)

PFDs (1 per occupant) _____

Throwable PFD device (boats 16 feet and over) _____

Fire Extinguisher _____

Sounding Device _____

Battery cover _____

Anchor _____

First Aid Kit _____

Flash Light _____

Protective eye cover for each occupant _____

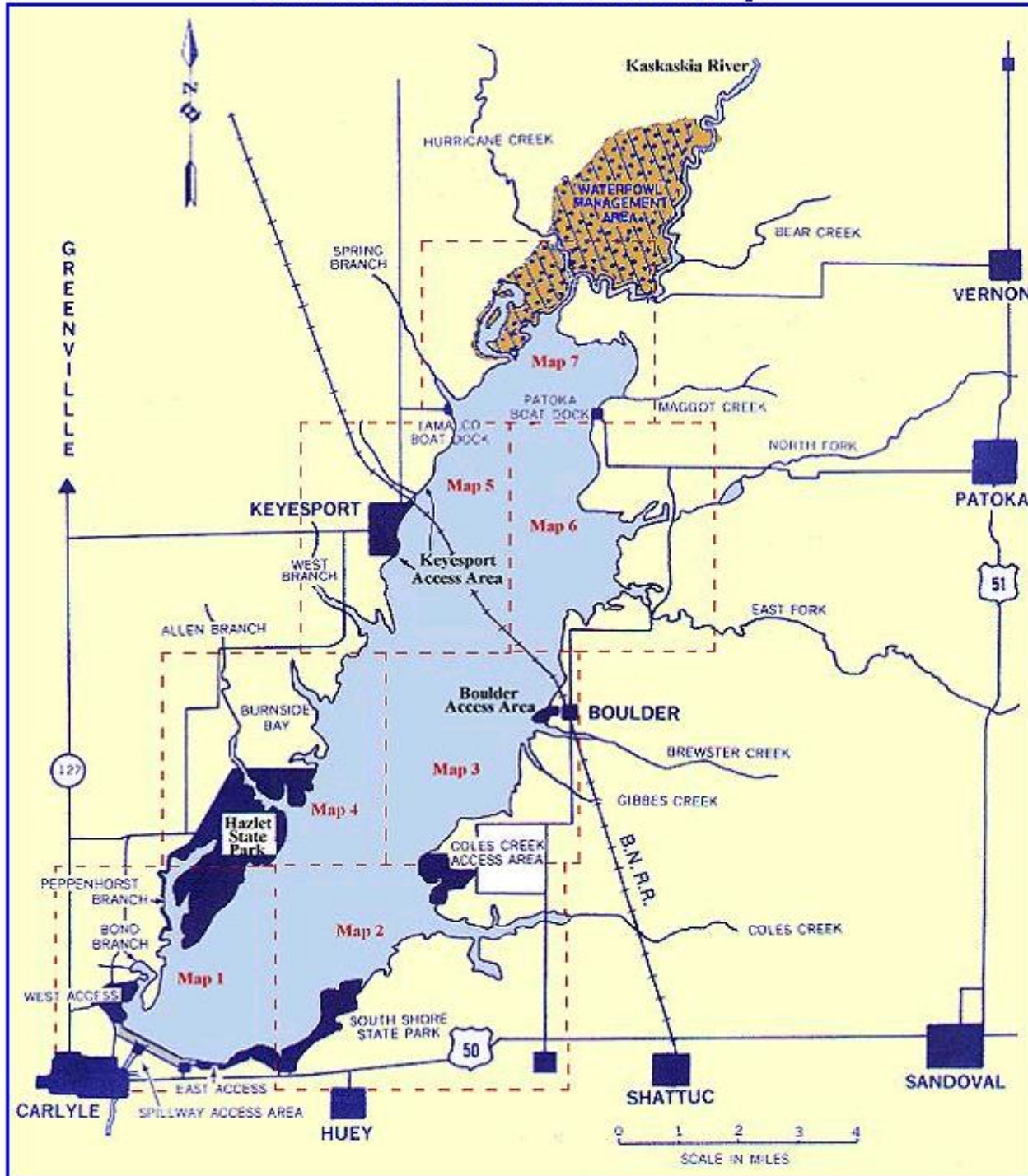
Visually check all boat compartments/livewells _____

Navigation lights (if after dark) _____ NA all tournaments end at 3:00 pm

Please give to tournament manager when completed.

Carlyle Lake

Click inside marked areas for additional maps.



- [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#)

Go to <http://www.carlylelake.com/Maps/lakemap2.htm> for an interactive map of the lake.

Driving Directions



From St. Louis

1. Interstate 64 travels east out of St. Louis, Missouri. Take I64 past exits to Fairview Heights, O'Fallon, and Shiloh.
2. Take exit 19B, Route IL 158 and U.S. 50. Travel to first stop light.
3. Turn right at the first stop light to stay on U.S. 50.
4. Upon entering Lebanon, U.S. 50 and IL 4 merge. Turn left at "T" intersection.
5. Upon approaching first stop sign, turn right to stay on U.S. 50 and to leave Lebanon.
6. Continue on U.S. 50 for approximately 25 miles upon reaching a "T" intersection, which is Carlyle.

From Cairo

1. Interstate 57 travels north out of Cairo, Illinois. Upon encountering Mt. Vernon, I57 will merge with Interstate 64. Continue traveling north.
2. After passing through Mt. Vernon, look for Exit 96. Be sure to remain in your left lane. Take Exit 96 to I64.
3. Continue on I64 for approximately 24 miles. Upon reaching Exit 50 for State Route 127, take this exit. At the stop sign, turn right or north.
4. Continue on IL 127 for approximately 16 miles until you reach Carlyle.

From Chicago, Kankakee, Champaign (Via Interstate 57)

1. Travelers originating from Chicago and the south suburbs should consider taking Interstate 57 to Carlyle.
2. Upon encountering Effingham, you will need to stay in your right lane and merge right to stay on I57. Upon leaving Effingham, you will also need to stay in your right lane and merge right to enter Interstate 70.
3. From Effingham, you will travel approximately 50 miles until you reach Greenville. Take Exit 45 to reach IL 127. At the stop sign, turn left or south.
4. You will travel approximately 20 miles south on IL 127 until you reach Carlyle.

From the Western Chicago Suburbs

1. Travelers originating from the western suburbs should consider reaching Interstate 55 to travel south. You will want to travel around Bloomington and Springfield, continuing on I55.
2. As you leave the Springfield area, you will travel an additional 30 miles to reach Exit 63 to reach IL 127. At the stop sign, turn left.
3. You will stay on IL 127 as you travel through Raymond, Hillsboro, and Greenville. Be sure to pay attention to road signage as you will need to make turns in each of these communities to stay on IL 127. These signs will not be hard to find.
4. After passing through Greenville, stay on IL 127 until you reach Carlyle.

From other Areas

1. You will be best served by reaching any of the following four interstates that are closest to you: Interstate 55, 57, 70, or 64.
2. From I55, you will need to take Exit 63 at Raymond to reach IL 127. Please see additional, detailed directions from the Western Chicago Suburbs above.
3. From I64, you will need to take either Exit 19B north of Scott Air Force Base to reach U.S. 50 or Exit 50 at Nashville to reach IL 127. If taking U.S. 50, please see directions from St. Louis above. If taking IL 127, please directions from Cairo above.

4. From I70, you will need to take Exit 45 at Greenville to reach IL 127. Please see directions from Chicago, Kankakee, and Champaign above.
5. There is another possibility to take I57 to Salem and to U.S. 50. If taking this route, take Exit 116 to reach U.S. 50.

Directions in Carlyle

1. The City of Carlyle is bisected by two main streets which are 12th Street (also IL 127) and Franklin Street ("Old" U.S. 50).
2. The Carlyle Super 8 is located on 12th Street and is very easy to find once you enter Carlyle.
3. The Carlyle Microtel can be reached by taking William Road (at McDonalds) towards the Lake. After driving approximately ½ of one mile, the Microtel will be on your left.
4. The Carlyle Lakefront Cottages are located in Eldon Hazlet State Park. To reach the park, you will see a large, wooden State Park sign on IL 127 north of Carlyle. This sign marks the intersection of IL 127 and Hazlet State Park Road. Follow this road into the Park and follow the Park's signs for directions to the Cottages.
5. The Dam West Boat Ramp and Dam West Campground are located just across the street from the Mariner's Village. Please follow the same directions above as if you were driving to the Mariner's Village.

Additional Resources

- [Think Safe Personal Flotation Device \(PFD\) Booklet](#)
- [The Handbook of Illinois Boating Laws and Responsibilities](#)
- [Carlyle Lake Vector Map](#)

IHSA Bass Fishing

Do What's Right!

Sportsmanship

Coaches and Participants:

1. Set a good example for spectators to follow.
2. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials and accept their decisions graciously.
3. Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athletes and coaches.
4. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
5. Show respect for opponents before, during, and after contests.
6. Do What's Right! Represent your team, school and community with dignity.

Spectators:

1. During the National Anthem, students, participants and fans should remove any hats, face the flag, not talk, place the right hand on the heart, and remain still until the end of the anthem.
2. During the National Anthem, when singing, follow the music and lyrics precisely.
3. Show respect for opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.
4. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials and accept their decisions graciously.
5. Show respect for members of the coaching staff and team.
6. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
7. Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding plays by either team.
8. Use only cheers that are positive in support of their team.
9. Encourage coaches, players, and other fans to Do What's Right!

Acceptable Behavior...

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of game officials.
- Spirit Participants lead fans in positive support.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at the end of contests, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performance of all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior...

- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booming or heckling an official's decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming the loss of the game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Doing own yells instead of following the lead of spirit participants.

