



OFFICIAL INVITATION

2026 XX Black Bass World Championship

Hot Springs, USA

Lake Hamilton

September 27 - October 4, 2026



To: National Fishing Team,

USAngling invites you to the **2026 Black Bass World Championship** in Hot Springs, AR, on Lake Hamilton, United States of America. The venue of Lake Hamilton is a world class bass fishery. The southern charm of Hot Springs, AR and the surrounding area will welcome all attendees and provide many cherished memories. USAngling is partnered with Visit Hot Springs to ensure the successful production of the event.

Thank you,

John Knight - USAngling International Organizer

Tony Forte - USAngling President



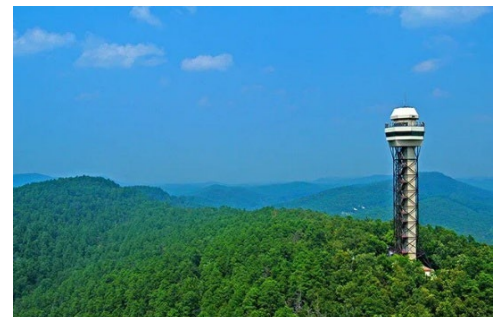
Championship Venue – Lake Hamilton

Lake Hamilton is a wonderful lake in central Arkansas on the southern edge of Hot Springs. This beautiful lake spans just under 8,000 surface acres. Lake Hamilton is one of Arkansas' most productive fisheries and has more fish per acre than any other lake in Arkansas.

Host Community – Hot Springs, AR. USA

Hot Springs, Arkansas, gets its name from the naturally thermal spring waters found here. Flowing out of the ground at an average temperature of 143 °F, the hot springs produce almost one million gallons of water each day. The hot springs were such a coveted natural wonder that in 1832, President Andrew Jackson designed Hot Springs as the first federal reservation. Hot Springs Reservation was essentially America's first national park, predating Yellowstone National Park by 40 years. The hot springs are also pumped into several downtown hotels and spas. The water is even available at public fountains. The beautifully restored Fordyce Bathhouse now serves as a visitor center.

Hot Springs is a city in the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas. It's known for naturally heated springs, many of them in Hot Springs National Park to the north. Bathhouse Row has 8 bathhouses from the 19th and 20th centuries. These include Buckstaff Baths, with thermal baths. The elaborate, stained-glass-and-marble Fordyce Bathhouse has a lobby fountain and houses the park's visitors center and museum.



Lodging

The headquarters hotel is **Hotel Hot Springs** - lodging, meals, meetings, awards, Sportsman Show, arena weigh-in, boat storage will all stage here.

[Hotel Hot Springs](#)

Phone: (501) 623-6600, Toll Free: (877) 623-6697

305 Malvern Avenue, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 71901-5445, USA

Pre event lodging - call the hotel toll free at (877) 623-6697 and identify yourselves as being with this group (2026 Bass World Championship) when making reservations. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card or an advance deposit for the first night's lodging.

International Travel

Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport (LIT) The largest commercial airport in Arkansas. While Clinton National Airport does not have direct international passenger flights, more than 50 flights arrive or depart at Little Rock each day.

- [Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport \(LIT\)](#)
- [Rental Car companies at airport](#)

*** All teams will need their own transportation.**

*** There are no buses or transfers provided.**

Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport Little Rock to The Hotel Hot Springs

Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport (LIT), 1 Airport Rd, Little Rock, AR 72202, Get on I-440 W 2 min (0.9 mi), Take I-30 W to US-70 W in Saline County. Take exit 111 from I-30 W 28 min (29.7 mi), Continue on US-70 W. Drive to Malvern Ave in Hot Springs 26 min (24.2 mi), The Hotel Hot Springs 305 Malvern Ave, Hot Springs, AR 71901. [Google Map link from Airport to Hotel Hot Springs](#)

The Hotel Hot Springs to Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery

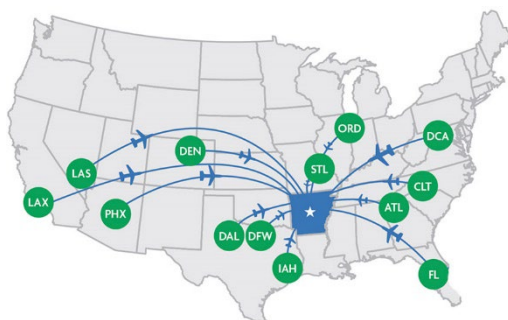
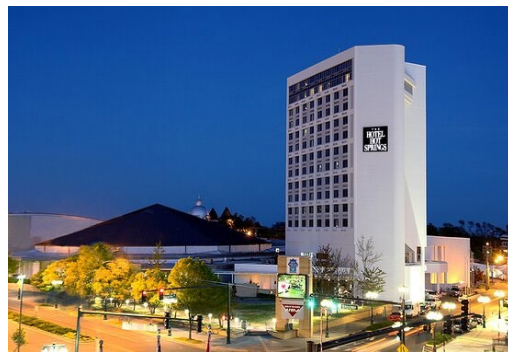
The Hotel Hot Springs 305 Malvern Ave, Hot Springs, AR 71901, Head southeast on Malvern Ave toward Church St 3.2 mi, Turn right onto Carpenter Dam Rd 2.0 mi, Continue onto Lakepark Dr 0.3 mi, Continue onto AR-128 W/Carpenter Dam Rd 1.6 mi, Turn right onto AR-128 W/State Hwy 290 3.7 mi, Turn right onto Fish Hatchery Rd 0.8 mi, Turn right 131 ft, Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery 350 Fish Hatchery Rd, Hot Springs National Park, AR 71913.

[Google Map link from Hotel Hot Springs to Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery](#)

Boat Launch – [Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery](#)

Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery is on the south side of Lake Hamilton in Garland County. It covers 134 acres in the southern edge of the scenic Ouachita Mountains, one mile north of Arkansas Highway 290 and 12 miles south of Hot Springs. It is the second largest of four warm-water fish hatcheries owned and operated by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Weigh-in will be broadcast live at the AGFC Weigh-in building at ramp.

[Google Map link Andrew H. Hulseley State Fish Hatchery](#)





2026 XX Black Bass World Championship Program

Sun 27 Sep 2026 Welcome	TIME	Monday 8 Sep 2026 Official Practice Day 1	Tuesday 29 Sep 2026 Official Practice Day 2	Wednesday 30 Sep 2026 Official Practice Day 3
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Accreditation of Delegates	5:30 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
	6:00 AM	Launching of Boats	Launching of Boats	Launching of Boats
3:00 PM Hotel Check In	7:15 AM	Boats ready by group, MC	Boats ready by group, MC	Boats ready by group, MC
	7:30 AM	Start of First Flight	Start of First Flight	Start of First Flight
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Skippers Meeting	7:35 AM	Start of Second Flight	Start of Second Flight	Start of Second Flight
	7:40 AM	Start of Third Flight	Start of Third Flight	Start of Third Flight
4:00 PM Captain's Meeting Draw	3:30 PM			
	3:50 PM			
5:00 PM Boat Review/Rig	4:10 PM	End of Practice day	End of Practice day	End of Practice day
	7:00 PM	Opening Ceremony	Nations Dinner	Nations Dinner
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Welcome Dinner	8:00 PM	Opening Dinner	Captain's Meeting (if req)	Captain's Meeting
	9:00 PM	Captain's Meeting (if req)		

TIME	Thursday 1 Oct 2026 Tournament Day 1	Friday 2 Oct 2026 Tournament Day 2	Saturday 3 Oct 2026 Tournament Day 3	Sunday 4 Oct 2026 Departure
5:30 AM	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
6:00 AM	Launching of Boats	Launching of Boats	Launching of Boats	Breakfast
7:15 AM	Boats ready by group, MC	Boats ready by group, MC	Boats ready by group, MC	
7:30 AM	Start of First Flight	Start of First Flight	Start of First Flight	
7:35 AM	Start of Second Flight	Start of Second Flight	Start of Second Flight	
7:40 AM	Start of Third Flight	Start of Third Flight	Start of Third Flight	
3:30 PM	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	
3:50 PM	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	
4:10 PM	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	First Flight Return Time	
7:00 PM	Nations Dinner	Nations Dinner	5:30 PM Arena Teams Line Up	
8:00 PM	Captain's Meeting (if req)	Captain's Meeting (if req)	6:00 PM Arena Stage by Nation	
9:00 PM			8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Closing Dinner	

CATCH – VIDEO – RELEASE [Keepnet scoring app download](#)

Keepnet For Organizers

Live Validation Tools - Review every submitted fish with video evidence.

Messaging System - Send updates or instructions to anglers during the event.

Live Leaderboards & Big Screens - Display results, sponsor graphics, and highlight reels at event.

Keepnet For Anglers

Mobile App (iOS & Android) - Simple interface to record fish, enter species/weight, and submit.

Offline Capability — Works without internet; syncs later or via a closed local network.

Catch History — Anglers can review their catches and results.

Real-Time Leaderboards - See unofficial standings as the event progresses.



OLYMPIC VILLAGE STYLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

We strongly encourage all nations to stay together at the host hotel to promote comradery and Olympic spirit, secured boat storage at convention center lot, meals together at Hot Springs Convention Center, team registration, Video–Weight–Release technology, scoring posted live (except last three hours of Day 3), three day Outdoorsman Hunting and Fishing Expo to attract spectators, Country Music Concert to grow crowds for a final Arena Weigh-in, large arena stage moment for all teams (expect 5,000+ crowd).

IOC President Kirsty Coventry comments on Olympic Village importance [link here](#).



Boats on 25th- 27th will store at 2 Temp Lots and then the infrastructure will move during Monday practice to main lot. Boats will be placed together by nation so you can rig together. Lots will have 2 light towers, 2 generators, cables and outlet boxes, and 2 overnight security guards from 8PM -6AM.

REGISTRATION OPTIONS INFORMATION FOR TEAMS

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
Accommodation Sep 27 - Oct 3	Yes	Yes	No	No
Boat Hire	Yes	No	Yes	No
Skippers/Marshall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Charging/Security at official boat storage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fuel - designated pumps only	Yes	No	Yes	No
Spare Boats, Maintenance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Welcome Dinner 27th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Open Ceremony with Dinner 28th	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Breakfast	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lunch Packs / Ice	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Team Dinners 29th - 2nd	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Venue Fees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Per Angler	€ 2,100	€ 1,350	€ 1,300	€1,000
Per Delegate/Reserve	€ 850	€ 850	€ 600	€ 600
FIPS Ed Registration Fee per Nation	€ 200	€ 200	€ 200	€ 200
Entry Fee per Nation	€ 1,500	€ 1,500	€ 1,500	€ 1,500
Extra Ticket - Open Ceremony & Dinner	€ 60	€ 60	€ 60	€ 60
Extra Ticket - Closing Awards Gala & Dinner	€ 60	€ 60	€ 60	€ 60

- Lodging is double occupancy.
- Single room requests require an additional €400 charge. Only available if host hotel has inventory.
- Only badged attendees and ticket holders will be allowed into event components.
- Liquor is available via cash bar only. Liquor not included.
- Welcome dinner for registered attendees only, no ticket sales.
- Entry Fee per Nation fee is € 1,500, which includes 10 closing gala dinners (6 Anglers, 2 Reserves, 1 Captain, and 1 Delegate) and 8 fishing permits for the whole duration of the championship (the period of official training and the competition itself), insurance and sundry expenses such as gifts, cups, trophies, etc.
- **Complete the Team Entry Form and return to enter the championship.**



ANTI-DOPING INFORMATION

TUE REQUESTS

A Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) is a certificate granted by an anti-doping organization (IF for international-level athletes, NADO for national-level athletes and MEO for athlete participating in an MEO event. The certificate is for a set prohibited substance, in certain dosages, with a limited period of validity. An application for a TUE must be based on a documented medical condition and diagnosis, and the TUE will only be granted under strict criteria laid out in the International Standard of TUEs.

Athletes must absolutely avoid taking a medication with a prohibited substance without a valid TUE.

The presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers in an athlete's sample without a valid TUE is an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV), as are the use or attempted use of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method, possession, administration or attempted administration.

Athletes must therefore consult the Prohibited List https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/2025-09/2026list_en_final_clean_september_2025.pdf with their prescribing physician before taking a medication to ensure that no prohibited substance is contained in the medication needed.

He/she shall then use the application form, which can be downloaded from the ITA website: <https://ita.sport/resource/international-testing-agency-therapeutic-use-exemption-tue-application-form/>

The TUE request has to be sent to the following address: tue@ita.sport

If the TUE is granted, the athlete will then be permitted to use the medication during the period of validity of the TUE without committing an Anti-Doping Rules Violation (ADRV). Regardless of whether a TUE has been granted or not, athletes should always declare on the doping control forms filled out during sample collection any medications and supplements taken within the seven days prior to sample collection, and any blood transfusions in the three months prior for blood samples. If a TUE has already been granted by a NADO or by a RADO, the Athlete in question does not have to apply for any additional CIPS TUE, as CIPS recognizes all TUE granted by NADOs and RADOs.



FIPSED MANDATORY ON-LINE REGISTRATION

THE REGISTRATION OF THE TEAMS TAKING PART IN FIPSED CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL MAKE ONLY USE OF THE ONLINE REGISTRATION TOOL. THE LINK IS FOLLOWING: https://www.fips-ed.org/FIPSED_Registration/index.php

ON THE FIPSED WEBSITE YOU CAN FIND THE INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO REGISTER. EACH FEDERATION HAS ITS OWN PASSWORD TO BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE ARCHIVE OF ITS MEMBERS WITH THE CREDENTIALS AND PASSWORD, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO REGISTER OWNERS ATHLETES IN ANY FIPSED CHAMPIONSHIP. [HTTPS://WWW.FIPS-ED.COM/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2025/01/FIPSED-REGISTRATION-WEB-SITE-USER-MANUAL_REV00-1.PDF](https://www.fips-ed.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/FIPSED-REGISTRATION-WEB-SITE-USER-MANUAL_REV00-1.PDF)





ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Registration & Opening Ceremony

- All teams and attendees must complete accreditation to be officially registered into the championship.
- Teams will need to bring their National Flag 3'x5' to Accreditation for event use, returned after closing dinner.
- Please wear team jerseys for team photos at Opening Ceremonies.

Cost for extra medal

- The Federations, in addition to the medals devoted to the official members of the Delegation, will be allowed to ask for extra medals (up to a maximum of 3 per team), upon payment of a contribution of € 25 per extra medal, which will also include the diploma. The fees for extra medals shall be paid to F.I.P.S.e.d. In no case and for no reason extra medals in a number higher than that provided by these Rules may be requested from F.I.P.S.e.d.

Fishing License

- Fishing license must be on your person during on water events.
- Fishing License must be purchased for early arrival anglers. [Buy licenses here.](#)

Pre-Fishing Policy

- Venue is open to fish prior to event. Closed September 26th and 27th.

Rules

- **The rules for this championship will be published on the official FIPS website at a later date.**

Waivers

- Liability Waivers are required to participate in this event by all attendees. See waiver attached to this document.

Personal Insurance

- All attendees must have their own personal travel and personal health insurance for this event.

Visa Letter

- Contact John Knight, jknight@usangling.org, if you require an 'invitation letter' for travel visas.

Payment

- An INVOICE will be sent with the Team total, once Application and Forms are received.
- Teams are not entered into championship until all entries are paid in full.
- An official receipt will be sent once application and entry fees are received.
- Minimum Euro to Dollar conversion is 1.19

Please return these Forms to be entered to Championship:

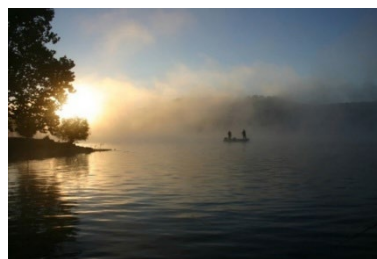
- **TEAM APPLICATION - ROSTER - FISHING LICENSE FORM**
- [Team Registration closes July 15, 2026.](#)

Important Phone Numbers

John Knight	International Organizer	+1-970-376-5703	jknight@usangling.org
Tony Forte	USAngling President	+1-574-202-4877	tforte@usangling.org
Michael Brand	USAngling Treasurer	+1-314-477-8120	mbrand@usangling.org
Emergency police, medical, and fire		911	

Thank you,

John Knight
Tony Forte





Return this form

2026 XX Black Bass Championship Nation's Registration
INTENT TO ATTEND/INTENTION DE PARTICIPER ONLY FOR ORGANIZERS
Formulaire d'inscription de la nation.

We will email the Nation's contact the Team Roster Form once this form is received.

Send this form to jknight@usangling.org

We will send an Excel sheet for Team Roster Form to ensure attendee name's spelling are correct.

Nation/ Country _____

Contact Person _____

Contact Email _____

Contact Phone _____

Which Registration Option? _____ A or B or C or D

How many Anglers? _____

How many Reserves? _____

How many Captains? _____

How many Managers? _____

How many Delegates? _____

Any special needs? _____

Send this form to jknight@usangling.org

**You will be able to modify your choices and counts
when you complete for Team Application.**

Thank you





Adult Participant Release & Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. THIS DOCUMENT AFFECTS YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND IS LEGALLY BINDING. BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT YOU ARE RELEASING U.S. ANGLING CONFEDERATION ("USAngling") FROM ALL LIABILITY AND FOREVER GIVING UP ANY CLAIMS THEREFOR

Assumption of Risk

I acknowledge and agree that any use of any facilities, services, equipment and premises for USAngling activities, programs, and events ("Facilities") and any participation in USAngling programs and activities ("Programs") comes with inherent risks including, but in no way limited to: (1) moderate and severe personal injury, (2) property damage, (3) disability, (4) death, and (5) sickness or disease including, without limitation, COVID-19. I voluntarily accept and assume full responsibility for these risks as well as any and all other risks of the use of Facilities and participation in Programs. I agree that I have full knowledge of the nature and extent of all such risks and am not relying on all such risks being described in this document.

Waiver, Release, Indemnification & Covenant Not to Sue

In consideration of the use of Facilities and participation in Programs I, the undersigned, agree that USAngling, its officers, directors, agents, employees, volunteers, insurers and representatives ("Releasees") will not be liable for any personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness or disease incurred by myself, my family members, dependents, or guests, including minors, however occurring including, but not limited to the negligence of Releasees. I understand that I will be solely responsible for any loss or damage, including personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness or disease sustained from the use of Facilities and participation in Programs.

I further agree, on behalf of myself and any and all legal successors and proxies, to release and **HEREBY DO RELEASE, WAIVE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE** Releasees from any causes of action, claims, suits, liabilities or demands of any nature whatsoever including, but in no way limited to, claims of negligence, which I and any and all legal successors and proxies may have, now or in the future, against Releasees on account of personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness, diseases or accident of any kind, arising out of or in any way related to the use of Facilities or participation in Programs, whether that participation is supervised or unsupervised, however the injury or damage occurs, including, but not limited to the negligence of Releasees.

In further consideration of the use of Facilities and participation in Programs, I agree to **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** Releasees from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, losses, suits, liabilities or costs of any nature whatsoever, including claims of negligence, arising out of or in any way related to the use of Facilities and participation in Programs by myself, my family members, dependents or guests, including any minors.

Media Release

I hereby grant USAngling and its subsidiaries, assignees, and licensees ("USAngling Parties") permission to use my likeness in any photograph, video, recording, or other digital or print media ("Media") in any and all of their publications, including, but in no way limited to, advertisements or promotions, print publications, or web-based publications without payment, royalties, or other consideration of any kind. I further understand and agree that all media will become the sole property of the USAngling Parties and will not be returned to me at any time. I hereby irrevocably authorize the USAngling Parties to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, or distribute Media for any lawful purpose. In addition, I waive any and all right to inspect or approve of any Media in which my likeness appears. I further waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of Media. I hereby hold harmless, release, and forever discharge the USAngling Parties as well as their officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents and representatives from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action which I and any and all legal successors and proxies may have, now or in the future, by reason of this authorization.

Nation _____

Participant Signature

Participant Name (Print Clearly)

Date _____