

2026-2027 Mercer County Titans Bass Fishing - Boat Captain Information

Boat Captain Required Trainings, Requirements Checklist:

1) Boater's Safety Education Course

- Mercer County Fishing Team will require each High School student angler and boat captain to obtain their Kentucky Boating Education Certificate (Blue Card) by satisfactorily completing an online or in-person course. Middle School students over the age of 13 are highly encouraged.

- Online option → <https://fw.ky.gov/Boat/Pages/Boater-Education.aspx>

2) Background Checks

- Adult Boat Captains must be 21 years old and have a satisfactory background check completed through the Mercer County Board of Education:
 - New Captains will need to complete the volunteer application and training. There is a \$10 fee for the Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Check that you will be responsible for. Once you identify to Coach Robinson that you would like to be a boat captain, I will begin the process for you. Human Resources will send you the requirements to complete.
 - Existing Boat Captains should be good to continue for this season. Check with Coach Robinson for verification.

3) Insurance Related

- Must have proof of minimum of \$300,000 per occurrence boat owners liability insurance coverage covering the boat being used in the events. Provide a copy to Coach Robinson.
- Through SAF membership, every student angler, volunteer boat captain, and SAF club will have insurance coverage for all official SAF school club events, which includes \$1 million of general liability coverage, \$25,000 Excess Medical Coverage, \$1 Million for any allegations of misconduct and \$25,000 'Amber Alert' coverage. This covers the club, officers, members and any volunteers for actions on behalf of the club relating to an official club event.
 - DISCLAIMER: When teams are on the water the boat captain's boat owners insurance is the first line of coverage as they are in control at that moment. Our rules state boat owners must have watercraft liability coverage.

4) Boat Specification Requirements

- Must be propeller-driven and at least 16 feet in minimum length.
 - Any type of boat is acceptable, however, pontoons, kayaks, canoes and runabouts are not desirable. If you have questions or concerns about this, please reach out to Coach Robinson.
- Must contain a properly aerated live-well to maintain healthy and alive fish.
- Must have a fully functional Trolling Motor.
- Must be equipped with an operable ignition kill switch and lanyard.
- Must have First Aid Kit (Mercer Team Requirement)
- Must have proper navigation light systems, including red and green sidelights, which indicate the port and starboard side of your boat, as well as one or more white lights.
- Must include an outboard engine with maximum horsepower used in tournament practice and tournament events of no greater than 250 HP.
- Must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment.
 - Fire extinguisher – One B-I type approved hand portable fire extinguisher.
 - An efficient sound producing device - i.e. whistle or boat horn.
 - One approved Type I, II or III personal flotation device (PFD) for each person on board. Boats 16 feet and over, must also carry one Type IV throwable PFD. Operators and passengers of personal watercraft must wear a PFD when the outboard engine is running.
 - Note, a type V PFD may be used in lieu of any wearable PFD if approved for the activity in which the boat is being used. A TYPE V HYBRID MUST be worn to be legal.