

# B.A.S.S. announces Progressive Insurance as new platinum sponsor across the Bassmaster platform

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. March 11, 2025 — B.A.S.S., the worldwide authority on bass fishing, today announces Progressive Insurance's landmark sponsorship across the Bassmaster platform to be the title sponsor for several high-profile Bassmaster properties, including the prestigious Bassmaster Angler of the Year award, recognizing the most consistent and outstanding angler throughout the season.

Progressive will also serve as the title sponsor of the Bassmaster Elite Series, which will now be known as the Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series. Fans and competitors alike can expect enhanced event experiences and expanded coverage under this premier sponsorship.

Additionally, Progressive will take center stage as the title sponsor of the Progressive Bassmaster Classic Celebrity Pro-Am driven by Yokohama, bringing together renowned celebrities and top professional anglers for an exciting and entertaining competition that benefits charitable causes.

In a move to elevate fan experiences, Progressive will sponsor the Bassmaster Tailgate Experience at both the Bassmaster Classic and one select Elite Series tournament. These interactive events will feature engaging activities, entertainment and exclusive merchandise, further cementing Progressive's role in connecting with the passionate



Bassmaster audience.

Attendees at the upcoming Bassmaster Classic will also receive a special giveaway: custom Progressive-branded buckets distrib-

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uted during the event, adding a fun and practical souvenir for fans.

"We are thrilled to expand our relationship with Progressive Insurance into the Bassmaster

family as our new platinum sponsor," said Chase Anderson, CEO of B.A.S.S. "Their commitment to innovation, community involvement and enhancing the fan experience aligns perfectly with our mission. This sponsorship will undoubtedly elevate our events and provide lasting value to our anglers, fans and industry partners."

"As the No. 1 boat insurer in the country, Progressive is excited to continue its collaboration with Bassmaster, an organization that shares our passion for the outdoors and dedication to creating unforgettable experiences for anglers and fans alike," said Eric Doubler, Progressive Recreational Lines Direct Business Leader. "By expanding our sponsorship commitment, we aim to further engage with and support the incredible community of anglers while bringing new levels of excitement to Bassmaster

events."

The Progressive sponsorship officially begins with the kickoff of the 2025 Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series season and will be prominently featured during the Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Classic presented by Under Armour taking place March 21-23 in Fort Worth, Texas.

For more information about Bassmaster events and the new Progressive sponsorship, visit [Bassmaster.com](http://Bassmaster.com).

About Progressive Insurance Progressive Insurance® makes it easy to understand, buy and use car insurance, home insurance, and other protection needs. Progressive offers choices so consumers can reach us however it's most convenient for them — online at [Progressive.com](http://Progressive.com), by phone at 1-800-PROGRESSIVE, via the Progressive mobile app or in-person with a local agent.

Progressive provides insurance for personal and commercial autos and trucks, motorcycles, boats, recreational vehicles and homes; it is the second-largest personal auto insurer in the country, a leading seller of commercial auto, motorcycle, boat, and RV insurance, and one of the top 15 homeowners insurance carriers.

Founded in 1937, Progressive continues its long history of offering shopping tools and services that save customers time and money, like Name Your Price, Snapshot, and HomeQuote Explorer.

The Common Shares of The Progressive Corporation, the Mayfield Village, Ohio-based holding company, trade publicly at NYSE: PGR.

B.A.S.S., which encompasses the Bassmaster tournament leagues, events and media platforms, is the worldwide authority on bass fishing and keeper of the culture of the sport, providing cutting-edge content on bass fishing whenever, wherever and however bass fishing fans want to use it. Headquartered in Birmingham, Ala., the organization's fully integrated media platforms include the industry's leading magazines (Bassmaster and B.A.S.S. Times), website ([Bassmaster.com](http://Bassmaster.com)), TV show, radio show, and social media programs.

## Tennessee State Parks hire first ever accessibility coordinator, Ryan Jolley from sports page 2

ing the outdoors accessible, we all need to humbly learn from those who experience the outdoors with various abilities."

The announcement comes amidst the backdrop of Disability Advocacy Day in Tennessee, which honors the accomplishments and advocacy of the 1.6 million Tennesseans with disabilities. Several sites across Tennessee will be lit in blue tonight to honor their accomplishments and advocacy, including the amphitheater at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park in Nashville.

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*Jolley's appointment also comes as Tennessee State Parks announced the availability of new all-terrain wheelchairs at eight state parks, bringing the total of parks with all-terrain wheelchairs to 47. All-terrain wheelchairs give visitors with limited mobility the opportunity to enjoy outdoor recreation that might otherwise be inaccessible. The chairs are free for visitor use and available for both children and adults. They can be operated independently and offer the option of allowing caretaker control.*

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Tennessee State Parks has added wheelchair-friendly paved trails and overlooks, adult-sized changing tables, colorblind viewers, accessible kayak/canoe launches, and language and information access as part of its ongoing initiative focused on accessibility.

To find information on accessibility options at Tennessee State Parks, visit [tnstateparks.com/accessibility](http://tnstateparks.com/accessibility)



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# Bassmaster honors Rick Clunn's legendary 50-year career with its inaugural Bassmaster Person of the Year Award

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 11, 2025 — Following a historic 2024 season that marked his 500th Bassmaster event and celebrated a remarkable 50-year career, legendary angler Rick Clunn will be honored with the inaugural Rick Clunn Bassmaster Person of the Year Award at the 2025 Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Classic presented by Under Armour.

Established to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the sport of bass fishing — both on and off the water — the award celebrates those who exemplify integrity, character and a lasting impact on the fishing community.

At 78 years old, Clunn has spent six decades defining professional angling while inspiring countless anglers to take to the water. In recognition of his unparalleled influence, the award

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Clunn's list of accolades is staggering:

- 16 B.A.S.S. career victories, including four Bassmaster Classic wins — two of them back-to-back.

- A record-setting 32 Classic appearances over his career.

- Voted by fans as the greatest professional bass angler of all time.

"Rick Clunn's 2024 season featured two milestones that may never be repeated — 50 years of participation in B.A.S.S. events and 500 tournaments fished," said B.A.S.S. CEO Chase Anderson. "He was there in the earliest days of professional fishing and has watched the sport evolve into the international sensation it is today. Through it all, Rick has



Bassmaster will honor Rick Clunn with the inaugural Rick Clunn Bassmaster Person of the Year Award at the 2025 Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Classic presented by Under Armour. (Photo by B.A.S.S.)

remained a model of class and sportsmanship, earning the admiration of both his peers and the next generation of anglers. His milestones in 2024 made it an easy decision to name him the first Bassmaster Person of the Year."

Despite his legendary status, Clunn remains humble. "I don't feel deserving of this award," Clunn said. "I've seen these honors given in other sports to people who have done truly special things. I just try to be a person with a positive outlook, to treat people with kindness. To me, this award simply means striving to be a good and kind person."

Clunn's age has never slowed him down. At 69, he became the oldest angler to win a Bassmaster Elite Series event, claiming victory at the 2016 St. Johns River Elite. Three years later, he broke his own record at 72, winning at St. Johns once again. In 2024, his 500th Bassmaster event — the MAXAM Tire Bassmaster Elite — was fittingly held at the same river where he made history multiple times. Beyond tournament fishing, Clunn was featured in the first season of The Cast presented by Bass Pro Shops, which aired on FOX Sports networks, and he

made a return appearance in season two.

As the 2024 Humminbird Bassmaster Elite at St. Lawrence River drew to a close, Clunn took the stage for what would be his final Elite Series weigh-in. Addressing the mixed crowd of New York and Canadian fans, he made it clear: He wasn't retiring — just stepping away from bass fishing's highest level of competition.

"I have to challenge my mind and my body every day, and fishing does that ..." Clunn said. "I need to thank everybody, but I can't name them all. So I'll just thank my family — they've supported me forever. This is going to be tough, but it's also been an incredible journey. I appreciate all of you who have come out, today and through the years." As the crowd erupted in applause, an emotional Bassmaster emcee Dave Mercer summed up the moment, reflecting on Clunn's legacy. "Rick, every athlete in every sport says they just want to leave the game better than they found it," Mercer said. "And I think it goes without saying — what you have given, what you have built, what you have created ... we are all thankful for it."

With the introduction of the Rick Clunn Bassmaster Person of the Year Award, Bassmaster ensures that Clunn's legacy will continue to inspire generations of anglers to come.

About B.A.S.S.

B.A.S.S., which encompasses the Bassmaster tournament leagues, events and media platforms, is the worldwide authority

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