

More sports, law, and military news...

Nominations are now open for 2026 class of Bassmaster Highway School All-Americans

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. , June 9, 2026 — B.A.S.S. is now accepting nominations for the most exceptional high school bass anglers in the country for the annual Bassmaster High School All-American Fishing Team.

B.A.S.S. is celebrating the 12th year of the selection of the team, which recognizes the 12 most outstanding high school anglers in the nation. The program is designed to reward young athletes for their performance in tournaments, leadership in their communities and involvement in conservation efforts.

Applications for the team will be accepted today through September 16.

To be considered, a student must be nominated by a parent, coach, teacher or other school official. Students currently enrolled in grades 10 through 12 with a current grade point average of 2.5 or higher are eligible.

Judges will select up to two stu-



dent anglers in each state. These All-State Fishing Team members will become semifinalists in the selection of the 12-member Bassmaster High School All-American Fishing Team. Criteria include success in high school fishing tournaments and involvement in conservation efforts and other community service activities.

“These anglers are proving that success extends far beyond tournament results,” said Glenn Cale, B.A.S.S. tournament manager of the College, High School and Junior series. “Their commitment to academics, competition and community service is inspiring and it’s a privilege to honor them and share this experience with their families.”

All nominees for the All-American team must be B.A.S.S. members. The online membership form provides multiple membership options.

Notices have been sent to youth fishing directors of the B.A.S.S. Nation and other organizations, as well as leaders of state high school fishing programs. Adults can nominate students by filling out an online form here. Nominations must be submitted before midnight on June 9. Please send all questions to allamerican@bassmaster.com.

2026 Bassmaster High School Series Title Sponsor: Strike King
2026 Bassmaster High School Series Platinum Sponsor: Progressive, Toyota

2026 Bassmaster High School Series Premier Sponsors: Bass Pro Shops, Humminbird, Mercury, Minn Kota, Nitro Boats, Ranger Boats, Rapala, Skeeter Boats, Yamaha

2026 Bassmaster High School Series Supporting Sponsors: AFTCO, Daiwa, Lew’s, Lowrance, Phoenix Boats, VMC, Yokohama

2026 Bassmaster High School Series Youth Sponsors: Seaguar

About B.A.S.S.
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), TV show, radio show, social media programs and

events. For more than 50 years, B.A.S.S. has been dedicated to access, conservation and youth fishing.

The Bassmaster Tournament Trail includes the most prestigious events at each level of competition, including the Progressive Bassmaster Elite Series, Turtlebox Bassmaster Opens Series presented by Battery Tender, Nitro Boats Bassmaster Elite Qualifiers Series presented by Bass Pro Shops, Mercury B.A.S.S. Nation Qualifier Series presented by Lowrance, Strike King Bassmaster College Series presented by Bass Pro Shops, Strike King Bassmaster High School Series, Tackle Warehouse Bassmaster Junior Series, TNT Fireworks Bassmaster Team Championship, Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series presented by Native Watercraft, Bassmaster College Kayak Series, Yamaha Bassmaster Redfish Cup Championship presented by Skeeter and the ultimate celebration of competitive fishing, the Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Classic presented by Under Armour.

Vortex and Hunter Constantine team up to offer benefits to aid SAF’s legal efforts

BELLEVUE, Wash. — June 9, 2026 — Vortex and Hunter Constantine have teamed up to offer a limited-edition belt available for purchase with a portion of proceeds benefitting the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF).

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“We’re incredibly excited to launch this limited-edition belt with Hunter – any time we can all work together to find creative ways to support the 2A community it is always a win-win,” said Vortex Brand Manager Sawyer Briel. “This project is a great example of folks within the industry joining forces to support such an important cause.”

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The Vortex Constantine Carry Belt is designed around the needs of the EDC community, and this exclusive release combines the trusted performance of the Constantine Carry Belt with Vortex® branding in a never-before-offered colorway. There are only 250 of the limited-edition belts available, and a portion of all proceeds will benefit SAF’s legal and educational efforts.

“It’s always refreshing when corporate partners collaborate to benefit a great cause like SAF’s fight to ensure our Second Amendment freedoms remain intact,” said SAF Senior Vice President Lauren Hill. “We’re excited to announce this limited-edition promotion and are thrilled SAF is the beneficiary of such a unique offering.”

Visit saf.org to order your limited-edition belt before they’re all gone!

The Second Amendment Foundation (saf.org) is the nation’s oldest and largest tax-exempt education, research, publishing and legal action group dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the fundamental rights of individuals enshrined in the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution.

Patriot Lee Greenwood brings back award-winning Soldier Valley Spirits to honor vets and to support charities and celebrate America’s 250th birthday

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (June 9, 2026) — As America prepares to celebrate its 250th birthday, country music icon Lee Greenwood is bringing back Soldier Valley Spirits, an award-winning collection of American-made bourbon, whiskey, and vodka created to honor veterans, support charities, and celebrate the values that unite the nation.

The relaunch comes as communities across the country prepare to celebrate America’s 250th birthday, creating renewed interest in American-made products that reflect craftsmanship, patriotism, and support for those who served.

America’s beloved performer, Lee Greenwood, known for his patriotic anthem “God Bless The USA,” is celebrating veterans and the birthday of the United States by bringing back his award-winning signature bourbon, whiskey, and vodka. All spirits are in military-inspired canteen-shaped bottles embossed with the number “6,” as a reminder that we always have each other’s backs. Each bottle includes a hanging military-style dog tag showcasing the letters “LG”.

“I’ve spent much of my career honoring the men and women who serve our country ever since my first USO tour in 1989 with Bob Hope,” says Greenwood. “Soldier Valley Spirits is another way to say thank you. These are premium, American-made spirits that celebrate our shared values while helping support organizations that serve veterans and first-responder families.”

Since its founding, Soldier Valley Spirits has supported organizations dedicated to serving U.S. veterans who have served our great nation. A portion of the proceeds from every bottle sold helps support veteran and first responder charities, including Helping a Hero, Tunnels to Towers Foundation, and Folds of Honor.

Soldier Valley Lee Greenwood Signature Bourbon
A true American Bourbon worthy of the name of a true Ameri-



can iconic artist. Soldier Valley Lee Greenwood Signature Bourbon is made with a traditional mash bill of corn, rye, and malted barley, distilled in Indiana and aged to perfection in new American oak barrels, giving it rich flavors of caramel, vanilla, and oak. This 90 Proof bourbon is perfect for bourbon lovers, patriotic gifts, America 250 celebrations, and veterans and military families.

Soldier Valley Lee Greenwood Signature Whiskey

A bold yet approachable 86-proof true American whiskey distilled in Indiana, created by putting quality over quantity with the inspiration of hard-working people who liked their whiskey with an “edge.”

Soldier Valley Lee Greenwood Signature Vodka
Distilled six times using premium Midwest grains, this exceptionally smooth vodka offers a clean finish ideal for sipping and for cocktails.

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Soldier Valley Spirits Availability
The Soldier Valley Spirits collection is available now at SoldierValleySpirits.com and LeeGreenwoodWhiskey.com, and can be shipped to most states nationwide. All three exceptional spirits are available in the America’s 250 Birthday Collection.

About Soldier Valley Spirits:

Soldier Valley Spirits follows the core values of faith, family, and service to the country. The company has worked closely with Lee Greenwood as its brand in-

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Happy Birthday, America!

AMERICA 250

FedEx St. Jude Championship is offering complimentary tickets to military personnel. *See sports page 1 for details.*

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