

## Colorado Bowfishing Association

## **COBF MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS**

It is our responsibility, as sportsmen and members of the COBF, to act in a responsible, professional and ethical manner when engaging in the sport of bowfishing. Our individual actions, both good & bad, can have an enormous impact on the sport of bowfishing for current and future generations of sportsmen.

This code provides a clear standard of conduct for a bowfisherman and gives the public a clear indication of what to expect from a COBF member.

- As a member of COBF, I will subscribe to a higher standard of ethical and sportsmanlike conduct.
- I will not breach, encourage or condone any violation of the Colorado Division of Wildlife's fishing regulations or local lake regulations. I will always be in possession of a valid fishing license when engaging in the sport of bowfishing and will only pursue and harvest those species deemed legal by the Colorado Division of Wildlife for take with archery equipment.
- I will always engage with a safety first policy when bowfishing which includes inspecting my equipment - bowstring, arrows, nocks, tips, reel and line - for unsafe wear or damage; keeping my bow pointed in a safe direction and being sure of my target - what is in front of it, to the side of it and behind it.
- I will be aware of other's around me. If other fishermen are nearby I will keep a safe, courteous distance and will share the waters with my fellow sportsmen.
- I will take the time to answer questions about the sport of bowfishing and represent the COBF in a professional and courteous manner at all times.
- I will make good use of the fish I harvest and will never leave my fish on the public shoreline or within communal trash receptacles. Doing so is not only unethical but tarnishes the sport of bowfishing for all. If I do not have a plan to make good use of the fish I am about to harvest, I should not be bowfishing.
- I will make my best attempt to rotate where I bowfish so to not over fish a body of water. I will do this to help manage Colorado's fisheries and hopefully ensure the preservation of the sport of bowfishing for current and future generations.