

Sports & Entertainment

Statements from SAF, NRA, and FPC on Snope vs. Brown U.S. Supreme Court denial

From the SAF

“The Supreme Court’s decision to deny cert in Snope v. Brown is an egregious error that sidesteps addressing an important issue which requires the Court’s intervention. Millions of Americans continue to be disenfranchised from exercising their complete Second Amendment rights by virtue of these categorical bans. While Justice Kavanaugh’s statement insinuates the Court may hear one of the many other challenges percolating in the lower courts, as Justice Thomas points out, their input is of little value as they continue to distort the Supreme Court’s Second Amendment precedents. SAF will continue to aggressively litigate its seven other challenges to bans on “assault weapons” and spare no resource to ensure the right to keep and bear arms is not continued to be treated as ‘a second-

class right.’” - Second Amendment Foundation Executive Director Adam Kraut

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. SAF engages in aggressive legal action to ensure the principles of armed self-defense, personal liberty, and the ownership of arms are defended, secured, and restored. Through public education initiatives, SAF teaches the importance of the Second Amendment to promote a society that values and exercises the right to keep and bear arms.

From the NRA

NSSF®, The Firearm Industry Trade Association, is disappointed by the U.S. Supreme Court decision this morning not to hear the appeals in Snope v. Brown and in the NSSF-funded Ocean State Tactical v. Rhode Island cases challenging on Second Amendment grounds Maryland’s ban on Modern Sporting Rifles (MSRs) and Rhode Island’s ban on standard sized magazines, respectively. We respectfully disagree with Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s statement respecting the denial of cert in the Snope case that the Court should wait a “Term or two” before taking action to stop the lower courts from misapplying the Court’s holding Heller and Bruen to deny the Second Amendment rights of millions of law-abiding Americans living in the states that have enacted laws banning MSRs and magazines. NSSF agrees with the view expressed by Justice Clarence Thomas in his dissent from the denial of cert in the Snope case. He wrote he “would not wait to decide whether the government can ban the most popular rifle in

America. That question is of critical importance to tens of millions of law-abiding AR–15 owners throughout the country. [The Supreme Court has] avoided deciding it for a full decade [citation omitted]. And, further percolation is of little value when lower courts in the jurisdictions that ban AR–15s appear bent on distorting this Court’s Second Amendment precedents. [citations omitted]. I doubt we would sit idly by if lower courts were to so subvert our precedents involving any other constitutional right. Until we are vigilant in enforcing it, the right to bear arms will remain ‘a second-class right.’”

About NSSF
NSSF is the trade association for the firearm industry. Its mission is to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Formed in 1961, NSSF has over 10,000 members including manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen’s organizations and publishers nationwide. For more information, visit nssf.org.

From the FPC

WASHINGTON, D.C. — FPC issued the following statement in response to the Supreme Court’s denial of certiorari in Snope v. Brown, a lawsuit challenging a ban on so-called ‘assault weapons’ in Maryland: We are disappointed that some members of the Supreme Court did not have the judicial courage to do their most important job and enforce the Constitution. Like millions of peaceable gun owners across the country, we are frustrated that the Court continues to allow lower courts to treat the Second Amendment as a second-class right. But more than anything else, we are more resolved than ever to Fight Forward and eliminate these immoral bans throughout the nation, whatever and however long it takes. FPC will continue our long-running strategic litigation campaign to end bans on constitutionally protected arms, including so-called “assault weapons” and “large-capacity magazines,” through numerous FPC Law cases on this important issue. And make no mistake: FPC will return to the Supreme Court in the near future. We hope Solicitor General Sauer will join us in loudly encouraging the Court to take up quality Second Amendment cases and, on behalf of the Trump Administration, fully support the rights of the People on the merits. Firearms Policy Coalition (firearmspolicy.org), a 501(c)4 non-profit membership organization, exists to create a world of maxi-

mal human liberty, defend constitutional rights, advance individual liberty, and restore freedom. We work to achieve our strategic objectives through litigation, research, scholarly publications, amicus briefing, legislative and regulatory action, grassroots activism, education, outreach, and other programs. Our FPC Law program is the nation’s preeminent legal action initiative focused on restoring the right to keep and bear arms throughout the United States. Individuals who want to support FPC’s work to eliminate unconstitutional laws can join the FPC Grassroots Army at JoinFPC.org or make a donation at firearmspolicy.org/donate. For more on FPC’s lawsuits and other pro-Second Amendment initiatives, visit FPCLegal.org and follow FPC on Instagram, X (Twitter), Facebook, and YouTube.

Kristine Fischer claims first Bassmaster title at Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series at Lake Tenkiller presented by Native Watercraft



Nebraska's Kristine Fischer has claimed her first Bassmaster title at the Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series at Lake Tenkiller presented by Native Watercraft. (Photo by Mark Cisneros/B.A.S.S.)

COOKSON, Okla. — In Bassmaster Kayak Series competition, Kristine Fischer has racked up second, third and fourth place finishes over the past few seasons. When fishing concluded on Day 2 of the Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series at Lake Tenkiller presented by Native Watercraft, a day filled with several missed opportunities, Fischer was mentally prepared for the disappointment of another close call. What she thought wasn’t good enough turned out to be plenty. With a two-day total of 172.75 inches, the Weeping Water, Neb., native claimed her first B.A.S.S. title, earning the top prize of \$7,500 and a spot in the 2026 Bassmaster Kayak Series Championship. Fischer opened the tournament in second place with a 90.5-inch limit of largemouth before jumping into the top spot with 82.25 inches Day 2, which included one smallmouth. The Bassmaster ambassador now has victories with three different national trails. “I’m honestly in disbelief,” Fischer said. “I thought the big fish bite was better today, and I had the bites today that I knew I would have needed to win the tournament. But the two biggest bites I got didn’t get to the boat. You get a gut feeling when one of those gets off that it was going to cost you, and I definitely had that feeling. I’m a big believer that when it is your time, it is your time. A lot lately, it hasn’t been my time, and I was just hoping to stay in the Top 3. “I’m still reeling a little bit that I actually pulled it off.” Oklahoma’s Luke Aryan finished second with a two-day total of 171.25 inches followed by Missouri’s Micah Funderburgh in third with 170.5 inches. Kansas angler Stony Floyd and Connecticut’s Ryan Nye rounded out the Top 5 with 170.5 and 170.25 respectively.

Fischer’s first tournament on Lake Tenkiller came early last year when she finished 36th in the 2024 Kayak Series Championship. As a St. Croix Bassmaster Opens Division I angler, Lake Tenkiller was her third and final Kayak Series tournament for the season, and she knew she needed a good finish to qualify for the 2026 Championship through the Dakota Lithium Bassmaster Kayak Series Angler of the Year race. “Your best three events (determine AOY), and I can only fish three,” Fischer said. “I knew I had to get a Top 30 finish to make sure I am in the Championship, so I had some pressure on me.” The water levels on Lake Tenkiller changed every day. After heavy rains moved through the area, the lake rose to 8 feet above full pool midweek before the Corp of Engineers began releasing water late in the week and into the weekend. Targeting floating docks sitting over 15 to 45 feet of water, Fischer skipped 5-, 6- and 7-inch shad-colored swimbaits (including a 6-inch Berkley Cull Shad) under those docks to generate her biggest bites. She used sidescan to locate docks with baitfish underneath before turning around and making long skips to the backside of the particular dock. In practice, Fischer discovered some issues with her forward-facing sonar, and she was unable to use it during the tournament, which she felt turned out to be a blessing in disguise. “Some of the bigger bites were way under the dock. You almost had to hit the back of the dock,” Fischer explained. “Some of the times I couldn’t even see what was underneath. “I didn’t turn it on once. I think that helped me. Sometimes when you have it on, it distracts you. I just did my thing around the banks and docks.” She also flipped a Berkley Crud

Craw around flooded bushes she came across during the day. “As the water dropped, I pulled out to the midcreek areas, and anywhere I had a steeper bank with flooded bushes I would flip,” she said. “I also threw the big swimbait there and would crawl it through the flooded bushes. I got a lot of big bites doing that and had a lot of followers.” During practice, Fischer caught quality smallmouth and largemouth. Once the tournament began, largemouth became the predominant species in her areas. After achieving a small limit in the back of a creek to open Day 1, Fischer moved out to deeper water and filled out a limit measuring just under 90 inches in the first two hours, which included a 20.5-inch largemouth. A move down to the dam produced two culls around a stretch of chunk rock. “I caught smallmouth in practice fishing bushes, which was very strange. They were very much mixed in with the largemouth in practice,” Fischer said. “But Day 1 I never got a smallmouth bite. The sun might have had something to do with that.” On Day 2, Fischer felt fishing the floating docks would give her the best chance at winning. She filled out a limit around midmorning but lost a quality smallmouth and a big largemouth that would have given her a comfortable cushion over the field. Fortunately for Fischer, she didn’t need them. “I had the big swimbait in my hand all day. I didn’t put it down,” she said. “I was hunting for those big bites, and I got them. I knew I was doing the right thing, but I felt like I needed to stay in the area and hammer down.” West Virginia’s Phillip Backus claimed the \$500 Big Bass bonus with a 21.25-inch largemouth he landed on Day 2. Rus Sniders also landed a 21.25 on Day 1, but

Backus broke the tie with a 20.25-inch bass. All anglers earned points toward the Dakota Lithium Bassmaster Kayak Series Angler of the Year race. Those standings will be updated in the coming days. The Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series presented by Native Watercraft is scored by TourneyX. Full results from the Newport Bassmaster Kayak Series at Lake Tenkiller presented by Native Watercraft are scored by TourneyX and can be found at Bassmaster.com The Oklahoma Ozarks Tourism Association hosted the tournament. 2025 Bassmaster Kayak Series Title Sponsor: Newport 2025 Bassmaster Kayak Series Presenting Sponsor: Native Watercraft 2025 Bassmaster Kayak Series Angler of the Year Sponsor: Dakota Lithium 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.



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