

Regional Meetings

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Federation Meeting: Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 PM. 26 clubs were in attendance.

President's Report – Peter Perovich

At the board meeting we discussed the March 3rd banquet. The general meeting will begin at 3:30 and the banquet will immediately follow. The banquet will be at the Ramada Plaza in Minneapolis. Ramada is a BASS Federation sponsor. Jim Linder will be the keynote speaker and he will give a presentation of small mouth fishing, which will be a timely presentation because the 2012 TOC on Island Lake will be a small mouth tournament. Tickets will be \$35 per person. There will be a number of door prizes and several items available in a silent auction. The deadline for getting tickets is Feb 27th. The flyer and registration is available at www.mnbn.org/banquet.html

The Berkley deal was cancelled for 2011 because of issues with anglers in another state. We do not know if Berkley will renew the program for 2012.

The Minneapolis Sports Show is Wednesday March 28th through Sunday April 1st this year. Contact Jim Battin to sign up to help with the show.

The Bass Expo at the Blaine Sports Center runs April 20 to 22. The BASS Federation will have a booth and be doing seminars all three days.

At the moment the Governor's Bass Opener has not been confirmed.

Tournament Director – Tim Allen

Turn in your club tournament schedule to Tim Allen. The schedule will be on the web within the next week.

We have one TOC proposal for 2013 from Zumbro Valley for the Mississippi River, Pool 5A, 6, 7.

For 2012 TOC at Island Lake, the DNR has put a restriction on our permit that we are required to do AIS inspections when boats enter and exit the tournament waters. More details will be available once an AIS inspection procedure is finalized.

There is a survey on how clubs would like the guaranteed boaters at TOC.

Secretary – Jim Battin

Thank you to the clubs that have turned in their roster and dues. If your club has not turned in a roster yet, get the form off the website and fill it out to E-Mail to jbattin@mnbn.org. The check should be sent to:

Minnesota BASS Federation
2332 Laport Drive
Mounds View, MN 55112

Remind your club members that want to get the federation E-Mails to go to www.mnbn.org/connect.html and register.

Sportsmen Bassmasters is hosting a Coast Guard safety course. This course is an 8 hour course, scheduled for Saturday Feb 18th in Bloomington at David Fongs. Upon completion of the course, you will receive your Coast Guard safety certificate, which most boat insurance companies recognize and give a discount on your boat insurance. In most cases that discount pays for itself in the first year. If anyone is interested in attending, contact Jim Battin (jbattin@mnbfm.org).

Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting

Please provide any conservation issues/activities you have as an individual or as a club has participated in the last year. Be sure to include meetings and legislative activity such as attending the DNR Roundtable or MOHA Legislative Banquet. We pass on this information to our Board and B.A.S.S to include as part of the Annual Report.

At the DNR Bass workshop we discussed the bass survey the state is using this year. The object of the survey is to find out the number of bass anglers, what are the expectations of bass fishing, and whether they are interested in large or small mouth bass.

At the DNR Round table, the DNR committed to doing 5 to 7 AIS presentations and inspections at tournaments this year. We gave a presentation with Doug Jensen, University of Minnesota (Sea Grant Program), and Vern Wagner that tournaments are leaders in AIS prevention

It is highly recommended that each club designate a couple people to inspect boats before going into the water and before leaving the launch. Make sure all water and weeds are left at the lake. This may save you or your club member from a substantial AIS transportation fine. We will be inspecting boats at TOC as it is part of the permit requirement.

Mike McInerny from the DNR gave an excellent presentation on how the DNR uses the creel survey data furnished by the BASS Federation. Last year we had a record level of participation. Mike's presentation and other DNR creel survey info is available at www.mnbfm.org/creelsurvey.html.

Youth Director – Jeff Gilmer

We have completed the incorporation documents for the non-profit youth organization. The youth organization is capable of accepting tax deductible donations. The youth organization is looking at donations to fund scholarships for kids. Anyone that has a business or organization that would like to make a donation, contact Jeff.

The youth awards will be presented to the kids at the banquet on March 3rd.

The 2012 youth TOC will be June 29th in the St. Cloud area. As always we are looking for boaters to furnish boats and serve as boat captains.

The youth members will be running the Casting Kids at the Bass Expo in April.

The youth schedule of events for 2012 is:

- March 3 MN BASS Federation Banquet
- April 15 Coon Lake Clean-up
- April 20-22 Minnesota BASS Expo – Casting Kids
- May 19 Bass Lake Wisconsin Jr Event
- June 9 Minnesota Youth Bass – River
- June 23 High School TOC – Horseshoe Chain
- June 29 Minnesota BASS Jr TOC
- July 21 Minnesota Youth Bass - Waconia
- July 27 MFBA Jr TOC – Minnetonka
- Aug 25-26 Minnesota Youth TOC – Clearwater
- Oct 6 Bassinators Fall Brawl

Old Business – Peter Perovich

March 3rd meeting and banquet will be at the Ramada. Federation members receive a discount on rooms because Ramada is sponsor at the national level.

New Business – Peter Perovich

The survey shows that clubs prefer the option of each club gets one guaranteed boater and non-boater.

Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM