

Minnesota B.A.S.S Nation Meeting

Saturday – January 18, 2014

11:00 am Regional Meetings/State Team Meeting

11:00 am Annual Youth Meeting

12:00 pm General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 12:09 p.m.

Peter Perovich

12:00 pm Roll Call Secretary

31 clubs were in attendance

Amy Kiefer

Presidents Report

Peter Perovich

- Board Meeting Report - There is lots of things to do in the upcoming year! After conversations with Jon Stewart, the EOY report for the nation looks good. But there will be strong focus on growing membership overall.
- Tournament Director Position – We currently have no nominations for Tournament Director. We will entertain any nominations for TD at this time. No nominations were made. Without any nominations, we will ask again at the next meeting – bring back to your clubs and let them know. Anyone that wants to understand the responsibilities of the TD, should reach out to an existing board member or regional director.
- Banquet – Save the Date: 3/1 Ramada Plaza in Minneapolis. Meeting will start at 5:00 pm. Later start time than last year due to other scheduled events in the facility. Actual events time will start around 6:30. PM. Open to the public, friends, spouses, etc. Registration should be open very soon. An email blast will be sent with all of the particulars, etc for cost, meal options and detailed agenda.

Tournament Directors Report

Peter Perovich

- Club Tournament schedules/Lakes - without a TD in role, please send all of your lake picks and schedules to Peter Perovich at pperovich@yahoo.com. He will handle them in the meantime.
- 2014 TOC @ Vermillion – Jim Battin update: Room block at Tower for individual registration (must be made by 7/1/14). Group rate does not apply after that date. Room blocks are being held under TOC 2014 with rates as follow:
 - Starting 8/29 (25 rooms) at \$112, Saturday (25) \$112, Sunday (25 rooms) at \$89, M-Th (40 rooms) at \$80. Fri-Sat (40 rooms) at \$112.
 - Fortune Bay Resort and Casino (fortunebay.com or 1-800-992-7529) on Everetts Bay – nearest city is Tower, MN. Good venue for TOC – docks on water, leave boat in. 90-100 boat slips. If you do not stay at the casino, then you have to pay a \$5 launch fee.
- 2015 TOC – We are taking lake nominations, please propose them at this time. No proposals voiced. Between now and March 1st – a proposal needs to be in ASAP. If we do not get a nomination by April meeting, the board will make the decision for the location of the event. TOC proposal form is available at <http://mnbfn.org/membership/forms.html>. If you need assistance, contact any board member.
- 2015 Divisionals – hosted by MN. B.A.S.S. has asked for three lake options for the 2015 event. We will submit our preference for Lake Vermillion along with two other options. They will review and research these to make their decision.
- NEW Tournament Committee has been formed – Comprised of 7 members; 2 being from the board. The purpose of this group will be to look at the TOC bylaws and review them thoroughly to identify any potential updates to propose. There are lots of topics that will be discussed, from the alternates tournament, off limit days, youth participation, etc. You can contact Jim at battin.bass@comcast.net with any thoughts or suggestions. There is a group email for the committee located on the website.

Secretary's Report

Amy Kiefer

- Club Rosters 2014
 - All dues and rosters need to be sent collectively, to the address per the roster form.

- You can now submit your roster online!!
 - Don't forget to pay your national dues online: \$30/member!
- MN B.A.S.S. Nation Email – sign up to receive information. Use this link: <http://www.mnbfm.org/connect.html>
- Clubs looking for new members

Conservation Directors Report

Mickey Goetting

- Conservation Update – We will be submitting a few of our projects for the Berkley conservation awards, which will award \$2000 for best conservation project. Also \$1500 award for next angler retention project – maybe CastingKids?? Awards will be presented at the conservation summit next month at the Classic.
- Bass workshop –this longstanding committee met recently. Out of that meeting the DNR pushing forward the implementation of an early season catch and release season for bass at the same time of the MN walleye opener. There will be a public comment period this year – watch email blasts for opportunity to provide feedback on this and any other topics.
- Reminder –bring in any print cartridges to be recycled. The funds collected for this are used to buy supplies for the ReBaits program. Also bring used soft plastics if you have them for recycling.
- DNR Roundtable –Held last week in Bloomington, and it was relatively uneventful. Based the session on habitat – not much bass discussion. Mille Lacs is a hot topic in the fishing community – need to be very alarmed about things going on now. Resorts are upset about walleye and in turn are provide launch services to smallmouth bass. The launches are parking right over the reefs – pulling hundreds of bass off per day (2400). DNR asked what our thoughts were in terms of the regulations that should be in place. What does membership think??? This is not a positive outlook for the smallmouth population. Post mortality increases using live bait when they are released. Overall, the DNR has identified the problem with Mille Lacs – but don't know how to fix it. The lake is becoming clearer every year likely due to zebra mussels. 0-2 year class of fish (walleye fingerlings) are disappearing because the fry are going deeper into the lake for cover and are getting eaten. The weed growth is taking longer to catch up with water clarity. When this happens, we should see an increase in the fingerling class of walleyes. Looked on at the state level as an economic issue for those on that lake. Walleye anglers were instrumental in getting the regulations changed to begin with. Make sure you give feedback!

Youth Directors Report

Jeff Gilmer

- 2013 Junior Events in Review
 - BASS officially made change for youth going from state to national level. The 11-14 age groups no longer exist at the national level, but MN Nation will maintain this age group. The older group will now transition to the High School program. HS teams will now fish 2 days at divisionals and their weight will count with state team totals.
- 2014 Junior Events
 - Junior TOC & High School Championship – date changed to June 20th, due to a conflict. Still planning to have both events on the same date in the Brainerd area. The two groups will fish different waters. Anyone interested in helping out, or being a boater – please contact Jeff Gilmer.
 - This year the youth will do lake clean-ups that will coincide with their tournaments covering 20 lakes/accesses. We will take picture and post our Facebook page and the county websites, etc.
- Open Position on Junior Board – This person will meet 11-12 before general meetings. Because we just received our non-profit status from the state of MN, we anticipate some additional paperwork. This change allows us to accept donations and establish college scholarship program. If you're interested, please contact Jeff Gilmer. Youth directors from each club will be voting.
- There is a need to really promote the new High School program for B.A.S.S. The program has not been received well so far in the schools. The HS program is growing faster across the nation than BASS ever expected.
- College Teams are growing also – There are now many southern colleges giving scholarships.

Open Forum

All

Old Business

Peter Perovich

New Business

Peter Perovich

- Advertising – After just couple weeks from sending out our advertising opportunity to several businesses, we have been contacted by one business who is interested in advertising with MNBN on Facebook and the website. They are also interested in being a title sponsor for the 2014 TOC. If this pans out, that will bring around \$1000 in as revenue to the state.
- Seminars before meetings – What do you think? Based on a quick majority vote for interest – we will look into having these again. More to come!
- By-Law Change Proposal #1 - TOC date change
 - Proposed by Lakes Area is a change to the date the MN TOC is held to June, instead of September. See below for the proposal.
- By-Law Change Proposal #2 – Due date for TOC entry forms/paperwork
 - Change in verbiage to push up the date that all TOC forms are due to the tournament director. See below for the proposal.

Motion to adjourn

Second motion made

Adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

By-Law Change Proposal #1

Current: Article IX

Heading: Standing Rules

Section 4

Formula for State Tournament

Content: The MSBCF State Tournament of Champions shall occur on the Thursday and Friday after Labor Day each year with Alternate Tournament on the previous Wednesday.

Proposed: Article IX

Heading: Standing Rules

Section 4

Formula for State Tournament

Content: The MSBCF State Tournament of Champions shall occur on the Thursday and Friday following June 15th each year with Alternate Tournament on Wednesday of the same week.

By-Law Change Proposal #2

Current: ARTICLE IX

STANDING RULES

Section 4

Formula For State TOC

2. Qualifications to fish the MSBCF State Tournament of Champions are as follows:
 1. Membership in good standing of the Chapter three (3) weeks prior to the first day of the State Tournament.
 2. Membership in good standing with National B.A.S.S. three (3) weeks prior to the State Tournament.
3. Official TOC entry forms must be submitted no later than the beginning of the fourteen (14) day "Off Limits" period on state waters. The entry form will designate:

Proposed: ARTICLE IX

STANDING RULES

Section 4

Formula For State TOC

2. Qualifications to fish the MSBCF State Tournament of Champions are as follows:
 3. Membership in good standing of the Chapter by the deadline for filing the TOC entry forms, see Paragraph 3, Section 4, Article IX.
 4. Membership in good standing with National B.A.S.S. by the deadline for filing the TOC entry forms, see Paragraph 3, Section 4, Article IX.
3. Official TOC entry forms must be submitted no later than the first Monday in August. The entry form will designate: