

Minnesota B.A.S.S Nation Meeting

Saturday – April 22, 2017

11:00 am Regional Meetings

12:00 pm General Meeting

12:00 pm Roll Call Secretary

Meeting Called to order @ 12:13 pm
22 Clubs in attendance

Peter Perovich

Amy Kiefer

Presidents Report

Peter Perovich

- College Director Position - Still looking for someone interested in helping out with the college teams in MN. We have one new college club now - Bemidji State. They will be part of MNBN, scratching the surface as there are quite a few schools that want to get involved. This person would be contact and help clubs getting set up. Contact Peter if you are interested and form ore information about expectations. College director will join at board meetings for updates.
- AOY - BASS Event on Mille Lacs coming back In September, looking for people to help with event at the weigh-in and/or media boat (min 200 HP) and 20-21'. BASS pays \$300/day. Marshall registration opens Tuesday, May 2nd. Bass Nation members get early priority.
- Classic Bracket - Elite event taking place a week after AOY on Pokegema. The first 8 anglers outside the AOY cut will compete. Same help as AOY for media boats - but weigh will MLF style event with judges on boat.
- Central Regional Recap - The team returned 2 weeks ago from Missouri on Lake of the Ozarks for Bass Central Regional. Team MN had a strong finish, coming in 8th out of 19 states. The team worked very well together as a team, sharing information and creating a plan of attack. They also showed good sportsmanship. Great reps for the MN Bass Nation. Contenders moving on to Nation championship are Tadd Johnson (43.11 lbs) and Gregg Ruff (27.1 lbs - 3rd overall as non boater). There were 380 total anglers. They will complete at Lake Hartwell in South Carolina.
- TOC Registration Format -
- Bass Nation membership up quite a bit nationwide - up to about 25,000. Lots of growth and hopefully will reflect on sponsorship and discounts. We get several inquiries a week, so please let us know if your club is looking for additional members so that we can send them your way.

Tournament Directors Report

Bill Neumann

- 2017 TOC @ Mille Lacs - Things are set for the facilities, pre tournament meeting at McQuoid's event center. Registrations will start in early afternoon and we will look to do this by club with designated time frames to eliminate delays at registration table. Mac's Twin Bay will be weigh in area - down the road from McQuoid's. Shuttle busses from McQuoid's. Night of the meeting we are looking to offer a buffet style supper before meeting such as a burger/brat buffet at \$12.95. Cash bar will also be available, with silent auction and raffle. Paperwork and rosters will be due to MNBN no later than 7/3/17. Building additional functionality into our tournament software, so it will be imperative to have an accurate cell phone number so that we can work to do pairings notifications via text message. Very exciting and alleviates frustration of finding partners. NEW this year - we will have a lot more people participating - 250 boats.
- Parking on the HWY and they will run shuttles from there at Mac's Twin Bay.
- Charity for Event will be the Isle Area food shelf.
- HS anglers (1 per paid adult club) will fish in the state TOC, providing all clubs with an additional guaranteed boater.
- MN BASS Open - one event 8/20 in Gull Lake - 50 boat max. Members of Bass Nation get early preference. Ernie's on Gull 7-3pm \$250 entry available on MNBFN.org. Team event. Revenue will be generated for MNBN.

- Possible 2018 MN Team series - you will fish with the same person throughout and gives opportunity to get a call to fish the BASS Team Series championships.
- Window Stickers - Looking to make available a couple different sizes of MN Bass Nation window stickers. Please reach out to Bill for pricing and if you would like to get some for your club.

Secretary's Report

Amy Kiefer

- Membership Update - As of today, there are 398 paid memberships forming 33 different clubs! We also have a new club, Twin Ports Bass to add to the mix. While this membership is down a smidge from last year, I anticipate that we will see a spike in that number as we approach the May 1st TOC allocation deadline.
- Deadline for Dues - May 1st (NO EXCEPTIONS)
- Roster submission tips: When adding new additional members to your pre-existing roster online, please add only the new individuals rather than re entering all the previous anglers. This will help to keep things clean and easier to differentiate who the new anglers are. Thanks!
- 2017-2018 Meetings - Dates for the meetings coming up per the bylaws are as follows:
 - October 21
 - December 2
 - January 20
 - March 3
 - April 21
- MNBN Email – sign up to receive Minnesota B.A.S.S. Nation information. Use this link: <http://www.mnbn.org/connect.html>
- Clubs looking for new members

Conservation Directors Report

Mickey Goetting

- Conservation Updates
 1. There was great emphasis at the Bassmaster Classic for fish care . There was an article in BASS Times. Local agencies and/or conservation directors were available to check fish for a health check - ice/fizzing was applied if needed. This year they showed live that it was 1:17 to get the fish back in the pros boat after it left the weigh stage. The fish were eventually placed in a hatcheries truck that is temperature and oxygen monitored and treated with Aquahaul(salt). Houston traffic was very slow and rough waters could have impacted increased mortality - with 9 fish died on day 1.
 2. Creel surveys will continue in 2017! Will still offer prizes that are TBD. Continue to enter these as this is a huge win of data that we can share with the DNR. Last year a real time entry and leader board were added (e.g. MLF style). This requires all anglers to be registered and tournament to be flagged as "no bag limit".
 3. ReBaits - submitted proposals for Keep America Fishing Pitching it Campaign. \$500 Jackal baits split out between top 2 adult and top 2 youth clubs based on total pounds of used soft plastics turned in if approved.
 4. At the April 1 Bass work group, MN Fisheries Chief, Don Pereira, wants to tweak message from BASS about the walleye caught comments, but to make clear that it doesn't mean the walleye populations are truly healthy. The DNR will focus on population studies and regulation review.
 5. Fish care workshop held April 1st was well attended by over 40 tournament directors. Topics covered were tournament angler best practices, weigh-in best practices, permit program review and group discussions.
- Legislation Updates
 1. Northern pike zone mgmt delayed by judge due to conflicting rule in existence. Will look to see changes in 2018.
 2. License fee increase - \$3 MN annual license increase info coming later. No changes until 2018. Jim Leech came and spoke about the issue with the increase and how the dollars from license fees are spent.

3. 2 lines may be used to take fish during the open-water season, except on waters during a catch and release season for any species, by a resident or non-resident angler who purchases a second-line endorsement for \$5. Of the amount collected from purchases of second-line endorsements, 50 percent must be spent on walleye stocking.

Youth Directors Report

Jeff Gilmer

- High School State Team - Meeting today with this group. This year will have 9 teams going to nationals due to membership numbers. 7 teams are HS and 2 teams are JR. Working things much like the adult team runs their event. There are many experienced anglers in this group, so we anticipate they will handle themselves well.
- College National Championship - Lake Bemidji
- Membership/Rosters - Due May 1st like adult. Last year (360) vs this year (480) - lots of growth and we might be close to 600 members when all is said and done. We had 20 HS teams in 2016 and will grow to about 60-70 for 2017. Will divide into 3 divisions to better manage events. This year there will be 6 opens (2 in each region) and state championship for HS and state championship for jr - each being 100 boat tournaments.
- High School State Championship - Moved to September 10th (Sunday) - securing permit for a good smallie lake and there is a private location for the launch. Meal and parking provided by the gun club. We anticipate there to be 48 boats competing. Top 7 teams from each open will fish. Each team that runs event gets a berth to state championship. For each team that provides a marshall for classic bass event - the team will get wild card. Teams working adult tournament get wild card and other volunteer activities will provide the same. Half from volunteers and half from event qualification will make up the 48 teams. Clubs from farimont to far north - 30-40 new clubs.

New Business

Peter Perovich

- New weigh-in equipment: We currently have a budget for planned capital investment. Our current primary scale is 9 years old and there are no new software updates that can be applied. Bill has been talking with our contacts and would like to propose to membership that we purchase updated equipment to include the scale, LED boards, USB connections, printer, and storage cases. The cost of roughly \$3900 for the package - while scale alone is \$2600. Please bring this back to your clubs. Per the bylaws this purchase has to come via a membership vote due to the total cost being over \$2000. Please look for a proxy vote via email to come soon.
- Open discussion

Old Business

Peter Perovich

- NA

Meeting closed at 1:49 pm

See you in the Fall when meetings resume!! Fish on!!

Clubs in attendance: Bass Seekers, Bass Wranglers, Crow River, Prior Lake, Central Lakes, Happy Hookers, Northern Black Bass, Renegade, Viking, West Central, West Metro, Cast a Ways, Gopher, Lakes Area, Sportsmen, Stellar, Reserve Elite, Bass Rangers, Brainerd Lakes, Duluth, Fat Belly, Loon State, Range