

Minnesota BASS Federation Meeting

Medina Entertainment Center

December 1, 2007

Regional Meetings

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The general meeting began at 12:00 p.m.

25 clubs were in attendance.

Opening Remarks –

Paul opened the meeting by introducing Brent Haimen from the Zumbro Valley Club. Brent will be representing the Minnesota Federation at the Bassmasters Classic. Congratulations and good luck Brent. We were also fortunate to have Don Corkran with us for the December meeting. Don discussed some future plans and then was available for a short Q&A session. He stayed for the remainder of the meeting.

Presidents Report – Paul Becka

Paul thanked Don for his time and fielded a few questions from the membership.

Vice-President's Report – Mark Gomez

Mark gave a brief overview of the new "Holding Club". He will be heading up this program for the placement of new members.

Secretary's Report – Kollen Parsons

Club rosters are starting to slowly trickle in. Rosters are due on December 1st according to the By-Laws. Each club is required turn in a 6 man roster by that date. Additional members can be added to your club roster until the May 1st cutoff. Each club is responsible for sending the National dues (\$20/person) directly to the National Federation. BASS will be continuing its online club registration this year. See their website for more information. Your club rosters and State dues (\$50/person) should be sent to the MN Federation. Email additions, club contact information, club recruiting needs and general questions can be sent to me as well. You can contact me at kparsons@mnbf.org. The mailing address for forms and misc. is 508 Henry Circle, Belle Plaine, MN 56011.

Section 2**Existing Chapters**

A club shall be considered grand-fathered after one year of affiliation.

For an existing Chapter to maintain affiliation with the MSBCF, it must:

1. Maintain affiliation with national organization of B.A.S.S.
2. Maintain a minimum of six (6) members that are affiliated with the MSBCF. "Affiliated" is defined as any chapter member who has paid his/her annual dues and is listed on a finalized roster submitted to the MSBCF Secretary no later than the date of the December meeting. Individual members of a Chapter are considered members of the MSBCF when a finalized roster and dues are in the Federation Secretary's hands by December 1st of the fiscal year. "Fiscal year" is defined as beginning and ending with the first competition day of the State Tournament. Chapter roster and dues are due at B.A.S.S. before January 1st and will include the following:
 - Names of all Chapter members.
 - Addresses of all Chapter members.
 - B.A.S.S. number of all Chapter members.
 - Name, address and phone number of the Chapter's President, Secretary, Federation Rep, Environmental/Conservation Director and Tournament Director.
3. Membership to the MSBCF is necessary for an individual to participate in that year's State Tournament.

Treasurers Report – Jim Battin

- General Fund balance: \$41,188.26
- Equipment fund: \$2,700.00
- Trailer fund: \$4,428.00
- Divisional fund: \$1,600.00
- Conservation fund: \$1,000.00
- Total Cash: \$50,916.26

Jim reported that the Federation is in good financial shape, however we still need to have a progressive approach to future budgeting. Adjustments to the 2007 budget were needed for unforeseen expenses in the Youth and TOC budgets. Scholarships for the youth programs will be shifted to help offset the reduction in BASS funding for travel expenses.

Jim is looking for someone to "train" to take over his position at the end of 2008. Ideally that person would be familiar with accounting and tax procedures for non-profits organizations. If you or someone you know is interested please contact Jim, jbattin@mnbf.org.

Youth Director's Report – Joe Barnett

Joe was unavailable due to weather. Paul reported that the BASS kids programs would be going through some restructuring during 2008. What exactly would be happening was unclear as BASS had not released any information yet. We have seen a large reduction in travel expenses for the youth programs already. This has forced the board to reassess how the MN Federation should allocate funds for the 2008 fiscal year.

Tournament Director's Report – Peter Perovich

Peter reminded everyone to turn in the club tournament forms. Lakes under 5,000 acres are limited to 5 tournaments per year. Most lakes are limited to one tournament per weekend. Remember that lakes are first come, first serve. Please get them to Peter as soon as possible. Complete the form thoroughly including the DNR lake #. You can download the form from the mnbf.org website. Peter's email is pperovich@mnbf.org.

The 2009 TOC lake proposals must be turned in by January. We will be voting on these during the March meeting.

Peter updated the membership on the "Minnesota Invitational". He is attempting to set the permit date for June 1st, 2008. A total of 49 boats will compete in a Pro-Am, member / non-member format.

He will have further details at the January meeting. Mickey will be posting forms on the web-site.

The 2008 TOC permit has been received. These waters will be subject to border-water culling restrictions.

Conservation Director's Report – Mickey Goetting

Mickey attended the latest BASS workshop. They discussed the new proposed tournament legislative language. The holding tank oxygen requirement is directed towards "novice" fishing events according to the DNR. Oxygen level requirements for live-wells were the other hot ticket. Most boat manufacturers meet the dissolved oxygen level set in the new proposal.

The DNR has submitted for a Federal Grant. This will support shoreline landscaping and natural vegetation on the waterfronts. Mickey wrote a letter of support from the Minnesota Bass Federation to include with it.

Check out the mnbf.org website. Mickey has made great improvements.

The Water Resource Development Act was passed. Iowa has the authorization to install a federally funded sound barrier on the Mississippi. This should help deter the spread of Asian Carp up that river system.

Old Business

Steve Hurlburt reported on the progress of Sport Show preparations. We will have a full booth on the main floor. Volunteers are needed for the Sport Show. If interested please contact Steve at shurlburt@mnbf.org.

Please update your clubs membership needs as soon as possible. Steve is doing a great job of spearheading the placement of new members.

Classic 7 has the calendars available ordered at the Oct. meeting available. Please take care of your orders with Pat as soon as possible.

Skeeter will be the boat sponsor for 2008. We have several available models and would like to order a boat that best fits the needs of the membership. Mickey is circulating an equipment questionnaire. You can find the survey at this URL:

mnbf.org/membership/forms/product_survey2007.html. This survey will give the Board better insight for sponsorship affiliations that best benefit the Federation and the members. If interested in the Skeeter auction, please contact Rich Lindgren. He would like some feedback before ordering the auction boat. You can email him at rlindgren@mnbf.org.

PDQ is offering a 5 cent per gallon gas rebate. You must present your BASS card inside when paying. Rich will be working to ensure that each location is aware of this program.

Even Williams has become a state sponsor. We will be utilizing this program to help fund federation programs.

Ramada is offering a 10% best rate discount as well. Details for all the programs mentioned are available on the benefits page of the mnbf.org site.

Lowrance has signed again this year. Contact Rich with the exact product information to obtain pricing for the equipment you need. This is a popular program so give yourself plenty of lead-time to ensure your equipment arrives when you need it.

New Business

A new By-law amendment was proposed. This change would require clubs to host or take part in a youth and conservation event to qualify for the TOC. Voting forms were distributed at the December meeting. Please discuss this with your clubs and prepare your vote for the January meeting.

Nomination and voting of officers was done at the December meeting. Joe Barnett was elected as the new Federation President. Mark Gomez was re-elected as the new 1st Vice President. Shawn Haag was re-elected as the North Region Director. Mickey Goetting was re-elected as the Conservation Director. We are still in need of a South Region Director. Paul Perovich was nominated for the Youth Director position. Voting for Youth Director and South Region Director will take place at the January meeting. If anyone is interested in either of these positions nominations will be taken before voting.

The Elite slots were drawn at the December meeting.

Dale Richardson recognized our outgoing President, Paul Becka. Paul has done an outstanding job for the Minnesota Federation. He has led our Federation through difficult times and remained clear and diplomatic. Other states look to Minnesota and its leadership for guidance. The Minnesota Federation has received national recognition partly as a result of the decisions and direction of Paul and the various Board members he has worked with. Volunteers like Paul make this Federation. Thank you from all of us.

Clubs in Attendance:

Bass Rangers – Bass Wranglers – Bay Lacroix – Classic 7 – DH – Golden Hook – Gopher – Granite City – Happy Hookers – Lakes Area – Loon State – Metro Hawg Hunters – Northern Black Bass – Prior Lake Hooksetters – Red Lake – Sportsmen – Stellar – Sunrise – Team Ambassador—Upper Iowa –Viking – West Metro – Zumbro – 10,000 Lakes – River Rats

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34P.M.

The next meeting will be January 19, 2008 at the Medina Entertainment Center.

Respectfully submitted:

Kollen Parsons, Secretary, MN BASS Federation