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– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

New York BASS Nation wins Eastern Divisional Tournament

Waddington, New York---The 2014 B.A.S.S. Eastern Divisional Tournament concluded on Friday September 27th with a major win by the New York Team. Lead by Pittsford, New York angler Ken Golub and High School angler Michael Arndt from Clay, New York, the team came out on day one and showed that the fishery on the St. Lawrence River was all that the press releases had indicated. Twelve angler teams from Spain, Ontario, Canada, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, When the scales closed, the New York team held a 20 pound advantage over second place New Hampshire with Connecticut and Ontario close behind. The individual leader with over 24 pounds for five fish was Doug Brownridge from Ontario followed by a New Hampshire angler and Marcellus, New York angler Chris Killoren.

Day two brought a new twist to the tournament as High School Team anglers were added to the field. Most entered two student anglers for their team but due to scheduling issues Michael Arndt from Clay, New York was going to be fishing alone. He had a good practice with his boat captain and coaches, Tim Creighton from Buffalo and Jim Moore from Governor, New York. Michael headed to his areas with confidence and a smile. When the scales closed on day two, Connecticut had reeled in the New York lead and held a 10 ounce lead for first place. New York was in second and Ontario was now in third place. Michael saved the day for the New Yorkers coming in with 15 pounds 13 ounces. At the team meeting that evening, the leading anglers rallied around Michaels commitment and ability and realized that they all needed to step up and fish together to win on their home waters.

Day three and the weather dawned bright and clear with calm winds, a perfect day for fishing and enjoying the hospitality of the Waddington community. Because of the issues at stake, the weigh in held special meaning. Three tournaments would be decided, an overall individual winner for each state who would then be allowed to fish in the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship in Monroe Louisiana the first week in November. Then the High School teams who were fishing for their own championship. And finally the team championship. The largest crowd helped to build the suspense.

When the scales closed, Jon Stewart, the B.A.S.S. director of BASS Nation and his staff huddled up to tally the final results, which he had hidden from the anglers. The individual winner was Doug Brownridge who brought three consecutive 24 pound limits to the scales and easily topped the field. Second place went to New York's Ken Golub. Next the High School winners were announced. On Friday, Michael had brought over 18 pounds to the scale to lead the day three totals but he couldn't quite overcome the Ontario team lead from day two and as a result he finished second but those 18 pounds, which counted towards the team total were going to be critical in determining the team results.

Jon began acknowledging the team positions. One by one, teams were announced until there were only two, Connecticut, the day two leaders and New York. When Jon announced second place was Connecticut a large cheer went up for the New York Team as they knew that they had regained the lead. The first place team B.A.S.S. Eastern Divisional Champions include Brad Brodnicki, Ken Golub, Todd Covert, Brian Kelly, Joe Valerio, Chris Killoren, Randy Lamanche, Donnie Staszczyk, Chris Obrien, Farris DeRoma, Peter Knight, George Puskar and Michael Arndt.

About the New York BASS Nation...The New York B.A.S.S. Nation has been operating for 42 years and its 40 plus B.A.S.S. sanctioned bass chapter clubs represent more than just tournament fishing. We fulfill our mission to promote and protect the sport of bass fishing by organizing award winning programs in youth, conservation and community service. Associated with Bass Anglers Sportsman's Society, the NYBCF is the New York region's foremost advocate for bass fishing and fisherman's rights. The Federation offers a competitive annual tournament tour and extensive youth and conservation projects. Some of our members have proudly advanced into the professional ranks and competed in national level competitions.

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Photo Attachments:

Photo #1 – The New York Championship Team

Photo #2 - Team top performer and BASS Nation Championship contender Ken Golub

Photo #3- Ken Golub with some of his day three winning catch

Photo#4- Michael Arndt with his final day catch coach Tim Creighton on the left and weighmaster Guy Durant on the right