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Contact: Fred Blom
NYBCF Spokesperson
Tel: 585-748-6222
Email: fred@nybassfed.com

– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

Junior and High School Champions Crowned on Cayuga

Union Springs, New York---Cayuga Lake was the site of the 2016 NY BASS Nation Junior and High School Championships. The Juniors fished on Saturday June 4th and the High School Anglers fished on Sunday June 6th. Bass Pro Shops in Auburn was the host and title sponsor for both events.

On Saturday, the Juniors eased out of Union Springs launch at 7 am to a beautiful, sunny, calm day. All of the anglers and their boat captains headed north and within 20 minutes a picture came through social media with a young angler holding a 5 pound 1 ounce bass he had just landed. That set the tone for the day. More anglers began reporting catches of largemouth bass which were shallow and were feeding in a post spawn pattern.

At 1 pm the anglers returned and turned in their scorecards to NY BASS Nation Junior Director Jim Moore. Because these events are during the catch and release season, the anglers had to weigh and immediately release the bass and record the weights. No live weighins were held. Everyone returned to Bass Pro Shops where Jim tallied up the scores while the anglers enjoyed hot dogs and sodas.

Final results in the 7 to 10 year old bracket were first place Dom Bianchi of Rochester Junior Bassmasters and second place to Isaac Quonce. In the 11 to 14 age bracket, the winner was Rein Golub from Rochester Junior Bassmasters with 16 pounds 5 ounces. Finishing second was Garrett Lawton from Port City Junior Bassmasters with 13 pounds 5 ounces. Others competing were Caydence Palmer in 3rd, Keighan Sias in 4th, Angelo Talazzo in 5th, Zach Salazzo in 6th and Jayden Lee in 7th place.

Sunday dawned a totally different day. Strong winds from the south were creating whitecaps on the main lake and a threat of rain and thunderstorms was in the forecast. Fortunately the thunder and lightning never arrived but the winds definitely had an impact on fishing areas. At 1 pm, a significant rain front passed with torrential rains. Teams began returning to the launch area and everyone made it back safely by the 2 pm cutoff.

The teams returned to Bass Pro Shops in Auburn where the presentations were made. Finishing in first place with 16 pounds 5 ounces was the team of Matthew Arndt and Logan Ukleya. Second place was the team of Michael Arndt and Ryan Hujar with 16 pounds even. Both teams were from the Oneida Lake North High School Fishing Club. In third was the team of Matt Simbari and Jake Rathbun from West Irondequoit High School with 15 pounds 6 ounces. Fourth place was the team of Dominic Tringali and Carson Swierski from Williamsville North High School with 15 pounds 2 ounces. Others competing were Nick Crowley and Andy Gehman, Colton Stemples and Lane Bouchey, Kailey House and Jacob Love, Nate and Chris Perrotta, Aidan Blake and Locke Holmes, Alex Gaud and Solomon Shabazz, Josh Hart and Kyle Pinkley, Gabby Mosier and Jeremy Asbury, Britton Cook and Fuller Perry,

Dan Beauchamp and John Steele, Brice Carr and Mike McChesney, Connor Loadwick and Nick Gray, Beth Lederman-Updike and Earl Leonard and Mark Butler and Noah Gray.

In all, nineteen teams representing seven high school clubs participated which was a 50% increase from 2015.

The top two Junior anglers will fish in the BASS Junior National Championships on August 2nd and 3rd on Carroll County Lake near Paris, Tennessee and the top two high school teams will fish in the BASS High School National Championships on Kentucky Lake at Paris, Tennessee on July 30th to August 6th.

Special thanks to Bass Pro Shops for hosting this event and for providing the winning team with a college scholarship prize.

Pictures....

- #1 Junior Champion 11 to 14 years and National contender Rein Golub
- #2 Junior Champion 7 to 10 years Dom Bianchi
- #3 Junior National contender Garrett Lawton
- #4 High School Champions and National Championship contenders Matthew Arndt and Logan Ukleya
- #5 High School National Championship contenders Michael Arndt and Ryan Hujar