

NEW YORK BASS CHAPTER FEDERATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD

January 22, 2006

The Quality Inn, North Syracuse, NY

The Executive Board was called to order by President Pam Bliss at 10:00 a.m.

Officers present were President Pam Bliss, Past President Wayne Tomassi, Vice President and Webmaster Ted Barth, and Secretary Susan Good. Also present were Tournament Director Stephanie Muira, Conservation Director Joe Koetting, Conservation Lobbyist Mike Cusano, and Youth Director Mickey Fortunato. President Bliss greeted all present and thanked new officers.

Club Roll Call: (Club reps checked in at the door to receive packets of minutes and proposals of TBF and BASS.) Present were: Adirondack Bass, After Breakfast Bass Anglers, Albany Area, Camden, Crown City, Finger Lakes, Good Ol' Boys, Hudson Valley, Morris County, Niagara Frontier, Oak Orchard River, Orange County, Port City, Predators, Rochester, Salt City, Southern Tier, Statewide, Team, Washington County, Watershed, and Westchester Rod&Reel. Conference call-ins were Atlantic and Long Island.

- Minutes were read by reps upon arrival. Scott Bliss motioned they be accepted. Seconded by Joe. Carried.

- Appointments:

Stephanie Muira accepted Tournament Director.

Mickey Fortunato accepted Youth Director.

Joe Koetting accepted Conservation Director.

Mike Cusano accepted Conservation Lobbyist.

Ted Barth accepted Webmaster.

Wayne Tomassi accepted Membership.

- 1099 forms were mailed Saturday and should be in mailboxes.
- Conference call to start at 10:30 a.m.
- List of clubs that checked in was read.
- Pam made a presentation to Wayne for 6 years of service: Steuben Glass Eagle to represent his dedication, strength, and service. Wayne's thank you speech reinforced that it was a team accomplishment.
- Pam welcomed the new club present, Good Ol' Boys.
- Directors Reports
 - Tournament:** Dates and places are all set. Ogdensburg is especially excited about having the NY Federation. Some clubs still need to send rosters.
 - Youth:** Tournament dates are as follows:
 - July 2- Qualifier for Jr. World Championship (Top 2 go to Classic)
 - Aug. 5- Club Team Event (Top 6 per club), Good Ol' Boys are starting a Jr. club.
 - Sept.3- Jr. + Boater

Oct. 2006- Casting Kids Championship (specific date to be given by Feb.)
For Casting Kids events, please send the yellow copy of the paperwork to Mickey so he can ensure all entrants.

-Conservation: Joe's annual message is on the website, a 3-year plan with a quarterly update. The #1 goal is the Black Bass Workshop. Joe presented a very impressive list of steering committee members. Workshop is to be held May 5-6 at Lake Wallenpaupack in cooperation with Pennsylvania. Joe states he plans to continue with conservation regardless of the affiliate vote.

-Web: Ted states the Executive Message Board (purpose being to have contact with our President) has been created to be used by **one rep per club**. E-mail Ted for your password. Please send articles to Ted for publishing on the Website.

-Lobby: Mike reminded those present to **write letters to the DEC** regarding the Black Bass Catch and Release season. **Deadline is February 14, 2006.**

- Pam gave directions for conference call logistics.
- Presentation of TBF and BASS proposals:
 - Used chart to compare BASS and TBF in regard to ownership, insurance, sponsorship, youth programs, conservation, and tournament competition.
 - Used BASS packet to review proposal beginning at "Priorities".
 - A Question/Answer period followed: **There will be representation in each state for BASS.**
 - Used TBF packet to review proposal. (Note: In Florida, Pam asked for a vision/mission statement. None was available.) **Need clarification on levels of sponsorship exclusivity esp. for club level and for individuals at Federation tournaments.**
 - A Question/ Answer period followed. **There will be representation in each state for TBF.**
 - Voting recommendation was taken from the floor: Weighting as per by-laws based on last year's membership, designated rep is to call Sue Good and state **club name, your name, and club vote (BASS or TBF) by February 5, 2006.** Club reps who were ready to vote could have vote recorded by Sue Good before leaving today.
 - Discussion continued about proposals and the root of this uproar. Pam will address the areas the need clarification in both proposals with a request for a 2-day turnaround for responses to be posted to reps in time for the **February 5, 2006 vote.**
- Pam conducted the raffle of Ray Scott's book, an organizer, and a windshield visor.
- Old Business
 - Decision on whether or not to web Fishlines was tabled to the March meeting. Dominic presented an example of what a printed Fishlines could be. Would still need an editor/ layout manager regardless of how Fishlines is published. Motion was made Mike Cusano that the Fishlines editor/layout manager be a paid position. Seconded by John. Carried, none opposed.
 - Discussion as to pay options: per page, per hour, per issue. Reps agreed that the **Marketing Director position needs to be filled before any further Fishlines decisions can be made.**

- Club reps advise Stephanie to adopt the proposal to flag (for that year) the non-boater in each boater/boater draw so no one who has become the non-boater will be that again in that tournament year.
- “Last Chance” tournament was discussed. Scott Bliss moved a decision be tabled until our affiliation is decided. Seconded by Ted. Carried. **Club reps should come to the March meeting prepared to discuss the qualifying process.**
- Other proposals to TAB: Boaters be guaranteed use of boat and partner if they bring a non-boater to a tournament. List of non-boaters should be posted so boaters can contact ahead of time. Boat length and motor restrictions should match upper lever (Standard is 18 ft. with 90 hp).
- Raffle: Since sponsors are waiting for affiliate decision, Skeeter may not be donating a boat. Scott Bliss investigated a “dealer cost” deal for an ATV to raffle (Dealer will wait for payment until raffle is complete.). Also suggested to list “gun or cash” as one gun has been difficult to deliver. Dominic proposed that if the boat is available, use it for a final tournament prize to encourage continued fishing. A vote was taken to raffle \$5000 rather than the ATV along with other cash and prizes. Ticket cost would be \$10 each. Tickets should be ready for the March meeting. Scott proposes that \$5000 prize money should be set aside now. Contract needs must be checked to get prize donations from Lowrance or Minn-Kota for the raffle.
- New Business
 - Insurance: Pam will request clarification of “event” from BASS insurance.
 - **Dates for next meeting: March 11-12, call-in to be set up, place to be determined.**
 - **Positions to be filled: Marketing Director, Publicity, Promotions, Fishlines editor/layout manager, Treasurer**
 - **Divisional Tournament volunteers needed (10-20)for Plattsburgh/ Champlain, Sept.18-24, 2006.** Paul Tomeo has volunteered by work on team paperwork and clothing.

Meeting adjourned at 3:42p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Good

Secretary