

NEW YORK STATE B.A.S.S. CHAPTER FEDERATION  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**December 5, 2008**  
@  
**BASS PRO SHOP, Auburn, NY**

Mike Cusano called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Officers present:**

President- Mike Cusano  
Vice President – Paul Tomeo  
Treasurer- Tim Morrison  
Secretary- Ed Flick  
Past President- Pam Bliss

**Committee Members present:**

Tournament Director- Jeff Edgerton  
Fishlines Executive Editor- Tom Presnell

**1. Mike Cusano-** He thanked everybody for coming and for their outstanding efforts. He realizes it was a very challenging year, considering all the changes that were implemented. Beyond the challenges though, we experienced some substantial growth under some difficult economic conditions.

We were the only trail that showed significant growth... averaged 78 boats an event, which was an increase of 38 boats and 76 anglers. Additionally, New York finished as the Largest BASS Federation Nation in the country.

Perspective: ABA invested an extra \$50,000 into their two trails in NY. The net effect of this move gained them 14 extra boats and 28 extra anglers total compared to 2007. (One trail increased by 2 boats the other by 12 boats). BFL was down 36 boats and 72 anglers per event from their 2007 numbers.

Goals for NYBCF 2009 – given the economy, we really need to focus on providing our members with value. Additionally, we need to really emphasis and promote any future sponsorship programs, any special programs that offer value, and the non-dollar benefits we provide through conservation representation.

By providing all bass anglers with as much value as possible we should continue to see membership and tournament participation increase. A large, unified, and happy Federation benefits us all.

Insurance – Mike explained the membership lists and the BASS Insurance as previously provided to him by Don Corkran.

BASS has made changes to the roster system and added a STATE DUES PAID field for each member.

Members that now belong to MULTIPLE CLUBS – will have to pay multiple FEDERATION NATION DUES \*\*\*\* Mike already voiced his displeasure and has started to draft a letter on this to BASS. He does not see the value in this.

Sponsorship – dollars are going to be very tight...

We would like to send Tom Presnell to the CLASSIC – (like we did with Ed last year) to try to aggressively promote our organization and draw in as many sponsors as possible.

DIVISIONAL - Several changes- Most substantial CHANGE is that the Juniors will now be fishing as part of the team. Their weight will count as part of our total weight (and they will be fishing as individuals to see if they advance to the FNC. 2010 the event will be moved back to September. Both the Juniors and the Adults will continue to qualify their anglers from the previous year's events.

BANQUET: January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 SUNSET RESTAURANT – Would like to ask the board that we set the price at \$20/person... and Federation picks up the rest.

On the Website Don needs to add schedule; update JR information; update past results.

We need to look at establishing a search committee for the upcoming Officer elections.

There was a review of the Stipend / Expense Procedures.

There was a review of the various awards that could be presented at the banquet. They included: Rosemary Murphy, National and State Sponsors, Youth, Conservation Committee Chairperson, Sportsman and Rookie of the Year.

**2. Tom Presnell-** He discussed the success that the magazine has seen during the past year and the goal to have the magazine become self sufficient during the 2009 season. He has Certificates of appreciation for the advertisers. He remains open to suggestions for articles and improvements to the magazine.

Tom discussed Marketing ideas for his possible trip to the Classic. Nationwide we are now the largest Federation in the B.A.S.S. fold. This will help him when dealing with vendors as those numbers are very impressive

**3. Jeff Edgarton** -He discussed the tournament trail; sponsorship status and discussed the location of the CTC. Funding for CTC event was in the works, but because it goes through county (gov't) offices additional approvals are needed. Based on previous working relationship – assumption is funding will be there.

Jeff discussed changing the late fee to \$40 to encourage anglers to sign up earlier; any refunds or fee transfers once the early registration deadline has passed will be up to the discretion of the tournament director. Additional discussion ensued about the “linking” process and it was determined that Jeff will no longer be manually linking anglers. They need to do for themselves.

Jeff is looking for feedback from clubs on which is the preferred OFFLIMIT option and then going to one rule. Last year there were two off limits options (None @Lake George or Sunday midnight thru safe light on Thursday AM for the others.)

Jeff announced the 2009 Schedule-	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lake George @ Mossy Point Launch
	July 12 <sup>th</sup>	St. Lawrence River @ Ogdensburg Town Ramp
	Aug 22-23	CTC – Oneida
	Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Cayuga Lake @ Union Springs

There was a suggestion to add a white board near the tournament scales to post the boater/non-boater lunger weights.

**Tim Morrison-** He reviewed the budget results for the past year. Overall things look very good when compared to what was forecast at the beginning of the year. .

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Flick  
Secretary