

**NEW YORK STATE BASS CHAPTER FEDERATION
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 1, 2003
Quality Inn, Albany, New York**

President, Wayne Tomassi, called the Meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Those present were: President, Wayne Tomassi; Vice-President, Paul Tomeo; Treasurer, Sal Pennini; Secretary, Rose Maher. Committee Representatives present: Sharon Green, Tournament Director; Meg Corbett-Bates, Membership; Bob Green, Publicity. Others present: Frank Maher, John Agro.

Wayne ran down the list of items that would be discussed at the Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Sal listed balances - Checking holds \$6,536.51; Savings holds \$18,020.53 (this is the General Fund and some of these monies have to be moved to Scholarship, Youth and State Team); Scholarship holds \$6,021.74 and Youth holds \$1,800.00.

-We will not be hosting the Junior Invitational as only Canada responded. We will be sending our Team to Virginia, which will be cheaper to do then to host the invitational.

-Dues allocation will be revised. The \$20.00 dues will be distributed - \$2.00 to Membership; \$2.00 to Youth; \$6.00 to General Fund; \$2.00 to Conservation and \$8.00 to Fishlines

Web - Ted Barth was applauded for doing an extraordinary job; and, of course, Wayne will push him to do even more. Sharon has a page where she can list TAB and tournament information. Meg has a page, which will list membership information needed or being revised. Our Web Site is just getting better and better. Wayne asked approval from the Executive Committee to give Ted Barth free entry into all the tournaments for the coming season. Approved by Executive Committee. Wayne mentioned that he has negotiated with our server to get the cost of having web page for any club affiliated with NYSBCF reduced from \$155.00 to \$100.00 for one year including the normal URL \$35.00 registration fee. We are looking into getting someone to help get clubs started on this that are interested. It was also approved that all Committee Chairpersons would receive one free entry for the coming season.

Fishlines - After the December meeting, Wayne met with the editor the "Fish and Games" to compare and to determine if any joint efforts could save NYSBCF some monies. We are paying Melody Sansone \$10.25 per page. Wayne has asked Melody to upgrade her Internet service, as some of the information being sent to her by various Committee people cannot be downloaded by Melody. Melody is presently paying \$19.95 for her access and we will pay the difference between that and what the new access will cost with AOL. Sal reported that receipts for Fishlines expenses are not coming in at a regular basis and this makes bookkeeping difficult. It was suggested that a debit card could be set up with a specific limit. This will be looked into and discussed with Melody.

Membership -Meg has changed the data sheet by combining three forms into one for new members. Meg met with a club in Mount Cisco that expressed an interest in joining the Federation. Meg and Sharon are working on a packet for new members having all the information they would need to be involved in tournaments and explaining Federation workings. Meg asked all Chairpersons and Officers to submit a paragraph on their particular jobs for this packet. They are trying to get some clarification from National on some issues. This will all be completed prior to the beginning of the fishing season. Meg is trying to encourage clubs to increase their membership in the Federation. It was suggested that we offer a free CTE entry to the club that has most increase in members in the Federation. It was also suggested that 2nd place prize could be a new Web site set up and Web hosting paid by the Federation. Meg stated that some clubs require all their members join the Federation. It was decided that we would offer a free CTE entry to the club that had the most new members joining the Federation in 2003 by close of registration at the Oneida tournament on July 12th. Meg will put this on the Web and send this to all clubs. This free entry cost will come out the CTE area of the Membership Budget. Wayne stated that National reported a drop in membership in 35 of the 46 States. The Executive Board also approved a \$15 discounted to all new members or returning members as long as they were not members in 2002. National sent Wayne a list of Clubs that would be receiving money back from new members joining National as follows: Adirondack - \$24.00; Hudson Valley - \$12.00; Hudson Valley Junior - \$18.00; Niagara \$16.00; Orange County - \$24.00 and Western New York - \$12.00. These figures were as of 12/31/2002.

Insurance - Wayne wanted to clarify this issue with respect to waiting list anglers being insured by National. If National has your Bylaws on file and your Bylaws state that anglers on your waiting list can only fish one or two tournaments then that is the only tournaments they will be insured for. If they fish any other tournaments, the club will not be covered.

Marketing - Someone is still needed for this position.

Tournaments - Sharon Green stated they would be working on a tracking the actual results by angler regarding boater/boater draw. This will be left as is for the coming season but what they will do is record the outcome of the draw and how it was resolved and then feed the pertinent information into the computer and see if the program would have resolved the draw the same way. If this program works it would eliminate the need for the coin toss.

-Registration - changes to this are being looked at with respect to the draw and late entries on registration day. Another area being looked at would be to do the draw early and posting it on the Web prior to the tournament.

Promotion - Wayne suggested putting up a \$1,000.00 prize with \$100.00 being added after each tournament for the angler that breaks the 20.56 total bass catch at any tournament rather than investing in a promotion-type package that might be offered by anyone. This amount would be rolled-over after each tournament and after each season if no one wins. The money would come out of the General Fund. Approved.

CTE - For this year each member of the NYSBCF will be eligible. For 2004's CTE members have to be a member of NYSBCF by September 1st in order to be eligible to fish CTE. The September 1st date was chosen because then the new member will have thirty days to join National before we call to verify membership in October to make this angler eligible to fish the following season's CTE. This is tournament rule, not a membership or bylaw requirement.

Partners' Tournament - Presenting looking at Columbus Day weekend. In future season, this will be announced when the other tournaments are announced.

TAB Meeting - Sharon reported that some changes were made to the tournament policies and tournament rules that NYSBCF is presently using. These were gone over one by one and changes were made with respect to some items that were policies were changed into rules. It was felt that anglers read the rules but do not always read the policies feeling that these are not important. After proceeding ½ through the policies, it was recommended that they all be incorporated into the rules.

-TAB made no decision on the netting rules imposed by National.

-TAB decided that official practice for a tournament would, for this season, start at 12:00 p.m. on the Friday before the tournament and end at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. This issue has been raised year after year and will be done on a trial basis for this season.

-TAB annual meeting will be changed to take place at the end of the fishing season to take care of issues arising during the year and then the appropriate changes can be presented at the December meeting of the NYSBCF and taken care of prior to the following year's fishing season.

Election - Wayne stated that this was an election year and the floor would be open for new nominations. Present officers were asked if they were going to run. Wayne, Sal and Rose will not be running again. Paul Tomeo will run for Vice-President. A Nominating Committee will be picked at the Board Meeting and nominations, if any, will be taken.

There being no further business before the Meeting, it was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The Board Meeting will begin March 2nd at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Maher, Secretary