

**NY BASS Chapter Federation Executive Board Meeting**  
**February 27, 2010**  
**BASS PRO SHOPS in Auburn, NY**

The Executive Board Meeting was called to order by President Mike Cusano at 10:00 AM.

**Attendance:** Officers present; President- Mike Cusano, Treasurer- Kathy Bonanno-Fortunado, Secretary- Ed Flick. Also present were Tournament Director- Jeff Edgerston, Fish Lines Editor/ Marketing- Tom Presnell, Conservation Director/Public Relations- Bernie Haney.

**Club Roll Call:** After Breakfast Bass Anglers, Albany Area B/M, Capital District B/M, Good Ole Boys Bass Club, Iron Hill B/M, Northern NY B/M II, Port City B/M, Rochester B/M, Salt City B/M, Southern Tier B/M and State Wide B/M.

A total of 23 people were present representing 11 clubs.

**Old business:**

1. The old meeting minutes from January 2010 were discussed and approved. Ron Williamson motioned and seconded by Ted Barth.

Berkley Pure Fishing – program detail were released – see your club reps for information. THIS PROGRAM CANNOT BE RELEASED PUBLICLY, IF USED IMPROPERLY OR ABUSED IT WILL BE PULLED!!!

Clubs and participants should realize that it is extremely easy to determine who is a valid BASS FED NATION member. So please do not abuse this program.

Contact Mike for the Password... [president@nybassfed.com](mailto:president@nybassfed.com).

**\*\*\* PLEASE PROMOTE WITH YOUR CLUBS \*\*\* (great incentive!)**

1. Humminbird and MinnKota Sponsor Program – special pricing for 2010 NYBCF members - contact [dom@nybassfed.com](mailto:dom@nybassfed.com)

2. We discussed the best way to offer the Alliance Products to the membership and it was decided that a Silent Auction with a Buy It Now option was the best choice. Come to the events to participate in this benefit.

Various products will be offered at each NYBCF tournament –

a. Motorguide 24v. TR82 45”

b. Motorguide 36v. TR109 45”

c. Mercury Prop (Fury, Tempest Plus, or Trophy Plus) –

\*\* Check or cash only\*\*

## **STIPEND PROPOSAL –**

Discussion to increase/create stipends for the following categories

### **Core Committee Personnel (Core Values and business purpose) –**

**Amount of stipend equal to boater tournament entry fee up to 3 events**

Webmaster -  
Conservation Director  
Youth

### **Essential Committee Personnel**

**Amount of stipend equal to boater tournament entry fee up to 1 event**

Marketing  
Public Relations  
Scholarship  
Sponsored Products Coordinator

**Officers-** President, V. President, Secretary , Treasurer, Past President –

**Amount of stipend to be increased to \$200 for all NYBCF tournaments**

**Future discussion items – clubs need to take back the idea of reimbursing Full Time Tournament Personnel for expense – amount and discussion to take place for the 2011 tournament season. (website – club directors board and at Fall/Winter/Spring meeting)**

There was a discussion regarding individual clubs reimbursing their representatives for attendance at the Federation Meetings. It was recommended that these discussions take place at the club level as it is important for clubs to be represented at the 3 state meetings. It seems unfair to place the financial burden on the club rep/president. Clubs should share in expenses.

### **New Business:**

**1. PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:** TRANSITION 2012 – Continued progress in that we have the new Treasurer in place, but need other vital positions filled.

Executive Committee – still missing a VP – there is an expectation that this person would learn the ropes and assume the president's slot. There is a great deal to know and due to the infrequency of meetings and /or contact it takes a good while to learn the ropes. Mike reported that he is definitely stepping down and we will need new people to get involved.

**Need to get membership thinking about the next leadership team as there is less than 2 years remaining on the current leadership's term.**

Most of the officers have indicated that they are stepping down.

Promote the organization – Promote the Trail – Protect and Grow the Sport

There are approximately 320,000 licensed bass anglers in New York –  
During 2010 alone that will amount to over \$9,000,000 in license fees  
What projects are the NY DEC undertaking that directly benefit bass?  
What have bass anglers asked for? What have we gotten?  
What will we get? Answer- nothing unless we are proactive and get our  
voice heard.

Bass anglers are not more important; but, we certainly are not LESS important than  
other sportsmen.

Our ability to grow and protect our sport is dependent upon getting  
more involvement in the RIGHT way with the RIGHT groups !!!  
(County sporting groups, local business bureaus, FWMB's, etc...)

Mike was recently appointed as chairmen of the Onondaga County Fish Advisory Board;  
and as the Onondaga County representative to the Region 7 Fish and Wildlife  
Management Board

**2. TREASURERS REPORT-** Since Tim had compiled the budget for the coming year  
he did the review.

There is a projected loss of \$12,000 for 2010. In 2009 the projected loss was \$3000. For  
2010 we are still going forward the 100% payout, for 2010 Guaranteed Payout of \$2500  
Boater and \$1500 No boater, potential loss of the Skeeter Boat for Promotion, Fish Lines  
expenses and lost advertising, decreased Banquet Revenues and minimal opportunity for  
the State Team to generate revenue are all factors driving the increased projected loss.

Financial statements were supplied to those clubs in attendance.

There was a question regarding where the Federation money is kept and whether it made  
sense to invest. It is in an account at M&T Bank and not invested in any type of  
investments like CDs, Stocks or Bonds. The discussion and consensus was that rates  
were too low and the effort involved to move/track/maintain this through investments  
was deemed not worth the time. Mike did suggest that anyone interested in this level of  
involvement should consider running for treasurer for 2012.

Tim and Kathy are continuing to work on transitioning the responsibilities over to her.

**3. MEMBERSHIP** – Jeff reported that the membership numbers continue to increase.

**4. YOUTH** – No new news to report

For 2010 the Jr. Tournaments will start at 7:30 so as not to interfere with other Tournament Trails utilizing the same launches.

Dates:

July 31, 2010      JWC              Ononadaga Lake

August 1, 2010    Jr Partners        Oneida Lake

August 28, 2010  6-Man Teams    Ononadaga Lake

New this year the participants at the JWC will have to bring their own boaters. This will not be a draw tournament.

## **5. TOURNAMENTS (Jeff and Mike)**

For the Participation Prize Payout for 2010 the clubs in attendance voted to have the following payout break down:

Six \$500 payouts (3 boater; 3 non-boater) (Only those people that did not qualify for the State Team are eligible)

2010 EVENTS are as follows - 6/20 Champlain out of Ticonderoga  
7/18 1000 Is. (Clayton) out of French Creek  
Marina (Canadian License Required)  
9/12 Oneida Lake out of the County Park in  
Brewerton.

8-22/23- CTC on Owasco Lake

Jeff is still working with the hosts at the 1000 Islands Site to firm up the weigh in facilities. Further information will be forthcoming.

Canadian Licenses are needed for 1000 Islands Tournament; 1000 Islands Bait Shop is an easy place to get them ahead of time. (Recommended)

Lake Champlain – will only require a NEW YORK LICENSE – this means that only NY and NY/VT reciprocal waters will be open. Cut off for VT waters will be the mouths of creeks that are contained in VT only.

There was a question discussion regarding the stipulation that each team at the CTC pays their own club members for their boat gas. Meaning, non-boaters on the CTC should be paying their own team's boaters (not their boater for the day). A show of hands was taken to see if there was any interest in changing that. One person voted to change it, everyone else voted to maintain the current process.

**2010 – NYBCF Tournament Trail**

PROMOTE, PROMOTE, PROMOTE

**5 Events Away from the BASSMASTERS CLASSIC** (3 points, Divisional, FNC)

- 1 – Super Bonus Payout at all points events for 2010 only
  - a. \$2,500 First Place Boater
  - b. \$1,500 First Place Non-Boater
- 2 – 100% payback of all entry fees collected for 2010
- 3 – \$3,000 paid out in \$500 prizes to 3 boaters and 3 non-boaters that participate in three point's events, and do not qualify for 2011 Divisional Team
- 4 – BASS PRO SHOPS LUNKER BONUS PRIZES –
- 5 – BASS PRO SHOPS AOY PRIZE AWARDS –

**B.A.S.S. Eastern Divisional Discussion –**

- Currently there are no off-limits for the Divisional Events. We want to know if as a state, we would prefer some form of off-limits added to Divisional Events?
- **DISCUSSION** – People questioned the enforceability of an off limits rule.
  - An off limits rule would prohibit participation on a body of water for that entire year.
  - NY is the host of the Divisional in 2014
- **Take back to your clubs and post your club's decision on the club directors message board... need information before September 13, 2010.**

**SPONSOR PROGRAMS -**

Alliance Program – \*\*\*\*ANGLERS MUST REGISTER THEIR BOATS, MOTORS, ETC to be eligible....

- Push this with membership!!

**PRODUCT PURCHASE PROGRAM –**

Mike Stressed that these programs are **CONFIDENTIAL** and for the exclusive use of current NYS BASS Chapter Federation Members Only.

**2010 NYBCF dues must be paid to be eligible**, program will start March 15<sup>th</sup>

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. Tom Presnell – FISHLINES** – He is optimistic about the coming year with many articles already in the works. He continued to ask the membership to submit articles and ideas for items to be published.

**Marketing-** He outlined the trip to the Classic. He met with much more responsive vendors and came away with a positive feeling for the coming year. He

highlighted some of our advertisers for 2010 to include Rapsody Rods, Kieteck, Andy's Custom Lures, Susquehanna Fishing Tackle, Bio Edge Baits, Ardent Reels, Plano Molding, Cooks Tackle Storage, Tri Nautic Adventures, Vertical Jig Lures, and Robbins Marine.

## 2. **Burnie Haney – Conservation –**

**Aquatic Invasive Species Survey** - Last Year the TNC and Lake Champlain Sea Grant requested our angler participation in an on-line survey

Of approximately 1000 members we had just 68 actually take the survey

15 packets have been mailed to each Club point of contact with a request they be completed and returned using the self addressed stamped envelope provided

- **Bill S6250** Is OPPOSED by the Federation. This bill was approved by majority vote of the Environmental

Conservation Committee on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> and is now working it's way toward the floor for legislative approval

- Marine anglers have submitted letters stating they support the \$10.00 fee for a Marine License realizing all revenue collected is earmarked in support of marine management programs
- We need our membership to also send letters of opposition to their legislatures. *See our message board for details*

- **Conservation Projects for 2010** - Select a project that's right for your club

- Let your CD (Burnie) know what you're doing, basic 5Ws

*Who*

*What*

*Where*

*When*

*Why*

- We want to ensure we get our conservation story told and

possibly generate partnerships with other like minded organizations.

He encouraged individuals to question their legislators regarding the cost of maintaining our parks and the revenue that they generate.

**Take a Soldier Fishing- Date: April 24<sup>th</sup> Time: 9 am – 1 pm**  
**Where: Oneida Lake Launch: Oneida Shores**  
**Objective: To host 100 Soldiers from the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Fort Drum, for a day's fishing at no cost to them.**  
**Why: Our way of saying thanks for what they do for our Nation every day.**

#### **Event Concept-**

- **Soldiers/Boaters arrive 8 a.m.**
  - (1) Receive Safety Brief
  - (2) Paired with a Boater
- **Fish from 9 am – 1 pm**
  - (1) Fish for anything that is in season (live or artificial baits)  
{*Blue Gill, Crappie, Drum, Perch, Rock Bass, Bowfin, Carp, etc.* }
  - (2) Weigh-in
    - Prize Categories – to be determined and finalized
      - a. Heaviest Drum
      - b. Pan fish – (state limits apply)
      - c. Heaviest Rock Bass
      - d. Other – bowfin, carp, catfish, bullhead, etc...

**Lunch** served right after weigh-in, day complete

#### **Support Required**

- **50 Boaters for Soldiers and two boats for media**  
*(Boaters provide Soldiers with Life vest and Tackle )*
- **Any and all prize donations welcome**
- **Club or Clubs to sponsor coffee/donuts (am) & lunch**
  - a. **Burgers, Hotdogs, Chips & Soda/Water**
  - b. **Grill, Ice, Cups, Plates & Trash bags**
  - c. **Ketchup, Mustard, Relish & Buns**

#### **Confirmed Sponsors**

1. **Theresa Bowling Alley ..... 3 x Gifts Certificates for Free Bowling**
2. **US Reels ..... Quantity & amount to be determined**
3. **Lucky Craft Lures ..... Select product, cranks, pointers...etc**
4. **Dobyns Rods .....1 x Savvy Series and multiple certificates for 40% off purchase of any Dobyns Rod**
5. **PEMCO Contracting..... \$100.00**

**To sign up contact:**  
**Burnie Haney (315) 786 - 8897, [conservation@nybassfed.com](mailto:conservation@nybassfed.com)**  
**Mike Cusano (315) 695 – 4969,**  
**[president@nybassfed.com](mailto:president@nybassfed.com)**

**3. WEB MASTER - Ted Barth** is looking for club tournament schedules and will post them on the web site.

NEXT EXEC COMMITTEE MEETING DATE is Friday December 3, 2010 @ 6pm.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE is Saturday December 4, 2010 @ 10:00 am

Both meetings are at BASS Pro shop in Auburn, NY

The proposal to adjourn was made by Ted Barth and seconded by Mike Wall. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Flick  
Secretary