

**Connecticut B.A.S.S. Federation Nation
Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2008**

The regular monthly meeting of the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Federation Nation was called to order June 26, 2008, at 7:31 p.m. by the President.

Roll Call: The following clubs were absent: CT Black Bass Anglers, CT Yankee Bass Masters, Hartford County Bass Masters, Litchfield County Bass Masters, Tobacco Valley Bass Anglers,

Excused Absences from the previous month: Bass Blazers, Pachaug Area Bass Masters

The minutes of previous month's minutes where accepted.

Correspondence

Northeast Expos letter received, recognizing the efforts of Sylvia Morris and looks forward to seeing CBFN again next year. Exiting challenges are being addressed.

Reports of Officers

Treasurer's Report: Sue Weeks
Presented and accepted.

Youth Report: Terry Baksay
Youth are heading to NJ on Friday (6/27/08) and staying 2 nights. This trip is to attend the Youth Divisional. The youth will be attending a banquet where trophies for both individual and team success.

August 30, 2008 the Casting Championship will be hosted by Cabelas. All paperwork and information you may need from Terry.

1st Tournament of the year was held on Tuesday June 24, 2008. Appreciated goes out to all of the boat captains!! They had a great time.

Results: 11 – 14 age Group

- 1) Adam Swyrizski 4–6
- 2) Matt White 3-15
- 3) Jake Smith 3-14

Results: 15 – 18 age Group

- 1) Chris Baksay 14-4 , 5-9 smb
- 2) Greg Paholsky 9-10
- 3) Chris Dionisio 6-9
- 4) Gianni Roman 6-0
- 5) John Cotte 5-1 , 4-1 lmb
- 6) Matt Merullo 3-13
- 7) J.R. LaRosa 0
- 8) Will Dionisio 0
- 9) Zach Zeno 0
- 10) Jason Boileau 0

Youth had a good date.

Towel was presented to Armand for the tournament in November.

Last tournament the youth earned \$127.00 toward the State Championship which will be attended for two days.

Terry Baksay will be submitting photos for the website. Currently the youth uses the message board for tournament prep, communication and information. This is a huge opportunity to get more information out there for the youth if we could get them a portion on the website.

CT Outdoors looking to coordinate a father / son tournament with the youth group.

The volunteerism has been awesome.

Scholarship Report: Dan Nitkowski

Scholarship Award winner Richard Talbot from Rowan University was introduced to the CBFN.

Conservation / Environmental Report: Dave Santos

I would like to thank the following volunteers for their help at Riverfront Recapture's Sporting Chance for Youth on June 14, 2008

Dean Beckstein, Paul Carter, Jack Vinyard, Brandon Vinyard, Mykel Myhre, Sylvia Morris, Ed Weeks, Sue Weeks, and Matt DeSimone

The event was a success as the kids had a great time fishing. During the event we were given a plaque thanking the CBFN for our partnership.

The Costa Del Mar Scholarship deadline has been extended until 7/14/08

The CBFN will be receiving \$1,000 for Conservation from B.A.S.S.

A tournament fish care handout was available for all Fed Reps. The handout can be viewed and printed down off the CBFN Member's Board.

FAC Report Dave Santos

DEP has issued a hiring freeze. This will have an effect on Parks and Recreation Online License

- Now in now in phase II.
- They are in discussions with regard to Kiosks
- Paper licenses will be in effect through 2009

Legislative – All key bills have died

Tournament Committee: Al Guite

The second tournament of the 2008 season, held on the CT. River out of Hartford, was a milestone for the CBFN. I'd like to thank Craig Mergins and all the park rangers who work for Riverfront Recapture for assisting us in putting on this event. I'd also like to thank all members of the Tournament Committee and the following individuals for making this tournament a success:

Brandon Vinyard
Brieanne Vinyard
Stephanie Vinyard
Jim Myhre(Jamie's Father)
Jeff Myhre(Jamie's Brother)
Mykel Myhre(Jamie's Nephew)
Justin Plange
Lee Anne Housley
Justin Mesick(State Team)

Matt DeSimone(State Team)
Daryl Byron(State Team)

In order to run a tournament trail such as ours it is imperative that we have enough volunteers. At this point we need to improve on the number of volunteers present on shore when the first flight, which includes the Tournament Committee, begins to come off the water. Once the committee has weighed in and are in place the process runs smoothly. We are not requiring committee members to come in early. As stated in last months report there is no reward for being on the committee therefore we certainly do not want to give those members a disadvantage in competition. So with that said if any CBFN members have family members or friends who might want to donate an hour or so of there time on tournament day please contact myself or Sylvia Morris.

Tournament Issues: We had a member mail his application one week past the deadline for the last event. He did include the \$25 late fee however the application was not received prior to the pairings. This resulted in his application being declined. Lack of communication on his part is the key factor here. All late mailed entries should be followed up by either a phone call or e-mail to the Tournament Director. I will be proposing that we add that wording to our tournament rules under new business.

I need to stress the importance of reading and understanding the tournament rules and agendas. We had the following three issues at this last tournament:

1. A situation occurred where the co-angler did not accompany his angler partner to the weigh in. This is a violation of rule# 13 and will result in disqualification of the co-angler and possibly the angler/boat owner as well.

2. It was brought to our attention this past week that a co-angler may have fished all day without a PFD during the last tournament. This is a violation of rule# 6. Apparently the PFD was lost at some point in the morning. I want to remind all boat operators that it is their responsibility under the law to make sure each passenger has a PFD. Operating the gas engine without wearing a PFD in a CBFN tournament will result in disqualification. If the co-angler is the individual not wearing a PFD, both the co-angler and the angler/boat owner will be disqualified if it is brought to the attention of the Tournament Director.

3. At this past tournament we had a few participants show up to the check in table after 6:30 AM. This is a violation of tournament rule # 13 which states that all anglers must check in prior to 6:00AM. This rule will only be disregarded for tournaments on Candlewood where participants are held at Lattins Cove until 7:00AM. For this reason we have an 8:00AM start in those tournaments. We will begin to stress this rule on the message board and the home page starting with this next event.

Bryan V. Kerchal Tournament of Club Champions: This tournament, also know as Mr Bass, will be held on August 2nd. A letter to all club presidents should be mailed out within the next week or so. I'd like to run the tournament this year using a pro-am format. Under this format each club would be responsible for supplying a co-angler. There will be a payout for the co-anglers which will be funded through the general fund. This will allow each competitor to use their own boat. If a competitor is a non-boater their club will be required to supply a boat for that competitor. The boat owner can be paired with the individual non-boater, will be allowed to participate as a co-angler and operate the gas engine. I will make a proposal under new business. A pairings meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 29th. The time and place is to be determined.

Alternate Boaters: Some of you may have noticed that there were anglers/boaters paired with the word "Alternate" for this past tournament. From now on six anglers/boaters will be paired with Alternate 1 through 6. These anglers/boaters will be contacted in numerical order if another angler/boater, who is paired with a co-angler, decides not to participate. Two of these individuals were utilized at this past tournament. This list will also be utilized on tournament day in the case where an angler/boater does not show up. Exceptions will be made when pertaining to members of the tournament committee.

Proposed changes to Tournament Rules: Under new business I will be making a proposal that all future pairings be conducted on the Sunday prior to each event. This will assist us administratively and also allow for an additional day of notification to all participants. All applications shall be received no later than 11:59

PM on the Saturday prior to the pairings. Late mailed entries should be followed up with a phone call or e-mail to the tournament director.

Boating Advisory Report: Paul Carter

Boat Safe campaign is huge. Enforcement of BAC will be increased. Coast Guard can utilize GPS to track ship to shore radios to locate for help. Cell Phone is currently not a method for tracking.

State Team Report: Paul Carter

Motion Made to purchase 10 sets of raingear for the 10 who are eligible. Motion Approved.

Team is 2 shirts short. Two prior years shirts have been provided for revamping. Jackets are still being worked on.

Raffle Report: No Report

Financial Committee: No Report

Audit Committee: Lewis Schaller

The audit was conducted and everything was in order. Expense reports should be modified to accommodate for where the charges went to ie; state team, youth. Shop around for web page options to ensure value.

Membership Committee:

Sponsors Committee: Ed Weeks

Liberty Mutual offers 5% discount on home, 5% on vehicle. Cannot be combined with any other discounts or offers.

Banquet Committee: Sylvia Morris

Nov 1, 2008 is the date as of right now. Location remains the same and the cost will be \$35.00 each or \$65.00 a couple.

All Reports approved as given.

Old Business

Six man team deadlines were 6/24/08. – Cancellation due to lack of participation
Trailer has been sold for \$1500.00
The Scholarship Open will be held 10/11/08.

New Business

CT Outdoor David Matthew 2007 State Team member currently in bad standing for failure to submit required expense reports, requests to be re-instated. Motion Made to table until next meeting. Motion Approved.

Bob Jeffrey requested that his tournament fee from the last tournament be transferred to the next tournament, a valid reason and notification was made of his inability to attend after the 72 hr notice. Motion Approved

Motion made to make a change to Tournament Rule #3 to reword for clarity. Change to read like: All applications, fees and documentation must be received by 11:59 p.m. Saturday prior to the pairings. Pairings will be conducted on Sunday prior to event. All applications post marked after the cut-off date must be followed up with a phone call (15 days prior to event). Motion Approved.

Motion made to fund a pay out for Mr. Bass of a \$1000.00 payout to be used for the co-anglers fund. To allow each participant the use of their own boat. They will be paired with a Co-Angler (Observer) supplied from each club. The Mr. Bass participant and Co-Angler would not be paired together from the same club. The Co Anglers would be participating against each other. Should a club's Mr. Bass qualifier be a non-boater they need to arrange for a boater from their club (or CBFN member) to be used during the tournament. This Motion was Approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Announcements

Next Meeting: July 24, 2008

Jamie Vinyard
CBFN Secretary