

# Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation

## Meeting Minutes

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Connecticut B.A.S.S Nation was called to order on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at approximately 7:32p by Sylvia Morris.

**Roll Call:** The following clubs were absent: Bass Attack, Candlewood Bassmasters, CT Valley Bassmasters, Housatonic Valley Bassmasters, MidConn Anglers, Pachaug Area Bassmasters, Talcott MTN Bassmasters, Team Skeeter, Xtreme Bassmasters

### **Correspondence:**

- We Received a Thank You note from Melinda Noel for the \$1,500.00 scholarship she was awarded from the CBN.
- We received a Thank You letter from Old Lyme Ambulance Co. for our \$200.00 donation in Gary Reynold's name.

### **Announcements:**

- Evan Williams Bourbon continues partnership with Bassmaster and announces sponsorship of 2 Anglers (John Crews and Hank Cherry). The brand will also have a presence at all the events on the Bassmaster Elite Series and at the consumer expositions shows that accompany all of the fishing tournaments, including next year's Bassmaster Classic in Birmingham, AL in February.
- Skeeter and B.A.S.S Ink a multiyear sponsorship deal. The agreement includes all Bassmaster events conducted within the Bassmaster Elite Series, Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Open Series, Carhartt Bassmaster College Series and the grass-roots B.A.S.S Nation regional tournaments. Also included is the Bassmaster Classic.
- Yamaha to continue as B.A.S.S Sponsor through new multiyear agreement. Yamaha is an Official Premier Engine Sponsor of all B.A.S.S-owned events. These include the Bassmaster Elite Series, Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Open Series, Carhartt Bassmaster College Series, Bassmaster Wild Card and the grass-roots B.A.S.S Nation regional tournaments. Also included is the Bassmaster Classic.
- Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo and B.A.S.S announced that the Bassmaster Elite Series tournament will return to New York State in 2014. Under a partnership with B.A.S.S, the event will include the "Governor's Challenge" a fishing competition featuring the governor, other elected officials from New York and some of the biggest names in professional fishing. The tournament waters will be announced, along with the rest of the 2014 Bassmaster Elite Series schedule, at a later date.

**A motion was made and passed to accept the previous month's minutes.**

### **Report of Officers**

**Treasurers Report:** Marc Levesque.

**Conservation Report:** Dean Rustic:

- CAC Meeting – No Meeting
- Fisheries Advisory Council Meeting in Old Lyme – Next Meeting in September
- Fizzing Kits
  - Kits will be \$3.00 per kit – Let Dean know how many for your club members would want one & they will be available at the next meeting

- **Conservation Project for CT B.A.S.S Nation**
  - Community Fishing Lakes with Clean-up efforts – Clean-up day for each of these lakes is possible for August 24 or 25. Please let Dean know at [Dean.Rustic@gmail.com](mailto:Dean.Rustic@gmail.com) which day and which lake you would like to do near you. Coordinating with the DEEP to have media coverage for us. We only need a few from your club to make a difference.
    - Bunnells Pond, Bridgeport
    - Keney Park Pond, Hartford
    - Lake Wintergreen, Hamden
    - Mohegan Park Pond, Norwich
    - Lakewood Lake, Waterbury
    - Upper Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury (Mohawk Valley has volunteered)
    - Freshwater Pond, Enfield
    - Pickett's Pond, Derby
  - CT BASS Nation CARES
    - Specific Training Day for all clubs
    - CT BASS training at Cabela's & Dick's for early 2014
  - Conservation Grants – October 2013
    - Working with Don Mysling of DEEP and Bret Hodorski of Watertown for a Habitat project. Don & Bret presented project at town meeting. Project was approved with a 5 year time frame.
    - Will be clearing multiple fishing access areas for shore fishing
    - Will build habitat to add to the lake
    - Watertown gathering TREX from transfer station
- National Conservation
  - Parting gift for Noreen Clough was greatly appreciated
  - New National Conservation Director – Gene Gilliland of Oklahoma, a longtime advocate for bass conservation, the B.A.S.S Nation program and youth fishing initiatives, has been named B.A.S.S National Conservation Director. Gilliland replaces Noreen Clough who retired earlier this month.

**Boating Advisory:** Tom Reynolds – Nothing new to report

**C.L.A. Report:** Chris Bielert – Nothing new to report

**Tournament Report:** Paul Dingee:

- Top 40 Anglers and Top 40 Co-Anglers are invited to the Classic/T#4. Applications are posted on the [ctbass.com](http://ctbass.com) website. You must print, complete and mail out (postmarked) to Paul Dingee by October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will NOT be mailing out the applications to you this year. Check the standings to see what position you are in and complete the application if necessary. Watch the forum for the pairings (posted by October 15<sup>th</sup>).
  - Anglers only #41-44 are asked to fill out and application and write "alternate" on the application and mail by October 5<sup>th</sup>. Only complete if you are able to be an alternate.
- If you are *not* planning to fish the classic please let Paul or Sylvia know as soon as possible.
- Two-Day Application and instructions are posted on the [ctbass.com](http://ctbass.com) website. Please read them carefully. There will not be a two-day meeting this year. Pairings will be posted on the forum by Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - **DO NOT** mail the Classic & Two-Day applications in the same envelope.
- Mr. Bass winner was Kevin Noel from Mohawk Valley. Big Bass & Big Bag of the tournament went to non-boater Brian McCleary. Congrats to both.

- **NEW TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.**

**Sponsorship Report:** Bob Nelson:

- **Tacklehookup.com** – Tacklehookup.com has offered a 10% discount to all CBN Members. You may order as many times as you like from now until August 31<sup>st</sup>. Just go to Tacklehookup.com place your order and use the code (ctbass10). Members ONLY Please!!
- **Home Depot in Danbury, CT** will be giving the CBN Tournament Committee (6) new two-way radios. These radios are used, by committee members, to communicate prior to the tournaments.
- **BASSGold** – Another Benefit to your B.A.S.S Nation membership and the discount code show has to be closely guarded. It is to be used by your members for their one-year free membership to BASSGold and **cannot be shared with anyone else**. Will still have to use a credit card to enroll in BASSGold but the discount code should trigger the system to not charge for enrollment. As in anything, there could be mistakes made and will be handled on a one-on-one basis should the member be charged.
  - Use BASSGold and give them feedback on it
  - Enter 6 patters, which do NOT have to be tournament patterns; that's basically only one every 2 months.
    - With a database of thousands of fishing patters from bass tournaments over the years, the program provides fishing recommendations (where, how and with what) for any body of water in the US.
    - A Web-based app that runs on any web connected device has predicted with remarkable accuracy the winning patters and weights for recent Bassmaster Classics, Bassmaster Elite Series events and many other tournaments. It has also helped anglers catch more fish quickly on fun fishing days as well.
- **Power-Pole** sponsorship is open to all CBN members – to receive the discount you have to complete the Pro-Staff application on the website [www.power-pole.com](http://www.power-pole.com)
- The Reynolds' Angler Incentive Program is back. The incentive is doubled for all customers who have purchased a new boat.
  - Anglers paired with the top 3 finishing co-anglers in each of the 4 tournament trail events will be rewarded as follow:
    - Angler paired with the 1<sup>st</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$75.00
    - Angler paired with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$50.00
    - Angler paired with the 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishing co-angler will receive \$25.00
- Bassmaster and ScoutLook created a free fishing weather app for iPhone and Android. To download the app visit [www.scoutlookweather.com](http://www.scoutlookweather.com)
- **Midstate Battery** – A discount is available to ALL Nation members and the Nation will receive a Volume Rebate
  - They can be reached at 139C West Dudley Town Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002
    - Phone 860.243.0646 Fax 860.243.5945 or email at [smerone@midstatebattery.com](mailto:smerone@midstatebattery.com)
  - Notify Sylvia about all purchases so she can keep track of what the CBN rebate should be.
- **Powell Rods** – “Nation” Special Promotion
  - Offering a discount on rods to the Nation members for 30% off & 20% off retail on Diesel Rods
  - Purchase 6 Diesel Rods (mix & match) and pick an Endurance Rod (from specially marked rods) as yours free
  - Please see [www.powellco.com](http://www.powellco.com) to order
- **Buff USA** is now a State, Trail and State Team Sponsor. You may see their products at: [www.buffusa.com](http://www.buffusa.com) Buff USA has a line of buffs and gloves made exclusively for anglers. They have some with bass on them as well. Some of their products were on the prize table at our first tournament.

**CBN Scholarship Committee:** Nothing new to report

**Robert S. Malloy Scholarship Committee:** David Santos – Scholarships to be given again in November

**Banquet Committee:** Sylvia Morris:

- The next banquet has already been booked. It will be at the Chowder Pot again on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Membership Committee:** Paul Dingee: Nothing new to report

**Website Committee:** Training to still be scheduled

**Audit Committee:** Vinny Mucci – Audit Completed

**Youth Report:** Terry Baksay and Ron Frisk:

- Noah Winslow and Emmett Mitchell have qualified for the Divisionals – this is Noah's 2<sup>nd</sup> year and Emmett's 1<sup>st</sup> year
- High School Fishing should have tournament dates available at the end of August
  - Two High Schools have been sent in to BASS and are waiting for approval
  - BASS has a lot they are working on with High School fishing and we are waiting to hear more
- Final Proof from Valley Fashion for youth sweatshirts are in
- Money collected from tournament #3 (\$228) will be combined with 2-Day cookout donations and donated to the pulmonary division at CCMC

**Finance Committee:** Ray Bessette: Nothing to report

**State Team Report:** Sylvia Morris:

- Next Meeting will be September 7<sup>th</sup> at 4p at Sylvia's House. Last meeting before leaving for Divisionals.
  - Team to bring the \$250.00 sponsorship each to the meeting – 6 have done so already.

**Motion made and seconded to accept reports as given**

**Old Business**

- Excused absences: CT Bassmen & Tobacco Valley Bass Anglers
- Lowrance isn't doing a booklet anymore
  - CBN must work together to gain benefits from Lowrance at Nationals
    - Friend Lowrance on Facebook
      - Take and post pictures with Lowrance product and let Sylvia know when the picture is posted so she can keep track
  - At Nationals they will decide which states did best
    - The better the state has done the better the benefits
- A big Thank You from Don Barone for the Tackle the Storm donation (\$1,000.00)
  - 200 Rods & Reels were purchased with the donation
  - Don posted a thank you to the CBN on Facebook for the generosity
- Tournament Director for 2014 – Paul Dingee. Congratulations!!
- Tournament committee shirts are still being worked on

**Motion made and seconded to accept Old Business**

## New Business

- Start collecting CBN and BASS Nation 2014 dues.
  - The CBN Roster and dues are due at the October meeting & due to BASS Nation online by November 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Remember to use the correct form completely filled out. Correct form is posted on the website [ctbass.com](http://ctbass.com) under CBN News, then CBN Forms.
  - Be sure that your club name is on the check and that it is the right amount.
    - Members over 60 that have been with us 5 years or more are \$25.00 and all others are \$50.00
  - IT WILL BE REFUSED UNLESS THE PROPER FORM IS USED AND COMPLETED IN ITS ENTIREITY!!
- CT Hunting and Fishing Appreciation Day – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Sessions Woods in Burlington
  - We have been invited and will need a few volunteers to attend and do knot tying as well as showing the kids how to cast, flip and pitch.
  - We can only have 6 people
  - They will supply the tents, tables & chairs. We will bring banners, rods and reels, things to tie knots with and maybe a chart with different knot pictures.
  - We attended last year and there were a lot of people there
  - Please let Sylvia know ASAP if you can attend
- Bylaw proposals must be turned in at the September meeting. They will be passed out at the October meeting, discussed in November and voted on in December.
- President and Youth Director have been invited to 2013 Nationals at Lake Dardanelle, Russellville Arkansas (October 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2013). Sylvia Morris and Terry Backsay will be going
  - Flights are being researched – it is looking expensive.
- Chapter Award Nomination forms are available and we strongly urge you to consider making nominations.
  - Please bring forms back to your clubs – there are many deserving clubs in the CBN.
  - If there are no nominations in a category there will be no awards given in that category
  - Awards to be given out at the banquet
- Nominating committee will be chosen at the September meeting – 3 people are needed to volunteer. The committee will be accepting nominations for Secretary and Treasurer this year. The committee will then submit these nominations in writing at the November meeting. Some of the current officers may be willing to return but everyone has the opportunity to run if desired.
- Livingston Lures and the CBN are working on a possible sponsorship.
  - Sent CBN 12 lures and catalogs to preview
  - Executive board to get 3 lures each to test and provide feedback
    - Discussed this with all clubs present to avoid any issues and all clubs agreed that executive board is to receive lures
- Dean Rustic – Requested that the CBN purchase (if B.A.S.S will not donate) up to four B.A.S.S memberships for the DEEP officials to keep them informed on what we are about and do. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and all were in favor. If memberships are not donated by B.A.S.S the CBN will buy them. Dean to keep us posted.

**Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:37 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary.**