

CT B.A.S.S. Nation
Meeting Minutes
June 26th 2014

Prior to the monthly meeting: Mike Beauchene Supervising Fisheries Biologist CT Aquatic Resources Education ([CARE](#)) & Fisheries Program Support [Inland Fisheries Division](#) was our guest speaker. He talked about the new DEEP on line permitting process which will begin in July 2014. The online tournament app process is called EZ File. You can see who has what body of water, what is left for parking, and change things on the fly. You can share the info with other clubs. First come, first serve basis. You can start requesting 18 months out, ready Mid July of 2014.

ROLL CALL: Clubs Absent – CT Valley Bassmasters, Naugatuck Valley, Talcott Mtn, Tobacco Valley & Tolland County

CORRESPONDENCE: Dear Ms. Morris and the CBN Juniors: We received the great donation today from the Skeeter Cookout. It was a great surprise and will be a big help. I am not certain about the Juniors connection to us at the Cystic Fibrosis (CF) center, but we will use your donation to reward kids with CF for taking good care of themselves and to buy books about taking care of CF.

Again, many, many thanks

Best regards

Craig Lapin, M.D.

Director, Central Connecticut Cystic Fibrosis Center

Pediatric Pulmonologist, Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Associate Professor, University of Connecticut Department of Pediatrics

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- June 6, 2014

Shimano/B.A.S.S. Youth Conservation Initiative Announces Grant Recipients

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Three B.A.S.S. Nation chapters are the 2014 recipients of grants offered through the new Shimano/B.A.S.S. Youth Conservation Initiative. New Mexico, Georgia and Connecticut are the states receiving funds. The grant program is designed to focus on involving young B.A.S.S. members in projects to conserve and restore fisheries habitat and aquatic resources. The initiative was introduced at the 2014 Bass Fishing Hall of Fame induction dinner, held in conjunction with the B.A.S.S. Conservation Summit and the 2014 GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by Diet Mountain Dew and GoPro.

“The proposals from New Mexico, Georgia and Connecticut were outstanding,” said Phil Morlock, director of environmental affairs for Shimano. “They have the right level of youth involvement, partnerships and impact that follow the goals of the initiative. All of us at Shimano look forward to watching the progress on these projects.”

New Mexico’s grant is earmarked for the Adopt-a-Cove habitat enhancement project on Elephant Butte Reservoir. It will involve the Albuquerque Hawg Hunters adult club, along with members of both the New Mexico State University Bass Team and the Mesilla Valley High School Bass Anglers. The plan is to restore shoreline vegetation, plant native aquatic vegetation and install a variety of artificial structures to encourage sport and forage fish spawning.

Georgia’s grant goes to a native aquatic plant introduction project on West Point Reservoir. The Lake Oconee Bassmasters will mentor student anglers from Alexander and Chapel Hill high schools, as well as from the University of West Georgia. Students will help with propagation of plants at an aquatic nursery and transplant cuttings into the reservoir to establish stands of vegetation. This project will provide the needed cover and nursery habitat for juvenile bass and forage fishes.

Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation members from the Bass Lightning club will partner with youth from Berlin, Ellington, Fairfield, Nonewaug and Suffield high schools to install artificial habitat structures in several community fishing ponds. The group plans to produce and distribute a how-to video that will serve as a guide for other communities wishing to improve the habitat and productivity of their local fishing ponds.

“This is only the beginning,” said Gene Gilliland, B.A.S.S. conservation director. “Shimano has a solid commitment to

youth and conservation, and we want to encourage B.A.S.S. Nation chapters to begin crafting ideas for 2015 proposals.”

- We are pleased to announce the Old Milwaukee Beer has signed on as Title sponsor of the B.A.S.S. Nation. You will see a new logo on the weigh in stage tomorrow and hear me talking about the “Old Milwaukee B.A.S.S. Nation Mid Atlantic Divisional Championship” on stage tomorrow. More details to follow in a press release that is scheduled to come out on Friday. We are having two nights of Old Milwaukee B.A.S.S. Nation

MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque

Conservation Report: Dean Rustic

- **Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting 6/10/2014**
 - New Fishway installed and working
 - New England Cotton Tail Study
- **Fisheries Advisory Council meeting**
 - Presentation by Commissioner Klee
 - Discussion on funding for Fisheries (Salmon stamp) VS. General Fund
 - Presentation of the Video of the Fishways
 - Presentation of the Bass Study in Burlington.
- **Fishing Advocacy – Working directly with CT DEEP to promote Fishing with these initiatives.**
 - Shimano Youth Conservation Initiative
 - We have received our Funding Check
 - There is some disappointment that only 5 states submitted anything
 - Working on pricing from Moss Back
 - Asked clubs to come back with list of volunteers to July meeting that will help
 - First lake is Echo Lake
 - Will have formalized plan with time line finished in July.
 - Working with RAD Media to promote and get the word out

Boating Advisory: No Meeting until September

CLA Report: No report this month

Tournament Report: Paul Dingee

- 67 Boaters and 34 Non-Boaters
- Many Non-Boaters (6) and one boater just did not bother to show up with no call to anyone. This is not acceptable. Please pass this on to your club members. We expect a courtesy call if not going to show up for the event.
- Key Fobs and Mirror Number Cards NEED to be returned!!! We have the number matched to the name so we do know who you are!! Please make our lives easier and just return them!!
- Thank you to all who stepped up to help! The help was greatly appreciated!!
- Next tournament is July 13th at Candlewood, Squantz and Latins (8a-3p), mailing deadline is June 28th.
- We will need help again running trailers in the AM and in the afternoon
- Thank you to Joe Horvath and Tom Reynolds for putting on another great cookout for us! Raised \$262.00 for Folds of Honor through donations

- Reynolds contingency winner for Tournament #2 was Dan Dobryzniski!
- **We have a slight change in the 2015 proposed trail. June 14th instead of June 21st since it is Father's Day.**
- CBN Proposed 2015 Trail:
 - April 25th, 26 Angles Tournament, Danbury Town Park, Candlewood 7a-3p
 - May 3rd, CBN Scholarship, Squantz, Candlewood 7a-3p
 - May 17th, Tournament #1, Danbury Town Park, Candlewood 7a-3p
 - **June 14th, Tournament #2, Ct River, Haddam & Salmon 7 to 3**
 - July 12th, Tournament #3, Squantz & Lattins, Candlewood 8a-3p
 - August 1st, Mr. Bass, TBD, 7a-3p
 - October 3rd and 4th, Two Day, Danbury Town Park, Candlewood 7a-3p
 - October 18th, Tournament #4, Steel Bridge, Lilionah 7a-3p
- Please DO NOT put club tournaments on these dates!! There were several clubs that held tournaments on the same day as 26 Angels and the Scholarship two day this year!
- Trail is sanctioned under:
 - Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Highest finishing Skeeter Owner Contingency Program
 - Skeeter Real Money
 - Stratos 2X the Money
 - Triton Gold
- Joe Horvath has asked that we do not have a donation box at the cookout at Tournament #3 or Tournament #4/Classic. He feels more of you will eat if you do not have to make a donation. He wants everyone to interact and eat.

Sponsorship Report: Robert Nelson

- **Pure Fishing Discount**
 - We are excited to announce the 2014 – 2nd quarter Pure Fishing Discount Purchase Program for your members. We have included almost the entire Pure Fishing portfolio at a discount of 25% of MSRP. Each member is allowed to purchase up to a total of 4 items during this quarter and the purchase window is May 1st through May 31st.
 - Each of you and your members are a key element in gaining awareness and education on our brands and products and we are proud to support you with our discount purchase program.
 - This program is not designed to circumvent any retailers and we strongly encourage your members to support them with any additional purchases.
 - Here are the instructions for placing orders:
 - **Click the link below (this is a new address)**
 - http://mpf.shakespeare-fishing.com/tackle_shack
- **Enter your complete email address as your username (this is how we will contact you regarding your order) Enter Password**
 - Once you are on the home page, click **My Account** to enter your shipping address, etc. Save the information then click on **Products** to begin shopping. *If you ordered during the first quarter your account information is still in place.*
 - Add your selections to the shopping cart. You may increase the quantity of any product from the shopping cart. When you have completed your order, submitted payment by credit card and logged out, you will receive an email confirmation of your order.
- **Rigid Industries** - There is a 30% off offer to all members. Members should follow the instructions and using the order forms and links on the CBN website.
- **Navionics**
 - Navionics will be a sponsor of the CBN For 2014. They will be giving the CBN four (4) Navionics+ Charts to be used at the CBN Awards Banquet.

- **Thayer's Marine** – Thayer's Marine has become a Gold Sponsor!!
- **Midstate Battery** – A discount is available to ALL Nation members and the Nation will receive a Volume Rebate
 - MidState Battery was very pleased with the use of the sponsorship by our members! Members spent a total of \$4,400.00!! We earned a check of approx. \$88.00!! At the April meeting there will be a presentation of the new line of Northstar AGM Batteries, MidState will be donating \$600.00 in gift certificates again for the banquet also!
 - 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
 - Notify Sylvia about all purchases so she can keep track of what the CBN rebate should be.
- **Reynolds Garage & Marine** – Reynolds & Skeeter Highest Finishing Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money
 - Qualifying Events:
 - May 18th, CBN Tournament #1
 - June 22nd, CBN Tournament #2
 - July 13th, CBN Tournament #3
 - October 19th, CBN Classic/Tournament #4
 - Payout:
 - Reynolds & Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money based on the year of the highest finishing Skeeter Owner's boat (only one award per event)
 - \$3,000.00 (2011 model Skeeter or newer)
 - \$1,000.00 (2010 model Skeeter or older)
 - Skeeter Real Money up to \$3,000.00
 - Rules:
 - The Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money will be paid to the highest finishing Skeeter Owner in each of the four CBN Tournaments outlined above. Only one prize per event will be awarded. Dollar amount of the award will be determined by the age of the highest finishing Skeeter Owners boat...2011 model or newer Skeeter boat will qualify for \$3,000.00 per event, 2010 model or older Skeeter boat will qualify for \$1,000.00 per event.
 - The highest finishing registered Skeeter Owner must have verifiable proof that he or she is fishing from his or her Skeeter boat to qualify for the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money. Proof of ownership and insurance must be produced and verified by the CBN Tournament Director at weigh-in at each of the four 2014 CBN Events.
 - In the event that the highest finishing Skeeter Owner cannot provide verifiable proof that he or she is the registered owner of the Skeeter boat that he or she used in the event, the second highest finishing Skeeter Owner will become the winner of the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money.
 - There will be no limit to the times an angler can win per calendar year.
 - The four CBN Events outlined above will also be sanctioned for 2014 Skeeter Real Money. Each CBN Event must have a minimum of 30 boats and 60 anglers to qualify for 2014 Skeeter Real Money. To qualify for 2014 Skeeter Real Money, each individual registered Skeeter Owner must register for the 2014 Skeeter Real Money program. Go to www.skeeterboats.com and download an application. Annual dues are \$25.00 per year. Skeeter Real Money rules are available by clicking on the Skeeter Real Money logo on the www.skeeterboats.com website homepage.
- **Lowrance Insight Genesis B.A.S.S Nation Challenge**
 - In addition to the current Lowrance Social Media challenge, Lowrance has issued another, please see below. PLEASE send to all your club members!
 - The program is split into two groups, large and small B.A.S.S Nations. The contest will award \$20,000 in Lowrance product to the large state that ends up on top, and \$12,000 in Lowrance product to the top state in the small division. They didn't want to lump you all together and give the states with larger member numbers too much of an advantage.
 - Clubs can earn \$3,000 of Lowrance product awarded monthly

- Individuals that take part have the opportunity to win and HDS12, HDS9 or HDS7 in the monthly awards for the top three people respectively, and if they are the top person for the entire year, they will earn and all-expense paid fishing trip with one of the Lowrance Tour Pros (I was told it would be an Elite Pro).
- **Power Pole**
 - Power-Pole is now a sponsor of the B.A.S.S Nation for 2014. Effective January 1st, they will be offering a discount to all B.A.S.S Nation members. They will match your officers listed with the B.A.S.S Nation against the rebates applied for and will match members names with current B.A.S.S Nation rosters. You must be a CBN Member to be eligible.
 - The discounts are available via a rebate program through <http://www.power-pole.com> The product will be purchased at the retail value of the Power-Pole (limit 2 per year per boat). In order to receive your rebate you will need to register the Power-Pole at <http://www.power-pole.com> located under the "Support" column header, then "Product Registration" Once the product has been registered you will then be prompted to fill out the rebate form, with this the discount will be issued in accordance with the discount you are entitled to receive. The discount levels will remain active on accessories and apparel purchased through the website for a period of 12 months. Should you have any questions, contact Casey Carpenter @ 813-689-9932 ext. 2021 or email casey@power-pole.com
- **Livingston Lures**
 - New sponsor for the CBN, check for \$1500 received, product coming for banquets, tournaments etc.

CBN Scholarship: Nothing New

Robert S Malloy Scholarship: Nothing New

Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris

- Change of Date: Due to the nationals being held on our original date of November 8th, we will now be holding in on November 22nd. Please be sure to notify all club members of the change.

Membership Committee: Paul Dingee – Nothing New

Website Committee: Invoice received for the web host and for Armand to help for the year. Marc has paid it.

Audit Committee: Nothing to report

Youth Report: Terry Baksay & Ron Frisk

- 2014 tournament results and standings will be on website early the first week of July
- 2 teams are set for National Championship, July 16th-19th.
- Nonnewaug High is just about all set with everything they need for divisional
- Expressed concern about securing boat captains...I can't grow this program without a commitment from clubs, state team, or anyone for that matter

Finance Committee: Ray Bessett – Nothing to report

State Team Report: Sylvia Morris

- Lowrance hats are in
- Vetting forms are being collected to turn in to B.A.S.S for Divisional
- Harry Gordon's sponsorship will be \$250.00 worth of waters and sodas from Ponti's Package Store
- Kevin Rose's sponsorship has been received from Family Pizza Restaurant & Grill for \$250.00
- June 22nd meeting was not held. Next meeting will be July 13th after Tournament #3 weigh-in

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN

OLD BUSINESS:

- Excused Absences: Bass Busters and CT Sweetwater
- The Berkely Pure Fishing Aware of \$1500.00 – Rocket received, Revo SX40 still on backorder
- Here is an update on CY erecting a Canal Boom on CT River from Norb Heil:
 - I am scheduled to meet with Alan Aranow in Haddam tomorrow morning. Alan is one of the lead locals heading up the fight to remove the boom. Alan and I have been gathering extensive facts regarding the barrier and he is preparing a comprehensive article that will be published on the issue. The information and the article itself will be used to further bring public awareness and concern and provide factual information for other articles that are written to obtain information from.
 - There has not been another Public hearing scheduled as of this time. That will be a topic for tomorrow that will be discussed as well as the preparation for it and getting the public and different organizations that enjoy the River for recreational purposes to attend and get involved.
 - We are also preparing a set of questions - a position statement - that will be submitted to every politician that represents the people of the 33 rd district of CT on their awareness and position on the issue.
 - Although it may take some time before we see access to this part of the River, the facts that continue to be uncovered continue to increase the chances of its likelihood
- Phyllis Schear, Chairman of the Zebra Mussel Task Force, has asked to come and speak to us in July about Grass Carp and any questions or concerns about them good or bad. She can also answer any questions about Zebra Mussels.
- There was some discussion on the 2015 proposed trail given by Paul Dingee in his tournament report. We had a slight change to move June 21st tournament to June 14th due to Father's Day. Voted and passed unanimously.
- **CBN Proposed 2015 Trail:**
 - April 25th, 26 Angles Tournament, Danbury Town Park, Candlewood 7a-3p
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 - October 18th, Tournament #4, Steel Bridge, Lilionah 7a-3p
- **Proposed 2015 Trail for CBN/NEBA Team Championship Trail:**
 - May 24th – Candlewood
 - June 28th – CT River
 - July 18th & 19th – TBD Classic & Tournament #3
 - August 16th – Lilionah
 - September 13th – Candlewood
 - October 11th – Lake Zoar
- New Lowrance program – Details Below:
 - New Lowrance program for 2014: Quarterly postings of pictures of Lowrance products being used or events featuring Lowrance products gives us 1 point for each, videos of the product or event featuring Lowrance gives us 2 points, pictures or videos with a new idea using the Lowrance gives us 3 points and finally a unique event or idea gives us an extra point for each. Points will be added and prizes awarded in each quarter. 3 prizes for each: 1st place highest point state gets a touch 12, 2nd place a touch 9, and 3rd place gets a touch 7. A state can win in multiple quarters. You must notify Sylvia when you post anything to the Lowrance Facebook page or any other form of social media. You must begin each post

with **#Lowrance BN CT or we will not get credit for it!!! You must notify Sylvia when you post anything to the Lowrance Facebook page or any other form of social media. Let's try to win all four!!!**

- **UPDATE:** We are in the lead for the 2nd Quarter by 65 points!!! 4 days to go!! Get creative – all clubs step in to help with this one. Thank you to those who already have.
- New CBN/NEBA Team Championship Trail has been started. Next tournament June 29th, CT River, Haddam. New guideline, for every 25 teams signed up by June Tournament we can send 1 team to the Championship. We need 9 more to be able to send two teams.
- Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fisherman rate!! Newbury (best parking), Micro-tel and Best Western.
- Marc is working on getting the taxes done as Cohen has told us he will no longer do them but will help us get someone else. Marc updated, we have contacted new company and they have applied for the extension
- Triton Alliance Leads Program, we already have some sales pending for this year. Please let Sylvia know as soon as someone THINKS they are going to buy a Triton. She will email all the info (name, email, phone number and what boat he is interested in if possible) to put the lead in.
- Disabled Military Veteran's Tournament & First Responders Tournament – Boat captains needed. Contact Al Guite to volunteer for any of these events (Al Guite 860-829-0616 or alanguite@comcast.net)
 - Tuesday, Sept 16th sponsor River Front Recapture
 - Sponsor a First Responders Boat forms available on the table (corporate and personal). I would like to suggest a club take the personal one and collect within the club and make it a club donation.
- BASS Renewal Envelopes available – CBN gets \$5 for everyone mailed in to BASS.
- Reynold's Open was a success and a good time. 47 Boats and a great BBQ. Thank you Tom and Crew!

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

- All Mr. BASS Letters & applications have been given out to each club President or Rep. If your club did not receive one please notify Sylvia Morris or Paul Dingee Immediately!
- An issue with the residence of Squantz Cove has come up, they are petitioning the DEEP and Boating Division to move the no wake buoy out further (to 1500 feet from the Launch). There were a few articles in the newspapers about it and targeted bass boats. It is necessary to respond from our perspective. After sending this out to all clubs and hearing back from 10 of you out of 24 with your opinions, I drafted a letter and sent it out showing our support of this and also expressing our opinion of wakes and who exactly causes them. I received a thank you from Eleanor Maiorani asking me to resubmit when this goes to meeting. She will keep me posted as to when and where it should go. Here are the contents of the letter:

June 17, 2014

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and Boating Division
Eleanor Mariani
Director, Boating Division

Re: Squantz Cove no wake zone

Dear Madam,

As I am sure you are aware, members of the Squantz Cove community have expressed interest in increasing the size of the no wake zone. While we do not agree with their assessment that “bass boats” are the sole cause of the concern, we do agree that all boats leave a wake and should be operated with regard, not only to fellow boaters, but properties owners as well.

The CT B.A.S.S. Nation (CBN) would like to express our membership's support with the Candlewood Lake, Squantz Cove Community's proposal to have the no wake buoy in Squantz Cove, moved out to 1500 Ft. from the Launch. We actually would support it moved even further! We have always tried to be proactive when it comes to the use of our resources. A regular practice of the CBN is to start our tournament take off as far from shore as possible. Ending at the end of a longer no wake zone will have minimal impact on our participants.

Also, I have polled my membership and all replied that not only would they like to see this done in Squantz Cove, but on several other locations on the lake as well.

We would like our position known, that, in this cause, we are in support of the Squantz community to increase the no wake zone for all lake users.

We feel the "bass fishing boats" and "tournaments" are getting unjustifiably blamed for the wake problems in the cove. Please keep in mind; we only use Candlewood Lake twice a year. (Once from Danbury Park) The majority of "tournaments" are less than 10 boats. Articles have been published and statements have been made that point directly at the bass boats and tournaments as the source of wake problems. We all know this not to be true and need to work together for a much safer and pleasant boating experience.

Respectfully,
Sylvia Morris
CBN President
35 Orient Ave | Milford CT 06460
H: 203-877-0280 | C: 203-675-4666
Email: Wefish2@att.net

CC: Mike Peyton, Boating Division
Bill Hyatt, Bureau Chief
Peter Aarrestad, Fisheries Division
Bill Forman, Fisheries Division
Larry Marsicano, CLA

- A separate grant account will be opened to put the grant money in and used solely for the outlined & approved projects. Grant money received of \$4,400.00
- Our Junior account and High School account will be combined into one and it will now be called the Youth account.
- Nominating committee for Tournament Director is Sal Messina (860.883.3116) or Harry Gordon (203.560.7030). Please call either one of them to nominate someone or yourself for Tournament Director. They will bring back a list of nominees at the July meeting and we will vote in August.
- Livingston Lure raffle winner is Carl Lovosolo! Thank you Livingston Lure.
- Start thinking about this, nominations will open up in September for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Time for a change!

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 24th, 2014

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Rose, CBN Secretary**