

# CBN MEETING MINUTES

## November 19, 2015

Called to order at 7:30PM

Roll Call – Al Guite

- **Clubs Absent:** CT Bassmen, Housatonic Valley Bassmasters, Team Skeeter, Xtreme Bassmasters and Bass Busters
- **Correspondence:** A thank you from LCI for our donation to James J Rustic Legacy Fund in memory of Mrs. Rustic, Deans Mother.
- **Announcements:** Letter from Bill Foreman, D.E.E.P.

**Re: CANDLEWOOD LAKE**

Earlier this year, DEEP's Boating Division reduced the listed parking capacity at the Squantz Cove launch from 100 vehicles to 75 vehicles. Under the "50% of capacity" policy, **this effectively reduces the number of boats (and their vehicles/trailers) that can be permitted for the Squantz Cove launch to 38** (from 50). Note that permit application that had been received prior to this change have been "grandfathered."

### **RAMP CLOSURES:**

The Boating Division is hoping to partially renovate four inland boat launches (**Bantam Lake, Winchester Lake, Beach Pond, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir**) over the course of next year (2016). These closures are currently expected to occur two at a time (one in western CT & one in eastern CT). Each renovation is likely to take several months.

At this time the scheduling of these renovations is unknown (**if they actually occur**). Once we know more (which may not be until sometime next year) we'll provide more information and work with everyone to reschedule any of their tournaments planned for the affected waters that would be affected by the closures.

### **RESCHEDULING OR CANCELLING SUBMITTED PERMIT APPLICATIONS:**

If you find that you submitted an application in error (perhaps wrong date or waterbody), please try to avoid submitting a second application if possible with the correct information. Call or email me (860-414-3868, [William.foreman@ct.gov](mailto:William.foreman@ct.gov)) and we will revise the existing permit with the correct information. This will avoid confusion and reduce the excess entries into the system. Additionally, if you decide that you want to cancel an event, let me know (ahead of the date if possible) and we will hit the "deny" button to remove the permit application from the active list.

Thanks,

Bill

William Foreman  
Environmental Analyst II  
Inland Fisheries Division  
Bureau of Natural Resources  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127

- **November 5, 2015**

### **B.A.S.S. Announces Sites Of BASSfest And Toyota Bassmaster Angler Of The Year Championship**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Two special events of the 2016 Bassmaster Elite Series will be held at new, or relatively new, venues for the world’s premier bass fishing circuit, B.A.S.S. announced today.

The fan-favorite BASSfest will be held June 8-12 at Lake Texoma on the Oklahoma-Texas border, and the season finale, the Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year Championship, will take place at Minnesota’s Mille Lacs Lake.

“Similar to the GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by GoPro, the Bassmaster Elite Series tournaments have become extremely popular ‘happenings’ for bass fishing fans. By taking our fishing festivals to Lake Texoma and Mille Lacs, we will expose the sport to new fan bases,” said B.A.S.S. CEO Bruce Akin. “And, our Elite Series anglers are sure to enjoy the new challenges these lakes present.”

Choctaw Casino Resort in Durant, Okla., is presenting sponsor of BASSfest.

In addition, officials of the world’s largest fishing organization revealed a new tournament for 2016: the Bassmaster Classic Bracket tournament, to be held on the Niagara River out of Buffalo, N.Y., July 19-22.

In that event, the Top 8 finishers in Elite No. 7 on Cayuga Lake, New York, will go head-to-head in a bracket format tournament that will pay \$50,000 in cash — in addition to the prize money they will have earned at Cayuga — and award a guaranteed spot in the Super Bowl of Bass Fishing, the 2017 GEICO Bassmaster Classic.

The Classic Bracket will be streamed live on Bassmaster.com and will feature — for the first time ever in Bassmaster competition — catch-weigh-release scoring. That is, competitors will have their catches weighed instantly on the water by judges, and the bass will be released back into the water at the spots where they were caught. Only the heaviest five bass per angler will be counted.

Lake Texoma, an 89,000-acre impoundment of the Red River, was the site of the 1979

Bassmaster Classic won by Hank Parker, now a popular television fishing show host, in September of that year, and it was the venue for Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Opens in 2007 and 2010. It has not hosted an Elite event, however.

Parker caught 31 pounds and won \$25,000 in the '79 Classic by using a "flipping stick" borrowed from fellow competitor Gary Klein, shining the national spotlight on the then-new technique of "flippin'." Klein finished fourth in that event. Veteran pro Rick Clunn was third.

Headquarters for the five-day BASSfest will be Choctaw Casino Resort at Durant, Okla. As in the two previous BASSfests, both held on Tennessee River impoundments, the 2016 event will feature a military and fan appreciation day, complete with Bassmaster University seminars, an expo and other activities.

"Choctaw Casino Resort is excited to partner with B.A.S.S. to bring the best anglers in the country to the Lake Texoma area," said Wendy Carter, director of marketing for Choctaw Casino Resort - Durant. "We look forward to hosting competitors and their families, and introducing them to our many new amenities, like our recently-opened entertainment complex called The District. In The District, families can enjoy an arcade, 20 bowling lanes, a movie theater, laser tag arena and food court."

No B.A.S.S. professional tournament has ever been held on Mille Lacs, which lies about 90 miles north of Minneapolis. At 132,500 acres, the lake is Minnesota's second-largest inland lake and is known among bass anglers as a bucket list smallmouth destination. It is ranked 10th on *Bassmaster Magazine's* 100 Best Bass Lakes list for 2015.

"We are proud to support the Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year tournament in 2016," said Tracy Sam, general manager of Grand Casino Mille Lacs. "Not only will it help bring thousands of new visitors to the area, it's a great opportunity to showcase everything Mille Lacs has to offer."

Earlier this year, the state of Minnesota announced it would permit culling bass in major tournaments on Mille Lacs in hopes of inducing B.A.S.S. and other tournament organizations to schedule events there. The region's tourism economy has been hard hit by a declining walleye fishery, on which lakeshore lodges and other businesses depend for much of their income.

"We applaud the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for its efforts to accommodate competitive bass fishing," said Akin. "The Angler of the Year Championship is expected to generate \$3.4 million in economic impact for the region, and the area will continue to benefit as the bass fishing world learns about the fantastic fishing available in Mille Lacs Lake."

“The Mille Lacs Area Tourism Council is thrilled that the 2016 Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year tournament will be coming to Mille Lacs Lake,” said Tina Chapman, executive director of Mille Lacs Area Tourism Council. “We have a rich history of great fishing in this community, and this tournament is a chance to increase awareness of numerous fishing opportunities to new anglers. This is great news for businesses and communities all around the lake.”

The \$1 million Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year Championship includes the Top 50 Elite anglers based on their ranks in AOY points at the end of the regular season, and it will determine the 2016 Toyota Bassmaster Angler of the Year as well as 38 or more qualifiers for the 2017 GEICO Bassmaster Classic.

“Toyota is proud once again to sponsor the championship, which elevates the Angler of the Year title to one of the most prestigious awards a professional angler can earn,” said Ed Laukes, vice president, Marketing, Performance and Guest Experience for Toyota Motor Sales. “After competing in 10 events in as many states over the course of the season, the AOY champion will truly have proved that he is the best of the best.”

The 2016 Elite Series comprises 10 tournaments in addition to the Classic Bracket event, an increase over the nine events of 2015.

Following is a complete list of the tournaments, dates and venues, beginning with the GEICO Bassmaster Classic presented by GoPro.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Fishery</b>	<b>Host</b>
March 4-6	Bassmaster Classic	Grand Lake	Tulsa, Okla.
March 17-20	Elite No. 1	St. Johns River	Palatka, Fla.
April 7-10	Elite No. 2	Winyah Bay	Georgetown, S.C.
April 21-24	Elite No. 3	Bull Shoals/Norfolk	Mountain Home, Ark.
April 28-May 1	Elite No. 4	Wheeler Lake	Decatur, Ala.
May 12-15	Elite No. 5	Toledo Bend	Many, La.
June 8-12	BASSfest	Lake Texoma	Durant, Okla.
June 23-26	Elite No. 7	Cayuga Lake	Union Springs, N.Y.
July 19-22	Classic Bracket	Niagara River	Buffalo, N.Y.
Aug. 11-14	Elite No. 8	Potomac River	Charles County, Md.
Sept. 8-11	Elite No. 9	Mississippi River	La Crosse, Wis.
Sept. 15-18	AOY Championship	Mille Lacs Lake	Onamia, Minn.

**A motion to accept the previous months minutes as posted was made, seconded and approved by the Board of Directors.**

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

- **Treasurer Report:** Presented by Marc Levesque
  
- **Conservation & FAC Report:** Dean Rustic

CBN Conservation objectives for the 2015

1. Work closely with CT DEEP Officials to create a C.A.R.E. Bass Class
2. Conservation Projects for Housatonic Watershed Organizations
3. Create a Youth/School based Conservation initiative
4. Leverage our position as number 1 for fishing revenue to get funding for CBN endorsed projects

Information from this past Month –

1. Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
  - a. Guest Speaker from the ECON Police to discuss joining Wildlife Crimestoppers as a way to keep the TIP (Turn In Poachers) program going. They will need to get a Committee together to start a Non-profit entity to get donations.
  - b. Discussion on Hatchery closing. More information in the FAC heading
2. The Moss Back Fish attractors for the Shimano/Bass Youth Grant have been ordered. Earmarked for three lakes, one each in the towns of Watertown, Farmington and Southington.
3. Working with CT DEEP to plan the locations of structures for each of the 3 bodies of water in the Housatonic watershed (Lilly, Zoar, Housatonic)
4. Started discussions to create our top 5 list of New/Improved boat ramps.
  - a. Candlewood – Squantz Cove
  - b. Candlewood – Lattins Cove
  - c. Bantam Lake
  - d. Quaddick
  - e. West Hill

Dean Rustic  
Conservation Director

- **Boating Advisory:** No Report. No one could attend the meeting on our behalf.
- **CLA REPORT:** Sylvia Morris

## 2015/2016 Winter Drawdown

A Technical Committee comprised of representatives from the Candlewood Lake Authority, CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection and the US Fish and Wildlife Service met yesterday, November 12th, with FirstLight, to discuss details for this winter's drawdown of Candlewood Lake.

As anticipated, and consistent with past practice, it was determined that FirstLight plans to conduct a "shallow" drawdown this winter.

The power generating firm expects the Lake will be lowered between 4-6 feet (from an average summer elevation of 428') with a goal of having the water level return to seasonal recreational levels — to allow use of the boat ramps — by opening day of fishing in the spring.

Today's Lake Level: 427.3'

FirstLight Automated Lake Level Phone: 888-417-4837

- **CT Yankee Haddam Canal Issue:** The Boom has been removed.
- **Tournament Report:** Presented by Sal Messina

### **Revised 2016 Tournament Trail**

May 15th Candlewood, Squantz & Latins 8 to 3- [CBN T # 1](#)

June 12th CT River Haddam. 7 to 3- [CBN T #2](#)

July 10th Candlewood, Squantz & Latins 8 to 3- [CBN T#3](#)

July 31st 7 to 3 [MR BASS TBD](#)

Aug 21st Lillinonah, Steelbridge 7 to 3 -[TOP 25 /Classic](#)

Sept 17th & 18th Candlewood, Squantz Two Day 7 to 3- (If over 50 boats will be 8 to 3, utilizing Latins also)

Oct 2nd Candlewood, Squantz 7 to 3 Scholarship

We will be holding a Trailer Clean up and inventory check at Sal Messina's house at some point in the early spring. **We need** help! Anyone interested in helping please Sylvia Morris.

At this point Sal has;

- Reorganized the trailer and installed a shelf that we received for free.
- Working on a way to make it easier for handling the generator.

We want to thank Tom Laporta for all his help reorganizing the trailer.

- **Sponsorship Report:** Nothing new to report
- We have three Nose spots available on the Trailer, please let Bob or one of the Executive Board know if you have any leads! We also have two side spots available, prorated for the remaining Two Years, \$1700.00 cash and 2000.00 merchandise. Please let one of us know if you might have any leads.
- Stormr has agreed to come on board as a Gold sponsor for 2016, they are sending us 2 Typhoon Jackets. They will be used at this year's Banquet and they will send three more in January they will be saved for the 2016 Banquet.
- Mid State is coming back for 2016 with the same Sponsorship, 4, \$150.00 Gift Certificates for the 2016 Banquet, the Rebate program and Discounts available to all CBN Members. Steve Marone will be speaking at our 2016 February CBN meeting and will present the Discount package to all Reps. We earned \$236.24 for 2015, the CBN spent \$5905.98, we were at the 4% rebate level. Thank you Steve!!!
- Livingston Lures has come on as a Gold Sponsor for the CBN this year. In addition to all that they have done for us they provided us with a code to give to all members to use ONCE per Member. It is for your use only!!!! Do not give to anyone who is not a CBN member please!

**You must get the code from your Club President or any Executive Board member the code cannot be put into the minutes. It is for 15% off of your one time order, Guys, please utilize this so we can continue this great sponsorship!**

- **CBN Scholarship:** No report
- **CBN Robert S Malloy Scholarship committee:** David Santos asked Marc to send a check to UConn from the Robert S Malloy Scholarship fund for \$1053.00. David said there will be a winner by December.
- **Banquet Report:** We held our Banquet on November 14 and had a record turn out!!! 234 people, 22 High School/ Juniors and 82 women!!! Cleared approximately 2500.00 after expenses. Will have full report next month.  
Dan Dobroczyński & his wife Christine made a donation in Katie Dobroczyński's memory to our High School/Junior account in the amount of \$2000.00!!! That was truly amazing!!! Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Dobroczyński.
- **Membership Committee:** Paul Dingee had the updated State of CT map showing the location of each club completed. The cost was \$259.00. Thank you Paul!
- **Website Committee:** No report

- **Audit Committee:** The audit committee meeting will be held on January 23, 2016 at 4:00PM in Milford. Dan Monroe has been appointed Chairperson. Rob Germain has also volunteered for the committee. One more volunteer is still needed. Please contact Sylvia if interested.
- **High school & Juniors:** Presented by Ron Frisk

Will be speaking with the Dobrizinskis in regards to the \$2,000 donation they made to the program. The goal is to hand out a \$250 award to a junior and a high school member at the end of the season, utilizing an essay contest. Each will group will have a different question to answer. It will most likely be towards conservation or what the program has done for them.

Requested and was approved to reimbursement each high school team and the junior team that will be travelling to the National Championship, \$1,500 each as long as proper receipts are handed in. They will be asked to also raise \$1,000 each per team, which will cover their whole expense. Hoping to sell spots on the HS shirts but waiting on confirmation from Mercury.

John Piscionerre has basically accepted to boat captain for the junior team. The 2 youths personally sat with him and asked him which was how it should be done.

The group received over \$4,500 this year in donations which is unbelievable.

I will be holding an informational meeting in January or February and the goal is to do it at Bass Pro Shops.

I am also going to try and work with Bass Pro Shops to see what we as a group can do for them, in turn what they can do to help these kids out. My goal is to steer my group towards Bass Pro shops branded gear. I will not be afraid to also ask them for financial assistance for the trip to the Nationals.

Al Guite kindly took my place at the Nationals and gave his report. The statistics he provided were astonishing. As he stated... "The future of our organization is the High School Program"

Thanked everyone for their support!

- **Finance:** No Report. We will have a 2016 Budget at the December meeting. We need a financial advisor please!
- **State Team 2016:** Sylvia Morris
- Working on the 2016 State Team already as we are pressed for time, we are traveling in April to be there for May 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 6th to Douglas Lake Tennessee.



- State Team has had their individual pictures taken at the Banquet, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and will meet on Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at Sylvia's house, 1:00 pm to go over the Contract prior to signing and committing to the 2016 State Team and fill out all required paperwork..
- Bob Jeffrey turns in \$100.00 from The Prospect Printing Company towards his \$250.00 Sponsorship.

A motion to accept the reports as given was seconded and unanimously approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Excused Absences:** Sweetwater, Mohawk Valley

The CBN Executive Board & Committee Chairs met at 5:00 November 19<sup>th</sup> before this meeting. Report to be given at the December meeting.

- **Nominating Committee:** Nominations for Secretary and Treasurer positions for 2016.

Thank you to our Committee:  
 Bryan Mc Cleary-203-592-1007  
 Ron Frisk-869-940-5553  
 Dave Gilbert-860-428-7130

Ron Frisk turned in the nominations to Sylvia Morris, they are,

Secretary: **Alan Guite**  
 Treasurer: **Marc Lavesque**

Please bring this back to your clubs and be ready to vote at the December meeting.

- **2016 B.A.S.S. Nation on line roster dues are due by Nov 1, 2015**

**2016 CBN Dues & Rosters are due by November 1, 2015.**  
**YOU MUST USE THE ROSTER FORM PROVIDED FOR YOU ON**  
**CTBASS.COM, fill out completely, turn in with ONE check per club.**  
**We are in need of new membership. Non Boaters are needed for the 2016**  
**tournament format.**

- **Bylaw Change Proposals** – The board was asked if there were any questions or revision requests to the bylaw change proposals that were handed out in October. No issues

were raised. The bylaw change proposals submitted to the CBN President in September will be voted on at the December meeting

- **2016 Tournament Rules** - The Executive Board and Tournament Director developed the new tournament rules for the 2016 CBN Tournament Trail. The proposed rules were handed out to each club representative present. This proposal shall be voted on at the club level prior to the December CBN meeting. The final vote will be conducted by the Board of Directors in December.

## Path to the Classic

**Largest Payout Ever Awarded within B.A.S.S. Nation!**

**Changes in red:**

- Total of seven (7) boats to be awarded, individual cash, and three (3) Bassmaster Classic invitations
- Each state conducts Bassmaster Opens-style event(s) to determine state team members
- Each state allowed 10 boaters and 10 non-boaters + 2 alternates

### **B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Championship**

- 3-day event for each region of U.S. (West, Central and East)
- Day 3 — final day cut to Top **3 boaters + Top 3 non-boaters** from each state
- Boater: five (5) fish limit; non-boater: three (3) fish limit
- Entry fees — boater: \$200; non-boater: \$100
- Anglers fish for individual cash and merchandise prizes with payment to Top 35 places boater/non-boater based on 190 boat field, **Paid out on Day Two**
- Top state team wins a prize boat at each Regional Championship — Total of three (3) **Paid out Day Three**
- Top boater and non-boater from each state advance to B.A.S.S. Nation Championship

### **B.A.S.S. Nation Championship**

- 3-day event
  - Non-boater champion crowned after day 2 and awarded a berth as a boater into the final day of competition. (Boat will be provided.)
  - Day 3: final day cut to Top 10 boaters + Top 2 boaters from each region (if they are not already in the Top 10) + non-boater champion
  - Total possible fishing Day 3 — 16 anglers
  - Boater: five (5) fish limit; non-boater: five (5) fish limit
  - No entry fee
  - Anglers fish for individual cash and merchandise prizes with payment to Top 12 places boater/non-boater
- Top 3 anglers after the final day earn Bassmaster Classic berth
- Champion also earns Bassmaster Elite Series berth, paid Bassmaster Opens entry to division of choice, prize boat, plus a “B.A.S.S. Nation’s Best” prize package, which is the use of a Toyota truck and fully rigged tournament-ready boat for one year.
- Second and third place also earn paid Bassmaster Opens entry to division of choice, prize boat, plus a “B.A.S.S. Nation’s Best” prize package, which is the use of a Toyota truck and fully rigged tournament-ready boat for one year.

– Non-boater Champion earns memorial trophy, paid Bassmaster Opens entry to division of choice, prize boat and Bassmaster Classic Marshal spot. (All of above if they finish in the Top 3.)

- **The NRD Grant:** We are on the last step and money should be in account in two weeks. We now need to plan to get out there this fall and GPS & Chart locations to put the Mossback Fish Attractors in. Please let Dean or Sylvia know
- **Triton Alliance Leads Program** - please let Sylvia know as soon as possible if anyone in your club is considering purchasing a Triton so we can connect and get credit for the sale. We have 24 leads turned in so far. Let's hope they match with the sales and we should earn 5000.00!!! We will know after January 1, 2016..
- The CBN website and calendar have been updated! If you have anything that needs to go on the calendar or website submit it to Sylvia.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Nation Championship Report:** Al Guite and Sylvia Morris went to the BASS Nation Championship held on November 4<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Monroe Louisiana and attended Presidents & Youth Directors meetings on the CBN'S behalf. Total expenses incurred for Sylvia and Al were \$1585.70. An expense report and/or receipts have been submitted. Here are the reports from the meetings attended:

### **Presidents Meeting Report**

- Gene Gilliland spoke to us about how important it is to band together with different Organizations that are battling some kind of law change that will affect their organization. Strength in numbers!

Congratulated CT for its success in getting the ugly orange barrier down! (used us as an example)

There are many Grants available to us; Jon will be sending the list to us soon.

- Bruce Akin, CEO of BASS, came and spoke to us. We banded together and asked for Classic Spots to be reconsidered. He said they will review membership each year and will add additional spots according to the growth seen. We must grow!!!
- Elites now are required to have the American Flag on their Elite Jerseys!!!
- He is looking into Televising the National Championship

- We asked them to reach out to BASS Members in each state that are not Nation members in the Bassmasters magazine, there is nothing in there about us!!!!
- He asked that we utilize the At Large Clubs, so not to lose possible new members. Take their monies and get them signed upon the spot!
- Looking into getting the sponsor Trailers at our Regionals so they will be able to repair Boats that may go down.
- Had a Social Media Day with Tyler Wade, learned about Facebook, started a private Presidents Facebook page. Jon and Emily can communicate with us on there in addition to e-mails.
- Learned about Snap Chat, Twitter, Periscope, Big Catch Contest on Instagram.
- Asked us all to try to use The Blog, [fish@bassmaster.com](mailto:fish@bassmaster.com) and #bassnation twitter when you do.
- Asked us to think about creating a board member to be in charge of all Social Media, with someone overseeing what they can post of course.
- Hank Weldon came and talked to us. Juniors must be 7, or 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade no one under 7 will be covered under our Insurance!!! So anything we do with kids, they can't be under that age!!!!
- Youth Directors must have access to online Roster System, Three people only in each Nation, Pres, Secretary, and Youth Director.
- Tracking High School, College to Adult Members, will keep us posted.  
Sponsors for 2016
- Team Trails are at 52 Trails right now. Will continue.
- Power Pole is back with same offer.
- Yamaha is back with same offer and would like each State to create their own Alliance and present it to them for review instead of creating the same for each State.
- Offering Oil,
- Yamaha Lube and ring Free again. Oil is 65.00 a case 2 or 4 stroke, up to 15 cases.. Stabilizer is 3.50 a Bottle 12oz, 12 per case. Ring Free is \$14.40 a Bottle, 12 in a case. One Prop at a discount about \$550.00 of your choice for a Banquet prize maybe. Call for give aways for your Banquets. There are also discounts on generators available, call David Itner
- Skeeter Real Money \$30.00 to join a year.
- Offering Presidents discount package again.
- Berkley is back, same as last year. Available now.
- Evan Williams back, doing the same. Reimburses us up to \$250.00 for product for our Banquet. Sends Hats, shirts, & tackle boxes for Banquet.
- Checking on Carhart Discount cards for State Team again, they are sponsors of BASS and supplies all Anglers and Presidents and youth Directors with T-shirts and All Presidents with shorts also.

- Lowrance is back, using ecommerce again, I supply the list of eligible Team members and they get a code to use and go order on their own on ecommerce. Still some confusion on how many discounts we can get per state. They said 15, seemed to not know about a 22 man Team??? Waiting on a number will then put forward to the Team according to the numbers.
- Hummingbird/Minnkota is back utilizing a number program. We are allowed 15 hummingbirds and 15 Minnkotas. We will receive 15 tag numbers for hummingbird, I will put the number to a name and then they will order on their own but will have that tag number attached to the serial number of that unit. Same process applies to the Minnkotas! He is checking on allowing the HS Teams going to the Championship to order also. Do not know yet.
- Both Lowrance and Hummingbird/Minnkota expressed great concern on the misuse of these programs. They found 7 items on e-bay that were purchased through these programs and connected them to the individual. The individuals have been banned from the programs forever and now if it happens again they will ban the State! We must enforce this and back them up. They will notify me if anyone in Ct does this and I promise you they will not be a member of the CBN ever again!
- Triton Mercury, Motorguide, Lowrance & Bass Pro Shop is the new Alliance this year!!!
- 29 Shirts
- Juniors will not receive shirts, Top two HS Teams get one and Boat Captains. However other HS teams that qualify will have to purchase their own. Must have them to be eligible to win the Boat! Must be sure to allow time to order and get them prior to the Championship.
- Two better Trolling Motors
- Two Props
- 6 cases of oil
- Opportunity to connect leads and earn money, up to \$5000.00!
- Opportunity to purchase a Presidents package, Mercury rebate, up to 4000.00.
- Opportunity to purchase a fundraiser package, working with Thayer's again on this. Getting a percentage of a boat sold to someone in the CBN.
- Opportunity to earn cash rebates for each full rig sold according to horse power. Must get me the Bill of sale copy!!!
- Plus the usual cash incentives for Triton alliance boat owners winning the Two Day and on ward.
- This year's program has brought in about 12,000 worth of product and cash.
- We will decide if we are going to sign the contract?

#### Other discussions

- Numbers 19,860 adult, College, 932, youth 962, HS 3,089.
- Depending on our growth this year from now until Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 we could qualify for an extra Boater and nonboater to go to the Nationals from the Regionals. He will let each

know their percentage by the end of Nov. So we will have to have a goal to meet to do it!!! Remember it could be an extra expense to us???

- Lifetime membership available for \$350.00, five years for \$100.00.
- Dues will be changed for next year. Working on it now so it will be ready
- Regionals discussion lasted a whole day!!! Was intense. Presidents went to bat for more Anglers and co anglers on day three of the Regionals. We got an extra one on each side. So Day three of the Regionals will be cut to Top 3 anglers and top 3 co anglers in each state. Payouts will be Day 2 to individuals. First place Team, boat package will be awarded Day three.
- Regional Payout to the States could be money instead of a boat, working on this. Could be payouts to 1,2,3,4, 10,000, 8,000, 6,000 & 4,000. Could be Top 5 states \$5k and the next three places 1k paying out to 8 states? We liked the first scenario.
- Talked with other Presidents to see how they were earning monies for their Teams, with the cost going up so much. Some were having the Team worry about it. Some like what we were doing with our Trail and 20% from them going to the Team. Most States upped their STQ'S entry fee to match the Regional entry fee, 200/100. Some raised all Tournament fees to match the Regional entry fees, 200/100. Using the increase for the Team. Three states in our Region pay most of their Team expenses. Most of the others have their Teams raise their own money and have a separate State Team Account.
- Rules for the Nation have come out and they would like us to utilize what we can into our Tournament Rules. Al quite, Myself, Marc Levesque and Greg Tesch, Sal Messina had a meeting and came up with a set of rules that covers all Tournaments. Qualifying and non-qualifying. We will pass out to the membership, post in minutes, and discuss in Dec and vote in Dec to accept them.
- There will be a revision coming from B.A.S.S. about a net Up to the Regionals you can use a net, Nationals and forward no net!!!
- Discussed Time of year for Regionals, March to Sept is what they are looking at as guidelines. We will be the later. Time will fluctuate each year. Depends on location.
- Location will not be revealed each year until all STQS have been held in each state in our Region. Time of year will be released immediately after they decide.
- Kayak Angler, could be potential members of the Nation??? Some state have approached them and signed them up for co anglers.
- Discussed Possibility of Nationals being on the same body of water as the Classic for 2016??? Not received well. Will keep us posted.
- Working on a Leadership binder to be sent out in an e-mail document.
- Waiting on official minutes and Sponsorship Documents to be sent to us.
- Stand-alone Presidents and YD meeting for 2016, probably Oct, late or early Nov.
- CD's still every other year at the Classic, talked about all three state Reps going to the Classic. Could happen.
- Will update all of you as decisions are made and Sponsors actual programs come out.

Respectfully

Sylvia Morris, CBN President

### **Nation Youth Meeting report:**

Day 1 – 11/05/15

Hank Weldon has requested, from each state youth director, a personalized letter to have on file at the BASS office to send to new members who join the youth or high school program in their particular state.

It was reported that the high school program in Illinois and Louisiana have more anglers than adult members in each state.

College Series National Champions Josh Bensema and Mathew McArdle from Texas A&M visited the Youth Conference for a question and answer session. The fishing program at their university was started in 2006 and is run by the students. They reported that they receive little help from the university itself and mentioned that other schools have a much more aggressive recruitment plan.

A social media workshop was conducted by Tyler Wade from BASS. A private Facebook page was set up for all BASS Youth Directors. A discussion on the importance of social media amongst our youth members took place. The following social media sites were discussed; Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat, Vine, Periscope and Instagram.

Roxanne Coleman from Pure Fishing presented the third annual High School on line Challenge which has a grand prize of \$4000.00. In addition sponsorship opportunities from Pure Fishing were reviewed.

Day 2 – 11/06/15

A review of membership statistics took place. In 2013 there were less than 200 High School members nationally. In 2015 there are over 3000 High School members. BASS expects this number to grow to 7000+ in 2016/2017. While adult membership in the BASS Nation has declined over the course of the past few years the High School and Youth membership is increasing rapidly. Our youth programs are the future of the BASS Nation.

We reviewed a power point presentation on the College, High School and Youth programs.

We reviewed the 2016 High School Tournament Rules.

Day 3 – 11/07/15

A review of the Alliance Program was conducted along with a discussion on the shirts provided to the High School and Junior anglers competing in the Nationals. The rules for additional sponsorship logos on each shirt were reviewed.

Open discussion between all Youth Directors.

Respectfully submitted by Al Guite

- Tackle the Storm has committed again for this Year's Sponsor of the Casting Kids and the Casting Kids finals. I received the \$150.00 to cover the cost of the CMTA show and the two checks for the Casting Kids Final winners, \$250.00 each! Thank you Don Barone!!!
- Milford Black Bass held their High School Benefit Tournament, had 10 boats, and made \$250.00 for the High School/Junior account.
- The CBN website has a virus, Armand is working on it. Should be up and running in a week.
- PLEASE make sure has an up to date e-mail for the club president and that the info that B.A.S.S. has is correct as well. Going forward we will be communicating through e-mail blasts to each club president. Don't hesitate to call an Executive Board member with any questions that you may have.
- We will be working hard to get new members this year and ask that all of you push for at least two new members per club. That would give us 40 new members. We are in need of non-boaters to fish the Tournaments especially the Two Day. They must be signed up 120 days prior to the Two Day in order to be eligible to fish. The deadline for membership in order to participate in the State Championship is May 17, 2016!
- Bass Pro Shops had their Grand Opening on Wednesday, 11/18 and the CBN was invited to set up a membership drive and they purchased Hot dogs & Buns, gave them to us to cook and sell and keep the money!!! We made \$880.50!!! Thank you Bass Pro Shops!!! Thank you to Jim Morris (cooking all the Hot Dogs), Paul Mayo (supplying the propane), Mike Billings, Bailey Hood, Ron Frisk (supplying the grill) & Vinny Mucci for all your help in selling, serving & cleaning up! We spent about \$100.00 on Ketchup, Mustard, napkins and propane. Our profit was approx. \$780.00.!!!



- Ron Frisk asked the board for approval to reimburse up to \$1500.00 to each of the Two High School Teams and the Junior Team going to the High School Championship in July 2016. The tournament will most likely take place on Kentucky Lake. This reimbursement will be made from the High School account and the submittal of proper receipts is mandatory. A motion was made, seconded and approved by the Board of Directors.

- **New Contact for Nesbit Insurance**

JANET MOORE (Phone 205-262-2624) - [janet@ssnesbitt.com](mailto:janet@ssnesbitt.com)

- The annual CBN Audit is scheduled to take place on January 23 at 4:00PM. **One more volunteer is needed.**
- We will have 2016 CBN Meeting schedule at the December meeting
- We will have sandwich trays at December meeting.
  
- REMINDER - There will be NO meeting in January 2016.

- **Remember to utilize the hotels in Danbury that supply us with a fishermen rate!! Newbury Inn (best parking), Micro-tel & Best Western. All information is available on the CBN website.**

### Upcoming events:

- **Fishing and Boat Shows for 2016**  
NEHFS - Feb 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>  
CMTA - Show Jan 28<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>
- **Toys for Tots Drive - Dec 5, 2015 at Walmart, Wallingford, Old Colony Road - 9:00 to 2:00**
- **Reynolds Marine Open House - March 19, 2016**
- **Thayer Marine Open House - April 2, 2016**

Whip em baits winner-Ed Bedus, Livingston Lure winner- Dean Rustic

- **A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved**

Meeting adjourned – 9:00PM

**NEXT MONTHS MEETING IS A WEEK EARLY - December 17th, 2015**

