

CT B.A.S.S. Nation Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2015

Rob Germain presented our 2015 CBN Scholarship Awards.

The Connecticut Bass Nation is proud to announce their 2015 Scholarship recipients. Every spring, the CBN solicits applications from qualifying candidates that are reviewed and judged by the Scholarship Committee. Applicants must answer various questions, including a small essay and provide information about their studies. Three awards are provided each year to the top applicants as chosen by the committee.

I first would like to thank the scholarship committee: Matt DeSimone, Rob Germain and Dan Monroe. Since January 2005 the CBN has awarded over \$29,000 in scholarships. The CBN thanks its sponsors, membership and the committee for making the scholarship program such a success.

- I am pleased to announce that Daniel Gage has been awarded the \$500 scholarship award. He is sponsored by his father Don Gage from Pachaug Area Bassmasters.

Daniel, who was also an award recipient in 2013, is currently attending The Ohio State University majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry. He could not attend in person tonight as he is still busy at school doing Cancer research. Daniel maintains a 4.0 grade point average and plans to attend Med School after his undergraduate studies are complete.

- For the \$1000 scholarship award, I am proud to recognize Travis Frisk. Travis is a member of SilverCity Bassmasters and came up through the JR and High School ranks. He is sponsored by his Father Ron Frisk from the SilverCity Bassmasters.

Travis is graduating from Berlin High School and plans to attend UCONN at the West Hartford campus. A member of the National Honor Society and making honor or high honor roll every term in High School, Travis also amassed over 100 hours of community service, primarily in environmental conservation. Travis's hard work in school and helping in numerous ways in both the CBN JR and High School fishing organizations will give him a great head start towards his future goal as he aspires to work as a fisheries biologist for the CT DEEP.

- I am honored to announce that Rebecca Noel is the recipient of the \$1500 scholarship award. She is sponsored by her father Kevin Noel of the Mohawk Valley Bassmasters.

Rebecca is graduating from Lewis Mills High School as valedictorian of her graduating class. Aiming to be a biomedical engineer, she considered her volunteer work of peer tutoring as her most significant achievement. Her diligent work creating lessons and investing long hours paid off by transforming her peer in ways even beyond the Spanish class in which she helped him raise his grade by 20 points. Rebecca spent part of her 2014 summer as a student in a Harvard summer class in which she left a notable impression on her professor who offered a glowing recommendation. Rebecca will attend Wellesley College in the fall.

Again, thank you all for making this an opportunity and congratulations to the three winners standing before us.

Roll Call – 7:50 p.m. – All CBN clubs were represented.

MOTION TO ACCEPT PREVIOUS MINUTES AS POSTED – Motion made, Seconded and approved.

Reports from Officers, Directors and Representatives

- **Treasurer Report:** Given by Marc Levesque
- **Conservation & FAC Report:** Given by 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. Sunday Hunting Bill has passed in the House. Need to call on State Senators to pass now
 - b. May 9th was Family Fishing Day at Gay City State Park. Great Crowds
 - c. Discussion on the C.A.R.E. Classes and the Bass Class and Shimano Grant

- d. Free Fishing Day – June 21, 2015
2. Shimano/Bass Youth Grant we have received the check for the full amount requested - \$4,500.00. Earmarked for three lakes, one each in the towns of Watertown (Lake Winnemaug), Farmington (Dunning Pond) and Southington (Crescent Lake).
 3. Attended meeting with CT D.E.E.P. and the Town of Southington to discuss the adding of Crescent Lake to the DEEP Community Waters program. Looking at possibly adding Catfish to the lake. Will wait for the report from the Electro Fishing sample that took place to see about the health of the fishery.
 4. The first every C.A.R.E. Bass Class was a great success. It was at Winding Trails in Farmington and was held in their Nature's Porch building. We had the Mohawk Valley BassCasters helping with the logistics of cooking and bringing a Bass Boat for show. Key Members help with the presentation and discussions with the kids, families and adults in attendance. There were Teens from the CBN High School Teams (Notre Dame, Bristol Eastern, Newtown?) and the Bass Lighting. I received e-mails from Parents commenting on how well the Youth Volunteers did in instructing their kids in fishing. And a big thank you to Lunken City for their donation of lure packs for the kids.

Dean Rustic
Conservation Director

- **Boating Advisory: No Meeting this past month.**

CLA Report:

According to the CLA the annual cleanup was a success!!!

Dragon Boat Races are scheduled for Aug 15th.

Grass Carp Stocking Update: Given by Vinny Mucci

Public Meeting on Candlewood's Sterile Grass Carp Project

Date: April 29, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Western Connecticut State University

Meeting was attended by CBN members, Marc Levesque, Greg Tesch, Sylvia Morris and Vinny Mucci

As we have stated previously, the Candlewood Lake Authority, with support of the 5 municipalities surrounding Candlewood Lake, applied for and was awarded a grant by the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection to stock sterile triploid grass carp in Candlewood Lake this year, in an effort to provide further control over the eurasian watermilfoil which can be disruptive to boaters and swimmers on the Lake.

As part of the permitting process, the CT DEEP will conduct an informational meeting at 7:00 PM, on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at Western Connecticut State University. All those interested in attending to learn more about this program are encouraged to do so.

About 50 people attended a public meeting Wednesday night at Western Connecticut State University as the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection presented a plan to place nearly 4,000 sterile grass carp into Candlewood Lake to combat the invasive .

Some area residents raised concerns about the safety of the fish and the possible success of the program.

Phyllis Schaer, chairwoman of the Candlewood Lake Authority, said the proposal is safe for fish and people. She said there would be little, if any, interference with swimmers.

“They’re shy fish,” she said. “They tend to spook when around people.”

Peter Aarrestad, director of the DEEP’s Inland Fisheries Division, said the success of the program will largely depend on the management of the lake.

“When you do it right, it can work,” he said.

Nearly 300 acres of milfoil need to be treated by the carp, translating to about 13 fish per acre. Sixteen possible stocking sites were identified along the 60-mile perimeter of the lake. The DEEP won’t make a decision on the project until after the public-comment period closes at 4:30 p.m. on May 13. Comments can be emailed to mindy.barnett@ct.gov or mail them to: Inland Fisheries Division, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

CT YANKEE HADDAM CANAL ISSUE: DEEP IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE WORDING OF THE CONTRACT WITH CONNECTICUT YANKEE.

- **Tournament Report: Given by Sal Messina.**

Tournament #1 was held on Sunday May 17, 2015 on Candlewood Lake. We had 63 boats and 29 Co-anglers. Sal thanked all volunteers who helped run the tournament. He asked the board of directors to communicate to their club members that if they are not paired for any upcoming tournaments to please secure a trailer runner for the afternoon. Sal also asked that the participants allow the tournament committee members the time to perform their work in the afternoon to help speed up the process. If a participant has questions they should be asked at the check in table in the morning or after the weigh in is completed. Sal also thanked all participants in tournament #1 for being patient. In addition the late fee for applications was reviewed with the board of directors.

Proposed dates for next year tournament trail were announced. These dates will be dependent upon the B.A.S.S. regional and national schedule.

- May 1st, Sunday, Candlewood, Squantz Launch, 50 boats, 7 to 3
- May 15th, Sunday, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 75 boats, 8 to 4
- June 12th, Sunday, CT River, Haddam & Salmon, 70 boats, 7 to 3
- July 10th, Sunday, Candlewood, Squantz & Latins, 70 boats, 8 to 4
- July 31st, Sunday, Ct River, Haddam & Salmon, 70 boats, 7 to 3
- Aug 7th, Saturday, Mr BASS, TBD, 20 boats, 7 to 3
- August 21st, Sunday, Lilly, Steel Bridge & Pond Brook, 60 boats, 7 to 3
- Sept. 17th & 18th, Sat & Sunday Two Day, Candlewood, Squantz, 50 boats, 7 to 3
- Oct 1st & 2nd, Sat & Sunday Two Day, Candlewood, Squantz, 50 boats, 7 to 3

- **Sponsorship Report:**

- 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!

Berkley Discount

- The Berkley discount for B.A.S.S. Nation members has changed in how it will be processed. It is 25% off all Berkley Products for B.A.S.S. Nation members. What has changed is that it is now available 24/7 365 days a year! Also what has changed is the way you receive the discount. Members **must** follow these steps in order to receive the discount.
 1. Go to Bassmaster.com – Join B.A.S.S.- Benefits or go to this

link. <https://ssl.palmcoastd.com/pcd/apps/index.cfm?iMagId=57000&iPage=BASSBE NEFITLOGIN&iXz=A05CF3B4374EA0549ED41FBFF6A7F39F>

2. Log into the benefits page with B.A.S.S. Number and last name
3. Click on Berkley Nation Discount
4. Order

- **“If You Can’t Beat Em Whip Em”**

25% Discount Offer

Just like the B.A.S.S. Nation, we are a grass roots company. We believe in our 100% American Made Products and make baits for all levels of anglers, from beginners to seasoned pros. From an idea developed in our basement four years ago we continue to grow at a rapid pace requiring us to move to a separate building on our property. As our growth continues we are looking to expand that building in 2015. Just like most of you, we also work full time jobs. Even with this limitation, we now have fourteen dealers across the United States, one in Australia, one in Spain, and are bringing on our newest dealer in Nova Scotia.

Our process is one step at a time, one person at a time, and one dealer at a time. We aim to take care of every individual customer the same way, whether you are the beginner or a Bassmaster Classic Winner. We take pride in sustaining our down home family company identity.

Henry, one of the owners of our company, spent over twenty years as President of a B.A.S.S. club in Western Pennsylvania. He also spent several years as President of the West Virginia Federation. Matt, our other owner, provides the creative mind that is helping our company grow. We would like to extend a **25% discount** on any order purchased from Whip Em Baits for all of the B.A.S.S. Nation. We are asking you to help spread the word to your Federation members. With your help we can continue to grow and compete with much larger companies.

You can use the discount by entering the discount code **BNM2015** at the end of your orders. Check out our products at www.whipembaits.com. With soft plastics, jigs, spinnerbaits, and buzzbaits, we’ve got a wide variety of proven bass catching baits!

We thank you for your support and wish you the best of luck this season.

Sincerely,

Matt Marsula Henry Likar
Co-Owners Whip Em Baits

- **Midstate Battery**

A discount is available to ALL Nation members.

Every club Rep received a packet with all the discounts available to us at the Feb 26th Meeting. We have it posted on the Forum also. Please let Sylvia Know when you order & the amount. They can be reached at:

139C West Dudley Town Rd. Bloomfield, CT 06002
Phone 860-243-0646 Fax 860-243-5945
Email: smerone@midstatebattery.com

- **Reynolds' Garage and Marine Contingency Program 2015**

Qualifying Events...

May 17, 2015 CBN Tournament #1, Candlewood Lake
June 14, 2015 CBN Tournament #2, Connecticut River
July 12, 2015 CBN Tournament #3 Candlewood
October 18, 2015 CBN Classic/Tournament #4, Lilly

Payout...

1. CBN Guaranteed Payout???
2. Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money based on the age of the highest finishing Skeeter Owners boat (only one award per event).
 - a. \$3,000.00 (2012 model Skeeter boat or newer)
 - b. \$1,000.00 (2011 model Skeeter boat or older)
3. Skeeter Real Money up to \$3,000.00

Rules...

1. 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...2012 model or newer Skeeter boat will qualify for \$3,000.00 per event, 2011 model or older Skeeter boat will qualify for \$1,000.00 per event.
2. 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 2015 CBN Events.
3. 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.
4. There will be no limit to the times an angler can win per calendar year.
5. The four CBN Events outlined above will also be sanctioned for 2015 Skeeter Real Money. Each CBN Event must have a minimum of 30 boats and 60 anglers to qualify for 2015 Skeeter Real Money. To qualify for 2015 Skeeter Real Money, each individual registered Skeeter Owner must register for the 2015 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.
6. In the event that two or more Skeeter Owners daily catch weight results in a tie, each angler's largest fish of that day (by weight) will be used as a tie breaker to

determine the winner of the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money at each CBN Event.

7. The highest finishing Skeeter Owner must catch and weigh-in one legal bass to qualify for the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Contingency Prize Money. In the event that no registered Skeeter Owners catch and weigh-in one legal bass, the Reynolds Garage & Marine/Skeeter Owner Contingency Prize Money will not be awarded for that event.
8. The tournament director has final decision in all issues and disputes.

- Rigid Industries

There is a 30% off offer to all members. You will need a code. We will get it out to you as soon as we receive it. NO CODE YET, WORKING ON IT!

- Effective March 1st

Power-Pole B.A.S.S. Nation Rebate Program

Dear Presidents,

Power-Pole is a proud sponsor of the B.A.S.S. Nation in 2015. We will continue to offer a rebate program to B.A.S.S. Nation Members. The new rebate structure will be effective March 1st 2015. The new discounts will be as follows:

- Sportsman 2 Model: \$75
- Pro 2 Model: \$100
- Signature Series 2 Model: \$125
- Blade Model: \$150

The above stated discounts are available via rebate program through our website. In order to receive your rebate, you will need to register the Power-Pole at www.Power-Pole.com located under the "Support" column header then "Product Registration".

Once the product has been registered, you will then find the link "Apply for Rebate" to complete the rebate form. Once all the given information is verified we will issue you a check or credit in accordance with the discount you are slated to receive. You will need to provide a copy of your purchase receipt and membership card.

For the State Team Members, we want to invite you to apply for our Pro-Staff program. The program is geared towards your status within the fishing community. The application can be completed at www.power-pole.com under "Pro's" then "Join Our Pro-Staff". With this program you will receive your discount at the time of purchase. For more information about our prostaff program please contact our pro-staff manager Casey Carpenter at Casey@power-pole.com

This rebate is not valid on any boat where the Power-Pole anchor is standard equipment. This program is subject to change or be terminated at any time. The rebate program is only valid towards one purchase per person per year and does not include accessories, installation or any other additional expense.

Sincerely,

Curt Hill,

Advertising Manager

9010 Palm River Road. Tampa, FL 33619 phone 813.689.9932 fax 813.689.8883 power-pole.com

- WAVE AWAY OFFER

I've been a fellow BASS Nation Member for nearly over 20 years. I'm excited to see how quickly the youth tournament programs are growing and would love my company to be a part of it. I own a product called Wave Away and we offer a Sonar/GPS Screen Cleaning Kit that's endorsed by BASS Nation Champion Brandon Palaniuk. I've put together a fundraiser where BASS Nation Clubs can earn \$5 per referral when they send folks to our website to purchase Wave Away. Clubs can also earn \$20 per referral when telling potential retailers about our product and they sign up to carry Wave Away.

- Signing up to raise funds is simple. Log onto www.waveaway.com and sign up now. It takes about 1 minute to register and it can earn your club a ton of money. We also have a few fun prizes for participating clubs. Bassmaster Elite Series Pro Brandon Palaniuk will be doing a private seminar for the club that makes the most referrals. We will also draw one random participating club and they will receive a free Hydrowave mini unit.
- Sincerely, Chris Lambert Wave Away LLC www.waveaway.com

CBN Scholarship: Recipients were awarded.

CBN Scholarship Robert S Malloy Scholarship committee: Dave Santos; There is nothing new to report at this time.

- **Banquet : November 14th 2015**
- **Membership Committee - Nothing to report**
- **Website Committee- Nothing to report**
- **Audit Committee –Nothing to report**

- **High school: Given by Ron Frisk**

We had a full field at last event. Getting boat captains has been very difficult. We need 16 boats for each tournament. Please contact Ron Frisk if you would like to volunteer. These kids are the future of our organization and need our assistance to participate in the High School events.

If we continue to experience difficulty acquiring boat captains we will need to talk about capping the program.

We are getting a ton of help from the parents of the High school and Junior kids. We have been leaving all tournaments at 3:00pm. Please step up to volunteer!

Only 120 CBN t-shirts ordered to date. Hoping to order 250-300. Sent 2 emails to club presidents and a ton of other people.

Received the info for HS Championship with registration info and practice dates.

Juniors ordered tournament shirts and the High School Jerseys came in for the 2 teams heading to Kentucky Lake 7/22-7/25

Need Boat captains for the 6/13, 8/2 and 8/22 events. PLEASE contact Ron Frisk at 860-940-5553 or rfrisk@accare.com

Sandy from Northern BASS paid for top HS and Junior to fish Reynold's tournament. Jake Schiavi from the Juniors and Travis Frisk from the High School.

Ron Frisk

CBN High School Director

- **Terry Baksay: Juniors - NO REPORT**
- **Finance: No Report**
 - **State Team 2015**
 - Meeting was held after the CBN Tournament on May 17th. It was a brief meeting. Collecting Sponsorship and paperwork. Some still have to give us their Sponsorship and paperwork.
 - Ed Kohl gave the remainder of his \$250.00 (\$175.00) Sponsorship
 - Mickey Soler gave his \$250.00 Sponsorship check.
- Jackets are in and passed out.
- Team Alliance jerseys are ordered. High School Jerseys are ordered.

A MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS AS GIVEN – Motion made, seconded and approved.

Old Business

Excused absences- CBBA, Sweetwater, Housatonic Valley – all approved

- Trailer Update .Vinny & Marc, Thank you so much for the beautiful job of organizing all the sponsors for the Trailer wrap!!! Everyone try to send an e-mail Thank you to Stick it Graphics for the beautiful wrap!!!
Cost was \$1627.00.
- Taxes have been completed and approved.

The NRD Grant.

Sylvia is working on this now with Molly Sperduto and is finally making some progress. She is currently on the final step in the process. Dean Rustic has submitted his new proposal and budget (Scope of Work) to present to First Light & Power and the NRD board. We will be turning that in on Friday May 29.

- Website and Calendar is updated! If you have anything that needs to go on the Calendar or website get it to Sylvia so she can have it posted.
- **Folds of Honor Tournament information; The tournament will take place on Thursday June 18th at Candlewood Lake out of Squantz. There is a 50 Boat limit. This tournament will benefit the Folds of Honor Campaign. As of tonight we have received 0 applications.**
- 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 5 already and have \$2000.00 so far. We need 6 more for the next level of \$3000.00.
- Public Meeting on Candlewood's Sterile Grass Carp Project. Vinny Mucci: Report on what went on.
- We held our CBN Executive Board & Committee Chairs meeting at 5:00 today. Will report at June's CBN Meeting.
- Sporting Chance for Youth Day, June 6th 2015. Ron Frisk and some High School /Juniors will be volunteering.

2016 Tournament Trail and State Championship Proposal's

Sylvia asked for any additional proposals from the Board of Directors. A third proposal was submitted by Greg Tesch from Heart of CT Bassmasters. A lengthy discussion took place on the following three proposals. **A motion was made by Vinny Mucci to suspend all regular business at the June CBN meeting to allow ample time for a continued discussion.** The motion was seconded and approved. These proposals are being made to satisfy the new State Team qualification criteria set forth by B.A.S.S. Please see your club representative for more details.

- **2016 Proposal #1**

- CBN Tournament Trail**

- Conduct 4 paid entry tournaments

- Entry fees are \$75.00 angler and \$35.00 co-angler for each event

- Pro Am format will be used

- All participants must be paired.

- All Boaters must have a linked co-angler submitted on their application

- State Team Qualification**

- CBN Trail Angler (boater) Division

- *Top three in the angler of the year standings after the final event will qualify for the team

- CBN Trail Co-angler (non boater) Division

- *Top three in the co-angler of the year standings after the final event will qualify for the team

- CBN Bryan V. Kerchal Tournament of Club Champions (Mr.Bass)

- *The winner in both the Angler (boater) Division and Co-angler (non boater) Division will qualify for the team

- Note: A total of 4 boaters and 4 non boaters will qualify from the CBN Trail and Mr. Bass. This allows for 14 positions to be filled from the Two Day State Championship.

- Bryan V. Kerchal Tournament of Club Champions (Mr. Bass)**

- All participating clubs must send a boater and a non boater.

- Each will be competing for their respective place on the state team. Non boaters are only allowed to fish from back of boat. Entry fees \$100.00 angler, \$50.00 co-angler. The previous years winners will also be eligible to participate.

- CBN Two Day State Championship**

- Pro Am format

- All anglers must be linked

- Top 7 finishers in each division will qualify for team.

- (7TH finisher in each division is alternate)

- 150.00 entry fee boater

- 100.00 entry fee non boater

- **2016 Proposal #2**

CBN Tournament Trail

Conduct 4 paid entry tournaments

Tournaments 1 through 3 - entry fees are \$75.00 angler and \$35.00 co-angler for each event.

Tournament 4 – Wild Card Tournament – Open to all participants who participated in tournaments 1 through 3. \$95 angler and \$45 co-angler.

Pro Am format will be used

All participants must be paired.

All Boaters must have a linked co-angler submitted on their application

Bryan V. Kerchal Tournament of Club Champions (Mr. Bass)

All participating clubs must send a boater and a non boater.

Each will be competing for their respective place on the state team. Non boaters are only allowed to fish from back of boat. Entry fees \$100.00 angler, \$50.00 co-angler.

CBN Two Day State Championship

Pro Am format

All anglers must be linked

Top 7 finishers in each division will qualify for team.

(7TH finisher in each division is alternate)

150.00 entry fee boater

100.00 entry fee non boater

State Team Qualification

CBN Trail Angler (boater) Division

*Top three in the angler of the year standings after the third event will qualify.

CBN Trail Co-angler (non boater) Division

*Top three in the co-angler of the year standings after the third event will qualify.

CBN Wild Card Tournament #4 - standings from events 1 through 3 will be set to zero

*The winner in each division at the Wild Card event will qualify.

CBN Bryan V. Kerchal Tournament of Club Champions (Mr.Bass)

*The winner in both the Angler (boater) Division and Co-angler (non boater) Division will qualify for the team

- **2016 Proposal #3 was presented by Greg Tesch**

Go back to a format similar to the one used prior to putting trail winners on the state team.

No money from the trail goes to state team.

No anglers from trail go to state team.

3 tournaments plus a classic.

Entry fees in first 3 tournaments only \$100/\$50 boater/co.

75% payout, 20% classic, 5% trail expenses.

Pro Am format computer pairs up anglers, can fish alone if not enough co.

Mr. Bass

Each club that wants to fish must provide an angler and a co angler top 2 from each division makes the team club entry fee total \$150.

State team qualifying championship

Every participant must be paired, whether through a linked pairing to guarantee spots, and the remainder a lottery to pair the rest.

Finishing positions 1-9 on each side will receive appropriate boater/non boater/alternate position on the team.

Additional Old Business;

- Connecticut Hunting & Fishing Appreciation Day at Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington Sat. Sept 26th 2015.
- Anyone interested in attending, helping and or manning a membership booth or Casting Kids Event at either one of the above events please see me after. So far I have Kevin Lavender and sons, Ron Frisk & Logan for September 26th event.

OPENS FOR 2015

All Applications are on the Table that are available and also on CTBASS.com, on the Calendar.

- CBN/NEBA Team Championship Trail
- Reynolds Customer Appreciation June 6th Ct River, Haddam, 7 to 3
- Thayrs Open Sept 20th, Candlewood, Squantz, 7 to 3
- Folds of Honor Benefit Tournament, June 18th, Candy, Squantz 7 to 3
- Mixed Open May 31st, Candlewood, Squantz, 7 to 2
- MBB High School Benefit Open, Nov 1st, Candlewood 7 to 3
- Next year's Shows are CMTA Show February 9th to the 12th 2016 and the NEHFS March 18th to the 20th 2016.

- Veterans tournaments Tuesday, Sept 15th, Riverfront, 8 to 1. Please see Al Guite for volunteering

NEW BUSINESS

Slight change to original B.A.S.S. 2016 and beyond

Hope this note finds you all well. This note is to let you know about a slight change in the announced new format. After rolling it out, the overall consensus was that this is a good change. I got very few, if any calls or emails with negative responses. I did however hear a few from you guys, although not really too many. The one complaint that you said you were getting is the non-boaters now feel they don't have a shot at the Classic, which is true if they choose to go non boater at your state qualifiers. So, I had an Idea, ran it by a few presidents in each division and spoke directly about it with the Western and Southern presidents at their respective divisional that have already taken place. After talking or emailing to a good sampling of you (25 or so) I only had a couple presidents that really didn't like the idea and one of those was mainly because they had already rolled out the new program. So based on 23 positive responses to a couple negative, we are going to try it.

I think this is a good compromise for the non-boater member. Everything up to the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship will remain exactly the same as it has been rolled out.

After two competition days at the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship we will crown the non-boater champion. Now the change.....**The non-boater champion will now compete on the final day as a boater alongside the other 10-15 boaters that make the cut. The top three on the final day will go to the Classic.** This gives the non-boater a chance to make it to the Bassmaster Classic. We will make sure a boat is available for them to use so they don't have to haul their own. Weights will not be zeroed for the final day. Ultimately, you could have two anglers from your state make the Bassmaster Classic! This is something that has never been possible before!

- **TOURNAMENT TRAIL NEEDS A CHECK IN BOAT FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS!**
An idea was brought up to have Boat #1 do it, a motion was made a second and then a discussion was held. After much discussion a new Motion was made by Tom Reylonds:

The 1st Paired non tournament Committee boat will be the check in boat. The check in Boat **MUST** be in place by 2:55 or 5 minutes prior to the check in time. Anyone checking in prior to that time will have to check in on shore as usual.

It was seconded, discussed and voted. It passed unanimously.

CBN/NEBA Proposed Team Trail

- May 22nd Candlewood Squantz 7 to 3 50 boats
- June 26th Lilly Steel Bridge & Pond Brook 7 to 3 50 Boats

- July 24th Ct River Haddam 7 to 3 50 Boats
- Aug 27th & 28th Champlain 7 to 3 50 Boats
- September 25th Ct River Haddam 7 TO 3
- Oct 23rd Candlewood, Squantz 7 to 3 50 Boats

CBN/NEBA TEAM TRAIL had our first Tournament and we have 23 Teams fishing the CBN side of it. 31 Teams total. We are all sanctioned and paid. We will be qualifying one Team to the Dec Championship on Guntersville!

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

- It was recommended that we adjourn all regular business at the June Meeting so that we can fully discuss the three proposals for 2016 and beyond and be ready to vote in July. We all agreed

Motion to Adjourn was made at 9:45 p.m. – seconded and approved.

NEXT MEETING June 25th, 2015