

Oct. 25th, 2023
CT B.A.S.S. Nation IN person/ Conference Call
Call began at 7:05pm

Officers Present & on the Call were:

Abe Kalechman-Tournament Director
Vinny Mucci-President
Sylvia Morris-Secretary
Dean Rustic-Conservation Director
John Piscioniere- Youth Director

Missing:

Marc Levesque- Treasurer
Devin Hines-Membership/social media Director
Mike Billings-Vice President (Ran the meeting)

Clubs Missing: Candlewood, Midcon

Minutes from prior month accepted.

- **Announcements: None**
- **Correspondence: A Thank you Card was received from Linda Mucci, for our Get Well gift we sent her.**
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report: Marc Levesque, August Report, Read By Vinny**
- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic**

Oct. 25, 2023

CBN Conservation objectives for the 2023

- 1. Conservation Projects for Candlewood Lake (Boat Launch & Habitat)**
- 2. Create a BASS Divisional Conservation Coalition to get a Grant for Habitat**

Information from this past Month –

1. CT Conservation Advisory Council (CCAC) Meeting

- a. Andy Fisk has resigned as BNR Bureau Chief to take a position at American Rivers. Jenny Dickson is now serving as the acting Bureau Chief.**
- b. Triploid Grass Carp removal efforts at Candlewood Lake have been conducted on 5/18, 5/24, 5/25, 8/23, 8/31, 9/9, and 9/11. Attempting to remove enough carp to enable some recovery of submerged aquatic vegetation. Have removed a total of 180 carp so far. Two additional days were scheduled in September. Fisheries estimates that there are 1,500+ grass carp remaining in the lake. (See the minutes from the June CCAC meeting for additional detail).**
- c. Fall trout stocking began in late September. Flows are good but stream temperatures are still too high. 34 lakes & ponds and 23 streams will be stocked with 60% rainbow trout, 21% brown trout, 10% tiger trout, and 3% brook trout. Also anticipate stocking 1,500 Atlantic salmon broodstock into two lakes (Crystal Lake and Mt. Tom Pond) and two rivers (Shetucket River and Naugatuck River).**
- d. Hydrilla (a highly invasive aquatic plant) is showing up in more waters. New locations include Merckaur Pond (Silvermine drainage), Amos Lake, East Twin Lake, and Lake Pocotopaug. Also reported but not yet confirmed in Lake Lillinonah. All these new findings are genetically similar to the unique strain that was found in the CT River in 2016. The concern is that these weeds are being transported to new locations by boaters. [Note: On 10/1 the Hartford Courant published a large front page article on the damage being caused by hydrilla in the CT River]**
- e. NOAA announced that they have identified some problems with the Marine Recreational Information Program. These**

problems likely resulted in 30%-40% overestimates of the number of marine sportfish (such as striped bass etc.) being harvested. NOAA will be working to better understand these errors and will work with the states to implement corrective measures. Harvest data is essential to the management process and influences the setting of fishing regulations that impact anglers, guide services, and commercial fishermen.

- f. Forestry Director Chris Martin believes that the statewide reports of leaves turning brown and dropping from maple trees are likely being exaggerated.**
- g. The Humane Society tried to advance legislation in Rhode Island banning fur sales. It didn't go anywhere.**
- h. Discussion of SCORP Surveys being done on X/Twitter: Keith and Dean have been attending SCORP meetings. Concern that surveys on forums such as Twitter are biased and aren't representative. Also concern that this is the same survey that was circulated previously to the CCAC/Sportsmen with a June 1 deadline. How is the Agency combining and using this data? Andrew Bade will look into this and will get back to the group on if the deadline has been extended.**

2. Fisheries Advisory Council –

- a. Next meeting December 14th – Agenda Items -**
- b. Discussion on Squantz Launch**
- c. Discussion on CT River Hydrilla**

3. Friends of CT Sportsman (FOCS)

- a. Working with the CCAC to advocate for updated Fishing, Hunting & Trapping regulations.**
- b. Presenting additional learning opportunities to Sportsman about the changes for Fishing & Hunting.**

4. DEEP Items

a. Discussed working together to apply for a Friends of Reservoirs grant for 2024 to put structures into Candlewood Lake to help offset the extreme loss of aquatic vegetation.

- a. One potential project idea would be to get new vegetation established in Candlewood.**
- b. The other FY 2023 grants will probably be due in August 2023**

5. Grant Fund

- a. If we are to order from Moss Back, we need a location to accept and store the products?**

**Respectfully Submitted,
Dean Rustic, Conservation Director**

- Tournament Trail Report: Abe Kalechman**

Abe will accept the position of Tournament Director for 2024! Thank you, Abe!

There are a couple of changes Abe would like, they will be posted under New Business as Tournament Rule Change Proposals and will require a club vote.

Please when registering for the 2024 CBN Trail try to pay for at least three up front or all five would be great, much less paperwork and keeping track. If it turns out you cannot fish and you need a refund remember to ask 72 hours prior to the Pairings. We also realize emergencies happen and would take that into consideration also.

The trail for 2024 is as follows:

**April 14th Candlewood Squantz & Latins, 8 to 4
May 5th Candlewood Squantz & Latins, 8 to 4
June 9th Ct River Haddam, 7 to 3
JULY 14th MR BASS TBD????, 7 to 3
Sept 8th Ct River Haddam, 7 to 3
Oct 13th Lilly Steelbridge, 7 to 3**

CBN Sponsorship Report:

- **Toyota Bonus Bucks**
- **Skeeter Real Money**
- **Triton Gold**
- **Ranger Cup**
- **Alliance Program-Have 24 leads so far for 2023!!**

- **CBN Scholarship- No Report at this time**

- **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**

Call with your Reservations!!!!

NEW VENUE!!! The Wallingford County Club, Violis Restaurant

\$55.00 a person

Nov 4th, 2023.

All info on ctbass.com

- **Membership Committee/ social media Director: NEED A NEW social media DIRECTOR!!!**

- **Kayak Series- Need a director.**

- **Website: The CBN E-mail list has been given to the webmaster to send E-mail Blast each time he adds News, Pairings, results, etc. Check with your members and be sure they are receiving them. Check Spam folders too!**

Please send any e-mail changes or additions to Myself or Vinny!!!

- **CBN Youth Report: John Piscioniere**

2024 Youth Trail:

April 20th Lilly 7 to 3

May 18th Iattins 7:30 to 2:30

June 22nd Housatonic 7:30-2:30

Sept 14th Candlewood Squantz Launch 7:30-2:30

Working on getting all registered for 2024 Season, dues going up and Registration changes coming.

- **National Report, Sylvia Morris No Report**

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN

OLD BUSINESS

- **Excused Absences: Tolland County, Sweetwater, and Xtream**
- **All Bass Nation Rosters online have cleared and are ready for renewal for 2024. Please also update your CBN Club Rosters, (proper form, found online at ctbass.com) and mail a copy of them along with a check, made out to the CBN, for the CBN dues, 50.00 a person (25.00 a person for those over 60 and have been a member for five years or more) to:**

Marc Levesque

20 First Ave

Waterbury Ct 06710

Please also send a copy of your CBN Roster to the Secretary, Sylvia Morris via email, wefish2@att.net for the CBN records!

Must be done by Nov 1st please.

- **There were no Nominations for Sec, Treasurer, President, VP, Youth Director, Conservation Director and Social Media Director.**

Please contact Sylvia with any nominations (or if interested yourself) by the Nov Meeting!!! 203-675-4666 or wefish2@att.net

Sylvia will Turn them in at Nov Meeting and clubs will vote at the Dec Meeting.

- **NEW BUSINESS**
- **Tournament Trail Proposals (2 of them)**

Proposal #1 Executive Board Tournament Trail Proposal for 2024

(To be brought back to your clubs, discussed at the November meeting, and voted on at the Dec meeting).

- 1. Raise the Entry fees to \$120.00 for a Boater and \$60.00 for a Non-Boater for the 2024 Season, leaving the 25% coming out of each entry fee to go towards offsetting the cost borne by the 2025 National Qualifiers from the 2024 Trail.**
- 2. Eliminate the \$25.00 Late fee and only use the Mailing Deadline Date (Postmarked by date). If it is not postmarked by that date (15 Days prior to each Tournament Date) it will be returned!**

Proposal #2 MR BASS CHANGE OR ELIMINATE

Bring back to your clubs, discuss in Nov, and vote in Dec CBN Meeting

- 1. Should we eliminate it??? Because of lack of interest from clubs:
OR**

Have each club send the top 2 Boaters and top 2 Non-Boaters at the same entry fee as the Tournament Trail, whatever is decided, building the number of boats and the payouts. Still keeping 25% of the entry fees for the National Qualifiers from the Trail, & Still giving a Plaque & Code for 1st place Angler and Co Angler.

Executive Board 2023 By Law Proposal for 2024

This will be brought back to your clubs, discussed at the CBN November meeting, and roll call vote at the Dec meeting.

We are looking to eliminate the November, December and January meetings going forward, if it gets voted in, the below is the necessary By-Law Change:

AS IT READS NOW IN THE 2023 CBN BY LAWS:

Attendance

It shall be required that all of the Chapters in the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation shall have a representative in attendance at least ten (10) out of twelve (12) consecutive meetings. (Refer to Article VIII, F.). When a Chapter representative does not attend a CBN Meeting, that Chapter shall be recorded as absent. That Chapter shall then be responsible to petition the Board of Directors, if they wish to be excused for the meeting which they missed. This must be done at the next Board Meeting, after the one which has been missed. Excused absences shall be limited to two (2) in any consecutive twelve (12) month period. If a chapter does not comply with this rule, said chapter shall not be eligible to participate in any CBN activity; (including the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation State Championship Tournament). The Executive Board shall determine eligibility of clubs affiliated less than twelve months.

CHANGE TO:

C. Attendance

It shall be required that all of the Chapters in the Connecticut B.A.S.S. Nation shall have a representative in attendance at least 8(8) out of nine (9) consecutive meetings. (Refer to Article VIII, F.). When a Chapter representative does not attend a CBN Meeting, that Chapter shall be recorded as absent. That Chapter shall then be responsible to petition the Board of Directors, if they wish to be excused for the meeting which they missed. This must be done at the next Board Meeting, after the one which has been missed. Excused absences shall be limited to one(1) in any consecutive twelve (12) month period. If a chapter does not comply with this rule, said chapter shall not be eligible to participate in any CBN activity; Including the CBN Tournament Trail qualifying for the Nationals.

The Executive Board shall determine eligibility of clubs affiliated less than Twelve months.

NEXT TWO MONTHS MEETINGS ARE A WEEK EARLY!!!

Meeting adjourned: 7:38 pm

**In Person and WebEx (Info will be email blasted) at Ct Comp 100
Corporate Place, Rocky Hill, Training Room.**

2023 CBN Meeting Dates		
Nov	15th	week early
Dec	20th	week early

- **Meetings are Fourth Wed of each Month unless a Holiday then it will be the third Wed of the Month.**