

Nov 15th, 2023
CT B.A.S.S. Nation IN person/ Conference Call
Call began at 7:05pm

Officers Present & on the Call were:

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

Missing:

Marc Levesque- Treasurer
Devin Hines-Membership/social media Director

Clubs Missing: Ct Valley

Minutes from prior month accepted.

- **Announcements: None**
- **Correspondence:** Vinny and Family Thanked the CBN for all the Support they received. Lindas father passed away last week.
- **John Piscioniere's Father also passed away last week, and he Thanked the CBN for their Edible Fruit gift.**
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report:** no report
- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic**
 - CBN Conservation Report Nov. 15, 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. Reviewed the Draft SCORP Report**
- b. Spoke with the SCORP Manager about the lack of good information presented in the SCORP Draft based on the input of the Hunters, Trappers, and Anglers.**

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**

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**
- **Go to BASSMASTER.COM, to Membership, to Members Discounts for an extensive list of opportunities for discounts and benefits.**
- **Alliance Program 21 Leads have been put in for 2023!!**

• **CBN Scholarship- No Report**

• **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**

The Wallingford County Club, Violis Restaurant, did an amazing job! The food was great, the room was awesome, and the staff was very friendly! We had 105 in attendance, Had DEEP officials present, Peter Aarrestad, Spencer Mallett, Andrew Bade, and managed to get Bill Foreman there for the first time! Noah Winslow spoke and did a great job!

Both Raffles took in \$4375.00, meals payments paid were 4714.50, CBN paying 825.00 for our Sponsors and guests. Total taken in was 9089.50, total paid out including all Plaques (Adult& HS 2453.00) 9124.55. Our actual coat was 35.00.

We rebooked it for next year, Nov 16th, 2024.

- **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: Candlewood & Midcon**
- **Codes are in from BASS for those who qualified, The Codes will guarantee you a spot in the Qualifier #4/Lake Champlain, Plattsburgh, NY July 24th to 26th 2024 should you choose to utilize it. Emails will be sent to everyone who earned them with their code. They will have a few days to decide if they will utilize them or not. A list of Names matched with the codes has to go into BASS prior to the early Code Registration period of Nov 28 to DEC 5th.**
- **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!

- **There was one Nomination for existing President, Vinny Mucci, Sec, Sylvia Morris, Treasurer, Marc Levesque, Youth Director, John Piscioniere & Conservation Director, Dean Rustic**
- **We need a Vice President and a helper for John Piscioniere and Dean Rustic.**
- **We held our Executive Board meeting in Oct, here is an overview:**

**Executive Board Overview for Meeting held on Wed, Oct 11th, 2023.
Budget was given to all E Board members to look over.**

By Law Proposals suggestions from the Executive Board,

- 1. Eliminating the Nov, Dec and Jan CBN meetings going forward and moving our Nomination month to July and vote in Oct for all Positions/Officers. Also moving our By Law Proposals being submitted to July, presenting at the Aug meeting, discussion in Sept meeting and voting in Oct meeting.**
- 2. Discussed Tournament Rules Change suggestion, basically only increase in entry fees for 2024, 120 boaters and 60 non boaters, all else stays the same for this year. No More Late Fees, MUST be postmarked by the mailing deadline!!! We are checking into online Registrations for 2024!**
- 3. Mr Bass suggestions, eliminate it OR have each club send top 2 Boaters and top 2 No Boaters at the same entry fee as the Tournament Trail, whatever is decided, building the number of boats and the payouts.**
- 4. Suggestion we came up with for disbursements of the 25% of the 5 2023 CBN Tournaments, \$6125.00 to the National Qualifiers. 1500.00 to boaters and 500 to non-boaters (with Expense Form with Allowable expense receipts), not exceeding the average of up to 2000.00 reimbursement (with expense form and**

allowable receipts) we have given in the past to the 2 National Contenders. This leaves 125.00 left over to next year.

- 5. Plaques suggestion for next year, 1st place Angler and Co Angler per tournament only going forward. Keeping of course 1st, 2nd and 3rd place Anglers of the Year/National Qualifiers and Bryan V Kerchal Plaques. The Special Chapter Awards will be given only if the club apply for them or the Executive Board has someone they think is deserving of one.**
- 6. Banquet, spice it up a bit, add another Raffle for a Paid 2024 CBN Tournament Trail (Five Tournaments), 10.00 ticket!**
- 7. Looking for ideas for building membership and retaining current members!!!**
- 8. Looking for a New Mission Statement for us!!!**
- 9. Discussed bringing all HS students over 16 into an adult club so they count in our membership numbers. John is looking into that.**
- 10. We need a Vice President, a helper for John Piscioniere for High School and someone to work with Dean to learn the ropes for 2025 and a social media Director!!!!**
- 11. Going through the By Laws and Tournament Rules to see what will need to be changed if any of the above things are adapted.**

- Vinny asked for discussion of the Trail Tournament Rule Proposals and By Law Proposals**

There was none, the following will be voted on at the Dec CBN Meeting

- 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.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

None

NEXT MONTHS MEETINGS is A WEEK EARLY and we will have some snacks, coffee and soda!!!

Meeting adjourned: 7:41 pm

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

2023 CBN Meeting Dates		
Dec	20th	week early

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