

Dec 20th, 2023
CT B.A.S.S. Nation IN person/ Conference Call
Call began at 7:03pm

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

Clubs Missing: Sweetwater, Ct Yankee & Silver City

Minutes from prior month accepted.

- **Announcements: None**
- **Correspondence:** Linda & Vinny Mucci sent a beautiful Thank you Card to us for all the CBN did for the passing of Lindas father, Frank Pecka III.
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**
- **Treasurer Report:** As of Nov 30th, 2023
Marc Levesque
- **CBN Conservation Report: Dean Rustic**
Dec. 20, 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. Discussed new SCORP Report**
 - b. Spoke with the SCORP Manager (Akiebia Hicks, Ph.D.) Bureau of Outdoor Recreation about the report seems to be a marketing piece written by the mountain bike association. Dean Rustic sent a follow up letter expressing our dis-satisfaction with the report and the lack**

of specific information or plans for the growing Bass Angling via Tournament Fishing.

2. Fisheries Advisory Council –

a. UPDATE ON SQUANTZ POND BOAT LAUNCH RENOVATIONS – Peter Francis, DEEP Boating Division

b. Due to the complexity of the project, the boating division does not currently have sufficient funds in hand but are working on procuring additional funds. There is hope that construction can start in 2025. Peter stressed that this is a priority project for the Boating Division.

b. UPDATE ON THE SPREAD OF HYDRILLA TO LAKES ACROSS CT – Greg Bugbee, Associate Scientist, CAES

c. Greg gave an overview of the Connecticut River strain of hydrilla and a status update of its spread to lakes across the state.

1. East Twin Lake

2. Congamond Lakes

3. Middle Bolton Lake

4. Lake Pocotopaug

5. Pameacha Pond

6. Amos Lake

3. Friends of CT Sportsman (FoCS)

a. Discussed which legislators are to be targeted as best to work with for Bear Hunting, Sunday Hunting and Bonding for Squantz Cove Boat launch.

4. DEEP Items a. Nothing at this time.

5. Grant Fund

a. What if we look to have the funds ear marked for something to help the Squantz Cove boat launch.

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**
- **CBN Scholarship- No Report**
- **Banquet Report: Sylvia Morris**
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 No Report**
- **National Report, Sylvia Morris No Report**

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS GIVEN

OLD BUSINESS

- **Excused Absences: Ct Valley**
- **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!

- **Sylvia Cast one vote for the current, running unopposed officers Vinny Mucci President, Marc Levesque Treasurer, & Sylvia Morris, Secretary**
- **We need a **Vice President** and a **helper** for John Piscioniere and Dean Rustic. Abe is our 2024 Tournament Director again.**
- **We also need a Membership Chairperson!!!**
- **Vinny and all Thanked Mike Billings for his year of service to the CBN!!!
Thank you Mike!**
- **VOTING ON ALL PROPOSALS, WE HAD THREE CLUBS MISSING, WE DID A ROLL CALL VOTE FOR EACH ONE.**
- **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.

THIS PASSED, 11 YES, TWO NO.

- 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!**

THIS PASSED, 13 YES

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.

THIS PASSED, 11 YES, 2 NO

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.

THIS PASSED, 13 YES

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Marc said the taxes were completed for 2022 and paid \$1400.00. w9 letters and forms were sent to all Anglers who collected 600.00 or better this year, please sign and send back!! 1099's will be sent out in early January.**
- **Rome Wisniewski from Ct Bassmen said they will be holding there Mixed open for 2024 on June 2nd, Candlewood, Squantz. The application will come out soon. All will be posted on the CBN Calendar**
- **This is year the CBN pays the way for Dean Rustic and a rep from the DEEP to attend the Conservation Summit in March, which takes place at the Classic.**
- **NO JANUARY MEETING, all meetings will be the fourth Wed of each month unless a holiday then will be the third wed.**
- **In Person and WebEx (Info will be email blasted) at Ct Comp 100 Corporate Place, Rocky Hill, Training Room.**
- **2024 Meetings are:**
 - February 28th, 2024**
 - March 27th, 2024**
 - April 24th, 2024**
 - May 22nd, 2024**
 - June 26, 2024**
 - July 24th, 2024**
 - August 28th, 2024**
 - September 25th, 2024**
 - October 23rd, 2024**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39

