

Regional Meetings

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Federation Meeting: Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM. 29 clubs were in attendance.

Open Remarks – Mark Gomez

The December meeting is the second meeting of the season. Remember, you need to attend a minimum of 3 of the 5 Federation meetings for your club to be eligible for state TOC.

Thanks to RC Tackle and Rick Pelletier for the seminars. There was good attendance this morning at the seminars. Federation Reps need to encourage your club members to come.

RC Tackle has deals for Federation members and is willing to attend club meetings.

Secretary – Jim Battin

Attendance sheets will have the number of meetings you have attended. TOC participation depends on making 3 of the 5 meetings.

Rosters and dues are due as of December 1st. Your club needs to get these turned in for your club to be in good standing and vote at meetings. It is preferred that you send your roster electronically and then you can mail the check. This makes it easier to import your membership data. If you must mail it, please fill out the form on the computer and print it.

E-mails from the Federation go to members that sign up on the website. Get your club members to go to www.mnbfm.org and sign up for the newsletter. The Federation now uses software for sending out information to members. If someone is having trouble getting their memberships registered for the newsletters, you can send your E-mail address or list of addresses to the secretary, Jim Battin, or to the conservation director, Mickey Goetting.

Special Guest

Senator Chaudhary from the Minnesota State Senate and chairman of the Minnesota Senate Natural Resources committee was our special guest.

The senator was instrumental in the passage of the Outdoors Amendment to the state constitution for a portion of sales tax to conservation. A citizen and sportsmen council was formed to oversee the money that is spent. 1/3 of the money for conservation will be dedicated to bass habitat and clean water is important to habitat.

Regulations: Opinion on regulations vary from wanting no regulations (open access) to wanting a lot of regulation. A group was formed to discuss the issues and the result was the bill passed last year that cut fees, raised the threshold on permits, closed the charity loophole that was being abused, and mandated

a best practices be developed for tournaments. In addition, the DNR permitting system will be put on-line to make the permitting process easier.

Fishing license fees are the next topic that needs to be discussed. Budget deficits may require an increase in the fee to maintain fisheries fund.

This year, fishing in all Minnesota parks is free, to increase access for fishing.

Remember, the most important thing for our members to do is to get involved. There is a web site that allows you to find you senator or rep so you can contact them to show your support for fishing.

Tournament Director – Peter Perovich

12 clubs have turned in tournament schedules. No conflicts yet, but Waconia and Clearwater only have 1 slot left. Remember, lakes less than 5000 acres only have 5 tournament slots during the season. Make sure the tournament schedule is complete.

When you fish a tournament, check the county to get your sheriff's permit.

Any club wanting to host 2011 state tournament, the proposal is due at the January meeting and we will vote at the March meeting. We have no proposals yet.

For the Lake Minnetonka tournament in 2010, Lord Fletchers has been very cooperative. The meeting room is still to be determined. The West region is sponsoring the tournament and west region clubs need to step up and help.

The insurance requirement is \$300,000 to fish the state TOC.

Saturday December 12, Senator Chaudhary is hosting a hunt and wild game dinner at in Hugo. At 1:30 is a pheasant hunt and 2:30 is sporting clays. Social hour begins at 5:00 and dinner is at 6:00.

Sports Show – Steve Hurlburt

The sports show is starting to help with membership.

Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting

Anglers For Habitat is a new organization for preservation of habitat. The next meeting is Thursday, December 17 at Kelly Inn in Plymouth Minnesota.

The Best Practices for Tournament Management committee has had two meetings with the DNR. Because of the new state statute, by March 1, 2011 the DNR needs develop best practices guidelines for tournaments. A hands-on workshop may be part of the best practices as well as fish handling. Guidelines may be on a fish species basis. There is some question if evasive species should be part of the best practices. The next meeting may be part of the upcoming DNR round table.

Creel Surveys award winners have been determined. The program will continue for next year.

Youth Director – Paul Perovich

Jeff Nelson from the TBF youth program is present and introduced Matt S. who won the TBF 15-18 year old division on Coon Lake.

The JR TOC has not been determined. The Minnesota Federation has been asked by Steve Soukup to run the Skeeter Camp Confidence tournament, which runs the third Friday and Saturday in June. It would be possible to hold the youth tournament on Sunday after Camp Confidence. The kids would help out at the Camp Confidence weigh-in and some of the anglers would stay an extra night to be boat captains for the JR tournament.

State casting kids is back, but not at the nationals level. Contact Paul for supplies. The state competition will probably be in August, exact date and site to be determined.

All kids are now required to attend a Federation meeting. Expect to see the kids at the January meeting. Each youth club also needs to do a conservation project.

Additional youth clubs are needed. Adult clubs are encouraged to step up and sponsor a club.

Paul is hopeful that by April the youth organization will be incorporated as a non-profit 501 C 3 that will allow it to accept donations of product and money.

Marketing report – Paul Perovich

Lamiglas is now the rod sponsor for the Federation. The pricing is approximately 50% off. You will be allowed to buy two rods or two blanks per year. Lamiglas requires decals, furnished by Lamiglas, on your boat and tow vehicle.

Bristow Marine has signed on as the federation oil sponsor. Discounts up to 50% are available on oil, including synthetic oil. Bristow will also drop ship a 55 gallon barrel to your home for clubs that want to buy xxxx. Ring Free is also available.

Cabala's has been approached about running the Cabala's Bass Classic one weekend this spring. The federation will run seminars and casting kids as well as tournament anglers in fishing shirts helping customers with expertise.

Janns Netcraft is offering a deal to the Federation, but to receive the discount clubs need to give their permission for their membership roster to be sent to Janns Netcraft.

Bass Tackle Depot, if you order off the National Bass Federation website, you get discount and the state federation gets 5% of a kick back for the youth program.

The Lowrance deal is available next year for the state team but not members.

Treasurer – Jim Battin

The proposed budget was distributed. A motion and second were made to approve the budget. The motion passed.

Federation cash:

Total cash:	\$49,069.89
Divisional fund:	\$2,400.00
Trailer fund:	\$3,222.00
Capital Equipment:	\$2,054.04
Conservation:	\$0.00
General:	\$41,393.85

Old Business

Nominations for Officers are still open. No additional nominations were made and nominations were closed.

Elected to office:

- President – Peter Perovich
- Vice-President – Mark Gomez
- Treasurer – Kent Mittelstaedt
- Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting
- East Region – Richard “Rocky “ Kaupp
- North Region – Shawn Haag
- South Region – Chuck Campbell

New Business

Drawing for Minnkota certificates, Vern Wagner and Tim Allen’s name were drawn.

Nominations for tournament director are now open since Peter Perovich will be resigning to take the office of President. Nominated:

- Tim Allen

Next meeting is Saturday January 16th, at Medina Ballroom.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35PM