

Minnesota B.A.S.S Nation Meeting

Saturday – January 17, 2015

11:00 am Regional Meetings/State Team Meeting

12:00 pm General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 12:11 pm by VP Mark Gomez

Peter Perovich

12:00 pm Roll Call Secretary

31 Clubs in attendance – we do have a quorum

Amy Kiefer

Presidents Report

Peter Perovich

- Board Meeting Report
 - Banquet recap – Thank you to all that attended the banquet on January 3rd. We had a great turnout with over 200 attendees. The silent auction was largely successful and Mike Iaconelli was a great keynote speaker.
 - DNR Roundtable – Just took place over the last couple of days. Both Peter and Mickey were in attendance. They are really looking at Mille Lacs – trying to figure out what's happening. They will review the current harvest/regulations and determine if there are any changes that may need to happen in the future.
 - DNR is hurting for creel surveys! We need to help by providing the information (<http://mnbfn.org/creelsurvey.html>) so that we can pass along for research. Anyone can provide this critical data to aid the DNR in its understanding of the lake conditions around the state.
 - Thank you to Rich Lindgren for taking the time to share his experience from the 2014 B.A.S.S. Nation National Championship. A great look into the event through the eyes of an angler.

Tournament Directors Report

Open

- Club Tournament schedules/lakes – Continue to submit these to Peter while the Tournament Director position is open. Highly recommended that you use the form that is available on the website so that all information needed is included. Please see this link for the form:
<http://mnbfn.org/membership/forms.html>
- 2015 TOC on Gull Lake – Working to secure permits and trying to come to a deal with Cragun's for the tournament headquarters. More details to come as we get things lined up.
- 2016 TOC Proposals – These TOC lake proposals can be submitted up until the day of the March membership meeting. If your club would like to submit something, it is highly suggested that you do it prior to that meeting so that clubs can have an opportunity to review and make a choice. In the event we get one after today but before the March meeting, we will send out the proposal via an email blast. We do have one proposal submitted today.
 - Viking Bassmasters propose Lake Minnetonka. Same set-up as 2010 perhaps using Lord Fletchers at the tournament HQ. Same launching and weigh-in format also. Viking has a ton of experience with hosting large tournaments with their Viking Classic held every year.

Secretary's Report

Amy Kiefer

- Membership Update – As of today, we have 28 clubs paid for a total of 242 paid members. Please continue to submit your rosters to Amy via email/postal mail. Reminder that any club who does not have a 6-person roster submitted meeting will not be considered a club in good standing. This will void your chapter's opportunity to vote for officers, by-law proposals, TOC lakes, etc.

- Club Rosters 2015 Reminders:
 - All dues and rosters need to be sent collectively, to the address per the roster form.
 - Don't forget to pay your national dues online: \$30/member!
 - Final club rosters to be considered for the 2015 TOC must be submitted, with payment by May 1, 2015.
- Tournament Director – Position is still open. Please consider this opportunity as it would be great to fill this position prior to this year's TOC.
- Insurance Coverage Follow-up – Is insurance voided for a club, or state if a non- member fishes an event? We reached out to Jon Stewart at B.A.S.S. to clarify this for all.

"The insurance coverage is not individual insurance. It is third party coverage that covers the club, BOD, state B.A.S.S. Nation, national B.A.S.S. Nation , B.A.S.S. etc....."

The coverage is not voided if your club or state holds an open event, such as charity events. You are allowed to have "guests" fish events. However, if someone that is regularly fishing or state events has an accident and the insurance company investigates and finds out they are a regular attendee and not a guest, the insurance coverage could be voided."

- Email – sign up to receive MN B.A.S.S. Nation information at <http://www.mnbn.org/connect.html>
- Clubs looking for new members – Please contact Amy/Mickey to update the website for your club needs to update their info on the MN Bass Nation Website. This includes new members, club board member info, etc.

Conservation Directors Report

Mickey Goetting

- Blue Ribbon Panel – 4 experts, try to hypothesize the issue Mille Lacs walleye downturn. Lack of survival of the 1-2 year class of walleyes. Ruled out starvation, looking at predation (keeping an eye on pike) with pike, musky, larger walleye and cormorants. Go to <http://mnbn.org/conservation/library.html> to read the entire Blue Ribbon Panel report.
- App Creel survey – ifishMN coordination with University of MN/DNR. They want to start the roll out February 2015. It will be free the first few months.
- Creel Surveys - In 2014 the creel survey program collected 315 creel surveys over 2187 angling hours across 56 bodies of water from 25 anglers. Included is our youth participation from the High School TOC and Junior Bassmasters TOC and Bassinators club contributing 5 creel surveys over 130 angling hours across 5 bodies of water.
 - For the 10-year lifetime of program 2516 creel surveys over 19451 angling hours have now been collected. All project information and DNR biologist data analysis is available at <http://mnbn.org/creelsurvey.html>.
 - Submitted for Berkley Conservation Awards.
- ReBaits TM - In 2014 we collected over 100 pounds of plastic. Over half were remelted by Larry Roland, Lakes Area Bassmasters or by MG Lures. Over 300 bags of ReBaits® were given back to our Junior Bassmaster clubs. Also over 100 bags were given to the Buffalo Days Fishing Clinic for Kids. The collecting, sorting, remelting, and distributing took approximately 100 hours.
 - recapture bins (2)
 - Submitted for Berkley Conservation Awards.
- DNR Fisheries Bass Workgroup - Mickey Goetting, Pat Hagen, Peter Perovich, Al Graboowski, Vern Wagner (Anglers for Habitat) attend the meetings that take place 2-3 times year... and there is a 2-3 year commitment
 - DNR Roundtable - 25th anniversary
 - Mille Lacs diet study
 - Walleye current population 1.4m 2005 population 3.5m
 - < 18" 1) yellow perch 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye n=1300
 - > 18" 1) yellow perch 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye n=1000
 - Northern current population 50,000

< 25" 1) yellow perch 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye
 > 25" 1) yellow perch 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye
 SMB
 < 12" 1) crayfish 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye (least) n=250
 > 12" 1) crayfish 2) cisco 3) unknown fish some young walleye (least) n=250
 2006-2008 top young walleye predators 1) walleye 2) northern; Lesser degree in 2013-2014 due to smaller population
 Lake is less productive.
 Climate change increasing smallmouth bass, decreasing cisco.
 AIS eurasian milfoil, spiny water flea zebra mussel are all impacted the fishery.

- AIS Training / Sticker - HF 50 (Rep. Steve Drazkowski, R-Mazeppa) SF 85 (Sen. Jeremy Miller R-Winona) Ingebrigsten would co-sponsor (repeal his 2012 bill ditto for Saxhaug).
 - **UPDATE:** DNR has postponed AIS training for now so that they can do a little more research. <http://news.dnr.state.mn.us/2015/01/28/dnr-postpones-ais-training-and-trailer-decal-program/>
- Noreen Clough – Former B.A.S.S. Conservation Director passed away. She was a great asset to the organization and helped to work through many sticky issues in states, working with local DNR and B.A.S.S. Nation Chapters. <http://www.bassmaster.com/news/noreen-clough-whole-package#>
- Publicity
 - January 2015 B.A.S.S. Times, “Minnesota anglers help research”
 - Adopt-a-River Newsletter Renegade Bassmasters recognized (880 pounds collected at Maple Lake)
- Facebook Advertising - Everyone needs to share the MNBN Facebook page--Let's get to 1000 likes! Need to keep an eye out for posts regarding our sponsors and like/share them. Especially if they are paid advertisers. We need to reach more than 87 people for a George's Repair Center posting.

Youth Directors Report

Jeff Gilmer

- Annual Youth Meeting – March member meeting, starting at 10:30/11 am. Encourage your club youth directors to attend.
- How can we help with youth?? Mentor, boaters? HS state TOC will be the 3rd or 4th weekend in June within the metro area.
- High School Teams – registration taking place now.

New Business

- B.A.S.S. Competition Changes – Beginning in 2016 B.A.S.S. is implementing some new changes to their tournament structure that will ultimately trickle down to the state level. Please see the presentation that Amy talked through at the meeting for full details. <http://mnbfn.org/downloadables/BASSFormatChanges.pdf>

Old Business

Peter Perovich

- By-Law proposal – 2 Toc's vs. 1 TOC
 - All clubs in good standing voted on this by-law proposal. The by-law proposal did not pass with a vote of 18 no and 8 yes. This meets the requirement of a 2/3 vote.

Next meeting is Saturday March 7 at the Medina Ballroom.
 Regional Meeting at 11:00 am
 General Meeting at 12:00 pm