

Minnesota B.A.S.S Nation Meeting

Saturday – October 17, 2015

11:00 am Regional Meetings

12:00 pm General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 12:08 pm

12:00 pm Roll Call Secretary

20 clubs in attendance, we do have a quorum

Peter Perovich

Amy Kiefer

Presidents Report

Peter Perovich

- Board meeting Report
 - Tournament trailer – reviewing our options to replace the trailer, either selling it out right or as a trade.
 - Updating equipment – We will be looking to upgrade some weigh-in equipment, maybe moving toward an air set-up much like B.A.S.S. uses
 - These would be expenses currently budgeted capital fund already – We need to keep things in working order, and will work through over the winter.
- 2015 Northern Divisional – MN hosted at Lake Vermillion and won overall team event, for the third year in a row. The team was resourceful in finding fish. BASS was very happy with the event, stating it was “one of the best divisionals they’ve ever had” – per the venue and volunteers. There were issues with live stream, even though Fortune Bay brought in a mobile mi-fi, but it was still too far away from the stage to capture a sustainable signal. But the event was recorded and available to view after the fact. State team did win the Triton 189 TRX with Yamaha VF150 LA, MotorGuide 24 V, Lowrance 5” in-dash, and stainless steel prop.
 - Please let us know if you or anyone you know is interested in purchase. Upgrades can be made – and we will entertain offers, MSRP \$36K. Jeff Gilmer would be the point of contact to work with the dealer. Frankie’s Marine is the only MN dealer.
 - Fortune Bay was outstanding host, wide open to having us return for future events.
 - Good sized crown/turnout for the weigh-in. There was over 3000 lbs fish were caught over 3 days.
 - Congrats to the 2015 State team for their win!
- 2016 Banquet
 - Date set for January 9th at the Ramada Mpls – Speaker TBD. Banquet Committee will be meeting regularly beforehand, with details to come later. Mark your calendars.
- Bylaws update
 - Board member committee (4 person) looking at Bylaws to make changes that will be needed to coincide with the new BASS format. Once complete, we will present to the membership for discussion and a vote.
- TOC Advisory Committee – Will be looking to reconvene this group to get some feedback and advise the board about all potential options that are available. The date for 2016 TOC will be based upon when the BASS National Championship event takes place, potentially moving ahead the date for TOC earlier into the summer. But we are tentatively keeping 2016 on the same timing as of now. BASS wants to have ALL events completed no later than September 1st. And we want to ensure that membership completely understands the new format.
- Path to the BNC: Great opportunity for all anglers, just released from BASS with finalized format.
 - Path to the Classic: <http://mnbfn.org/downloadables/bnPathToClassicV3.pdf>
 - B.A.S.S. Nation Division Map: <http://mnbfn.org/downloadables/2016BNmapByDivisionV1.pdf>

Tournament Directors Report

Peter Perovich

- Club Tournament schedules – Please continue to submit these to Peter in lieu of the open Tournament Director position. Scheduling priority will be given to those clubs that are in good standing with dues paid.
- 2015 TOC Recap – We had a great tournament! Congrats to Justin Schneider for being MN Champ!

- Justin's strategy - keyed on weeds, deep main the main lake. Threw moving baits all the time. Timing – just had to get the fish to react. 18-20' first day, then fish moved up more shallow for day two.
- Camp Confidence was our chosen charity for the TOC and we received a very nice thank you letter from them for the \$4,388 donation that was given with the money raised in the silent auction/raffles.
- 2016 TOC
 - Kent Mittelstaedt spoke on behalf of Viking Bassmasters who are hosting the 2016 TOC at Lake Minnetonka. They wanted to hold off to see about BASS timing, but went ahead and applied for permit for 9/8-9/9. If we find out about a conflict from BASS, we may need to look at other dates or even another lake. Venue – potentially to have the TOC HQ at Lord Fletcher's, with the pre-tournament meeting at the Medina.

Secretary's Report

Amy Kiefer

- Officer Nominations – Will be taken today for the following open seats: President, Vice President, Tournament Director, Treasurer, Conservation Director, North Regional Director and South Regional Director. These are all 2-year terms to be voted on at the December 5th meeting.
- Club Rosters 2016 – Per MN B.A.S.S. Nation Bylaws, all rosters should be submitted (minimum of 6 members) by December 1st. Any club who does not have a 6-person roster in by the December meeting will not be considered a club in good standing. This will void your chapter's opportunity to vote for officers and any by-law proposals
- Membership Dues – State dues remain at \$50/member. B.A.S.S. was not able to systematically implement the one rate membership dues at this time for clubs. Continue to pay online at Bassmaster.com your \$30/member nation dues. For 2016 B.A.S.S. will leverage a rebate program:
 - Clubs 6-12 members – No rebate
 - Clubs 13-20 members -- \$3/member
 - Clubs 21+ members -- \$5/member
- MNBN Email – sign up to receive information. Use this link: <http://www.mnbn.org/connect.html>
- Clubs looking for new members
- New state team members – Must be at the December meeting to get state team information. Please pass this along to any of your club members that made the state team at the 2015 TOC.

Conservation Directors Report

Mickey Goetting

- Website
 - Event Calendar - to promote club events, meetings, tournaments, etc. Send your info to mgoetting@mnbn.org
 - Classified ads – members can list items that you have for sale online for free.
 - Twitter - [Twitter.com/MNBassNation](https://twitter.com/MNBassNation) is very new with 40 or so followers, hoping to grow that social media and advertising goals. Please follow us.
 - Updated the advertising handout – adding event sponsors of regional team and banquet. Added premiere sponsorship – locked a verbal agreement for 12 months with Classic Bass, Inc. netting \$2000 to the MNBN. Once finalized, 2016 documents will be found on the website so that you can share with companies that you have relationships with and maybe get some additional sponsorship for the larger organization.
- Conservation
 - AIS – Lake Minnetonka with many stakeholders to get together and discuss some of the issues affecting MN waters. Those affecting angler groups primary concern was angler access/fishing access. Others focused on stopping AIS.
 - Anoka County AIS stakeholder meeting – no one can attend. 10/20 at Bunker
 - Starry Stonewart – Lake Koronis, new invasive species that chokes out lakes like milfoil, but doesn't offer any cover for fish. 250 acres on Koronis are infected by access. The DNR chose to close the ramp and are trying to chemically treat to rid the lake of the stonewart. Has been present in Michigan for 15 years. Fish condensed into spaces where it doesn't grow.

- Creel Surveys/Awards – 3rd place renegade, 2nd – Fatbelly, 1st place – Sportsmens; 17 different clubs participate – all time high, but only 5 clubs that submitted more than 5. Over 400 to send off to the DNR. DNR plot for Mille Lacs show creel survey helps to assess the fishery for Mille Lacs, and provides data to show that numbers are similar to current data on record with the DNR.
- Rebaits – We currently have 2 bins out at public launches: Maple Lake – Renegade, and Maxwell Bay, Minnetonka – Crow River, a third will be placed on the river, in Wabasha by Zumbro Valley.
- Bass work group – recent meeting
- Mille Lacs fisher Advisory appointee (Peter Perovich) – one meeting has taken place, meeting was to layout the agenda for the year. Task is to advise the DNR whether or not there should be an open walleye season through the ice, with support from Peter to relive the pressure on the smallmouth bass – so that we don't have an issue like what happened on Red Lake decimating the giant crappie population. 90K lbs smallmouth taken from the lake this year. Need to convince the DNR there should be an ice season, even if limited. Looking for ideas and discussion from the membership. The Mille Lacs Tourism Board was present and is in talks with BASS to hold the BASS Elites AOY tournament in 2016. DNR doesn't want to have special regulations for larger tournaments. Resort owners do see potential in having a BASS or MNBN event on the lake. Spectators are allowed to observe the meeting. Gill net studies by DNR and actually dissected the fish to see what they were eating. Smallies – craws, walleyes – walleyes. Large fish over populated.
 - Mille Lacs Advisory committee follow the events, etc.
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/millelacslake/index.html>
 - Media attending meetings.

Youth Directors Report

Jeff Gilmer

- 2015 Events
 - Bylaws, copyright agreement
 - Much interest and growth in youth/HS – over 100 HS members
 - 2016 will likely be in the Brainerd area – Friday June 17th looking for volunteer boaters to help out. Please contact Jeff Gilmer or Jeffrey Nelson for more info.
 - Three teams sent to nationals – great recognition in that MN has 2 of the top 38 teams in the nation.
 - 2015 on Minnetonka – Three Rivers Park, Rogers HS team finished 1, 2 3
 - Four kids 14 and younger that caught fish over 5 lbs.
 - Top 2 Rogers teams to national championship/2 juniors advance also
 - Are thinking to maybe have some opens this next year.
 - Juniors age 7-14 (not grad from 8th grade) – Stellar has 50+ members - Bassinators

New Business

Peter Perovich

- Officer Nominations taken from the club reps
 - President: Peter Perovich, Amy Kiefer
 - VP: Mark Gomez
 - Tournament Director: Bill Neumann
 - Treasurer: N/A (Kent Mittelstaedt is stepping down at the end of the year)
 - Conservation Director: Mickey Goetting
 - North: Doug Pirila
 - South: Brent Haimes
- There will be officer elections at the December meeting, with only clubs in good standing given a vote. Additional nominations will also be taken prior to the vote.
- Next meeting to be held on Saturday, December 5th at the Medina Ballroom. Regional Meetings will be at 11 am and the general meeting at noon. We are also looking to have a seminar at 10:30 – possibly given by Seth Feider and Josh Douglas. More details to come. Reminders: Chapters/Clubs need to have a representative at 3/5 of the meetings to be eligible for the TOC.

Motion to adjourn 2:22 PM