

## **Minnesota BASS Federation Meeting**

Medina Entertainment Center

January 19, 2008

### **Regional Meetings**

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

The general meeting began at 12:00 p.m.

31 clubs were in attendance.

### **Opening Remarks –**

Joe opened the meeting and thanked the members for selecting him as President. He then asked that all voting ballots and nominations for elections be turned in as soon as possible.

Joe turned over the meeting to the Director of TIP who gave an interesting and informative look at their operation and what it does for sportsman, the environment and law enforcement.

### **Presidents Report – Joe Barnett**

Joe reinforced the importance of turning in rosters at the December meeting. He discussed voting privileges and that they are not recognized until club has turned in a roster. The importance of this is great. It could allow the Federations “best interests” to be compromised.

Joe also clarified some of the Youth program issues. BASS has been restructuring and he is following it closely.

### **Vice-President’s Report – Mark Gomez**

Mark gave an overview of the new “Holding Club”. The objective is to provide a temporary place to put legacy and new members while eliminating the gradual attrition of MNBFN due to inaction.

How it will work: The MNBFN Board will create a new club named “Reserve Elite Bassmasters”. Steve Hurlburt and Mark Gomez will be heading up its administration. New and displaced members will be put into this club until they are placed in an existing club. The proposed time limit for membership in this club would be one year. These members will be required to pay Minnesota Federation dues. They will send members to the TOC and there will be a qualifying tournament for its membership. Members of other clubs that disband can contact Mark or Steve to be placed in this club. This new club will be promoted at the Sport Show to help draw new membership. For More information please contact Mark Gomez: Phone 763-315-4189 – [bass11boy@hotmail.com](mailto:bass11boy@hotmail.com) or Steve Hurlburt: Phone 612-382-6527 – [sahurlburt@frontiernet.net](mailto:sahurlburt@frontiernet.net)

## **Secretary's Report – Kollen Parsons**

Club rosters are coming in steadily now. We have 27 clubs as of this meeting and 237 members. Rosters are due on December 1<sup>st</sup> according to the By-Laws. Each club is required turn in a 6 man roster by that date. Additional members can be added to your club roster until the May 1<sup>st</sup> cutoff. Each club is responsible for sending the National dues (\$20/person) directly to the National Federation. BASS will be continuing its online club registration this year. See their website for more information. Your club rosters and State dues (\$50/person) should be sent to the MN Federation. Email additions, club contact information, club recruiting needs and general questions can be sent to me as well. Please use the forms provided by the Minnesota BASS Federation Nation. Make sure all of the information you enter is legible and BASS numbers are correct. You can contact me at [kparsons@mnbfn.org](mailto:kparsons@mnbfn.org). The mailing address for forms and misc. is 508 Henry Circle, Belle Plaine, MN 56011. Forms are also available electronically at [mnbfn.org](http://mnbfn.org).

## **Section 2**

### **Existing Chapters**

A club shall be considered grand-fathered after one year of affiliation.

For an existing Chapter to maintain affiliation with the MSBCF, it must:

1. Maintain affiliation with national organization of B.A.S.S.
2. Maintain a minimum of six (6) members that are affiliated with the MSBCF. "Affiliated" is defined as any chapter member who has paid his/her annual dues and is listed on a finalized roster submitted to the MSBCF Secretary no later than the date of the December meeting. Individual members of a Chapter are considered members of the MSBCF when a finalized roster and dues are in the Federation Secretary's hands by December 1st of the fiscal year. "Fiscal year" is defined as beginning and ending with the first competition day of the State Tournament. Chapter roster and dues are due at B.A.S.S. before January 1st and will include the following:
  - Names of all Chapter members.
  - Addresses of all Chapter members.
  - B.A.S.S. number of all Chapter members.
  - Name, address and phone number of the Chapter's President, Secretary, Federation Rep, Environmental/Conservation Director and Tournament Director.
3. Membership to the MSBCF is necessary for an individual to participate in that year's State Tournament.

## **Treasurers Report – Jim Battin**

• General Fund balance:	\$48,192.85
Equipment fund:	\$2,700.00
Trailer fund:	\$4,428.00
Divisional fund:	\$1,600.00
Conservation fund:	\$1,000.00
Total Cash:	\$57,920.85

Jim reported that the Federation is in good financial shape; however we still need to have a progressive approach to future budgeting.

Jim is looking for someone to “train” to take over his position at the end of 2008. Ideally that person would be familiar with accounting and tax procedures for non-profits organizations. If you or someone you know is interested please contact Jim, [jimbattin@comcast.net](mailto:jimbattin@comcast.net)

#### **Youth Director’s Report – Joe Barnett**

Joe discussed the BASS kids programs that would be going through some restructuring during 2008. Joe challenged all clubs to become involved with the youth programs.

#### **Tournament Director’s Report – Peter Perovich**

Peter reminded everyone to turn in the club tournament forms. Lakes under 5,000 acres are limited to 5 tournaments per year. Most lakes are limited to one tournament per weekend. Remember that lakes are first come, first serve. Please get them to Peter as soon as possible. Complete the form thoroughly including the DNR lake #. You can download the form from the [mnbfn.org](http://mnbfn.org) website. Peter’s email is [pperovich@mnbfn.org](mailto:pperovich@mnbfn.org).

The 2009 TOC lake proposals were turned in at the January meeting. Currently Pokegama, by Grand Rapids, MN, is the only proposal on the table. The tournament would be held out of Zorbaz and the Banquet at the Sawmill Inn. Peter will allow other proposals to be sent to him. Please do this immediately so that the membership can be informed and can consider their options. All proposals must be presented by the sponsoring club and will be discussed with the membership. Lake Proposal forms are available on the [mnbfn.org](http://mnbfn.org) website. We will be voting on these during the March meeting

Peter updated the membership on the “MNBFN Invitational Team Bass Tournament”. It will be held June 1, 2008 on Lake Waconia just outside of Waconia, MN. Entry Fees: MNBFN member \$125.00 and non-member \$75.00. Mickey has posted all of the details on [mnbfn.org](http://mnbfn.org). Click on “whats new” and then the invitational link. Peter is accepting entries as we speak.

The 2008 TOC Mississippi permit has been received. These waters will be subject to border-water culling restrictions. There are some special regulations on these waters. Trolling-motor only areas do exist. We will be weighing the 4 best of the 5 possible fish in your live-well. Culling on this water is not allowed and once the fifth fish is reduced to possession your fishing shall cease. The decision to keep a fish must be made immediately when it is boated.

Peter is purchasing new tournament software, new scoreboards and weigh-bags to be implemented this fall at the TOC.

Zumbro Valley has informed us that Pool 5A will be the Alternate water for this year’s Alternate tournament. It will be hosted from Minnesota City Bar & Grill. The Banquet will be held at “Slipperies”. This year’s charity will be the Wabasha County Food Shelf. Zumbro Valley is working on the rest of the details and will report them at a later meeting. Lodging information is available on the Federation website. Mickey is putting together this years TOC page with all of the details.

### **Conservation Director's Report – Mickey Goetting**

Mickey attended the latest BASS workshop. According to the DNR, the “oxygen level” requirement for live-wells was pulled from the proposed legislative language. Most boat manufacturers meet the dissolved oxygen level set in the new proposal.

Mickey has invited the Head of Fisheries for the MN DNR, Ron Pier, to speak with us. He will be available to us at the March 1 Federation General Meeting. If there is ever a time to ask questions, in focus, this is it.

Mickey has corrected the website issues. You can view most of the Minnesota Federation information at the following location: [www.mnbnf.org](http://www.mnbnf.org). The previous domain was unavailable to us and had to be restructured. He is also updating and adding to this site daily. A new 2008 TOC page, MNBNF Invitational page, Skeeter Boat Auction, Proposal Voting document page, etc will be available.

### **Old Business**

Steve Hurlburt reported on the progress of Sport Show preparations. We will have a full 10'x10' booth on the main floor by the lure manufacturers and fish tank. Volunteers are needed for the Sport Show. If interested please contact Steve at [shurlburt@mnbnf.org](mailto:shurlburt@mnbnf.org). The Sport Show will be held April 2 – April 6<sup>th</sup> this year. Steve has the sign-up sheets with times and dates available. He will have chairs for those that need them and will be training each group of volunteers to help attain the most positive and productive contact levels. Steve most likely will have will-call tickets for your volunteer time/day slot. Check with him for all of the details.

Please update your clubs membership needs as soon as possible. Steve is doing a great job of spearheading the placement of new members.

Classic 7 has the calendars available ordered at the Oct. meeting available. Please take care of your orders with Pat as soon as possible.

Skeeter will be the boat sponsor for 2008. We have several available models and would like to order a boat that best fits the needs of the membership. If interested in the Skeeter auction, please contact Rich Lindgren. He would like some feedback before ordering the auction boat. You can email him at [rlindgren@mnbnf.org](mailto:rlindgren@mnbnf.org).

Kollen will mass-email the membership all of the Skeeter Auction information as soon as it is available. Good Luck and remember that all proceeds above and beyond our purchase price help the MN Federation and You!

Mickey is circulating an equipment questionnaire. You can find the survey at this URL: [mnbnf.org/membership/forms/product\\_survey2007.html](http://mnbnf.org/membership/forms/product_survey2007.html). This survey will give the Board

better insight for sponsorship affiliations that best benefit the Federation and the members.

PDQ is offering a 5 cent per gallon gas rebate. You must present your BASS card inside when paying. Rich will be working to ensure that each location is aware of this program.

Even Williams has become a state sponsor. We will be utilizing this program to help fund federation programs.

Ramada is offering a 10% best rate discount as well. Details for all the programs mentioned are available on the benefits page of the mnb.org site.

Lowrance has signed again this year. Contact Rich with the exact product information to obtain pricing for the equipment you need. This is a popular program so give yourself plenty of lead-time to ensure your equipment arrives when you need it.

### **New Business**

The new Youth and Conservation By-law amendment was voted on. This would've required clubs to host or take part in a youth and conservation event to qualify for the TOC. Voting forms were distributed at the December meeting. The proposal did not pass and fell drastically short of the By-Law requirements.

Nomination and voting of officers was done at the December meeting. The Youth and South Region positions were not filled and were pushed for election in January. Paul Perovich was nominated as the Youth Director and Chuck Campbell was nominated as the South Region Director. Voting for Youth Director and South Region Director took place at the January meeting. Paul and Chuck were elected to the before mentioned positions with no opposition.

Sunrise Bassmaster's submitted two proposals to the Board requesting By-Law Date and Format Changes for the TOC.

Proposal 1 would change the dates to the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday and Friday of August with the Alternate tournament held on Wednesday of the same week.

Proposal 2 would change the TOC to a Regional Format.

The Board recognized Proposal 1 and is turned it to the membership to be voted on at the March 1 meeting.

Proposal 2 is incomplete at this time and must be finalized before it can be given to the membership.

Sunrise was given the floor to discuss these options with the Federation Representatives present.

Proposal 1 will be inserted into these Federation minutes in their original form and a voting ballot will be attached to the mass email to clubs. The voting ballot will be available on the website as well. By-Law changes require the vote of every club member current with the Minnesota Bass Federation Nation. It must have a 2/3 approval of all current members.

This is a perfect example of the importance of voting privileges. The performance of proposals is dependant on every club's participation in the voting process. In this instance 158 of the current 237 members must return a "yes" vote. Any votes not returned by clubs in good standing are considered "no" votes. The total required is based on the current membership in good standing the day of the vote, prior to voting. All votes by

clubs not in good standing are not tallied. The Secretary, with the aid of other Board members, will tally votes and verify the standing of clubs at the meeting.

Tom Borkowski of Prior Lake Hook setters demonstrated a new product available to tournament anglers and directors. Tom has developed a new tournament number marking system that attaches to your light-pole instead of motor cowlings etc. You can reach Tom at 952-890-3773 if interested.

Rick Peltier is developing a new tournament for Minnesota anglers. This will be called the Minnesota Bound Invitational and will be held on Gull Lake August 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be a Pro-Observer format and will require a \$1,000 entry fee. A portion of the entries will be by invitation only. The other part of the field will be filled by draw. This event will be hosted from Craguns Resort. Sponsorship of this event has been great and should make this a benchmark in bass tournaments.

**Clubs in Attendance:**

Bass Rangers – Bass Seekers--Bass Wranglers – Bass Wackers--Baxter—Brainerd Lakes--Bay Lacroix – Classic 7 – DH – Golden Hook – Gopher – Granite City – Happy Hookers – Hawg Hookers--Lakes Area – Loon State – Minnetonka Classic--Metro Hawg Hunters – Northern Black Bass – Prior Lake Hooksetters – Range--Red Lake – Sportsmen – Stellar – Sunrise – Team Ambassador–Viking – West Central--West Metro – Wright County--Zumbro – 10,000 Lakes – River Rats

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:52P.M.**

The next meeting will be March 1, 2008 at the Medina Entertainment Center.

Respectfully submitted:

Kollen Parsons, Secretary, MN BASS Federation

**Proposal #1 (Bylaw Change)**

**Proposal to:** Change the date of the TOC

**ARTICLE:** ARTICLE IX – SECTION 3 – Line 6

**HEADING:** Formula for State TOC

**EXISTING CONTENT:** The MSBCF State Tournament of Champions shall occur on the Thursday and Friday after Labor Day each year with Alternate Tournament on the previous Wednesday.

***PROPOSED: The MSBCF State Tournament of Champions shall occur on the 1st Thursday and Friday in August, with Alternate Tournament on the previous Wed***

**We have many members who have expressed a need for change. We have School Teachers, Administration people, coaches who can not attend the State Tournament with the present dates. We would also benefit with anglers families being able to attend and a very important consideration is the youth would be able to attend and see what this is all about.**

**Equally important is the community involvement and tourist/vacationers will be able to attend.**

Sunrise will be fielding Q&A at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. We can be contacted below. Discussions are also encouraged @ [www.mnbfn.org](http://www.mnbfn.org) message boards.

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