

**Minnesota BASS Federation Meeting**

Medina Entertainment Center

March 1, 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.

33 clubs were in attendance.

**Opening Remarks –**

Joe turned over the meeting to the MNDNR Director of Fisheries, Ron Payer, who gave an interesting and informative look at their operation. They also briefly discussed some of the current legislation that concerns the Federation. The direct number to contact him with questions or comments is 651-259-5229.

**Presidents Report – Joe Barnett**

Joe re-capped our membership drive programs and the flyer produced by Steve Hurlburt for the Sport Show.

**Vice-President's Report – Mark Gomez**

Mark was unable to attend due to an illness. He will have an update at the April Meeting.

**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: \$51,438.19
- Equipment fund: \$2,700.00
- Trailer fund: \$4,428.00
- Divisional fund: \$1,600.00
- Conservation fund: \$1,000.00
- Total Cash: \$61,166.19

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 – Paul Perovich**

Paul is asking for boat captains to help at this years MN Youth TOC, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Paul has defined many of the youth program issues. If you would like more information about these programs, please contact Paul at [pperovich@mnbfn.org](mailto:pperovich@mnbfn.org). Cabela's is the new national casting kids sponsor. If you would like to volunteer for an event at Cabela's please contact Paul at the web-address above.

Upcoming event dates are:

May 3 – Rogers

June 7 – Cabelas Kids Outdoor Celebration

This will be one of the largest competitions for the year. Conrad Peterson, Gopher Tackle/1978 Classic Contender, will make an appearance and host a spinner bait assembly area. We are trying to make a mark at this show by helping possibly supply the Mepps and Berkley Fish Tanks, lots of membership support and a MN Federation presence.

### **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. Pokegama, Grand Rapids, MN, was the only proposal on the table. The tournament will be held out of Zorbaz and the Banquet at the Sawmill Inn. A hand vote was taken at the March meeting and Pokegama was accepted for the 2009 TOC.

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 deadline for registration will be April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please register, if interested, regardless of nonmember availability. Peter will decide on a minimum number of boats and will cancel if the field is not filled.

The 2008 TOC Mississippi permit has been received. These waters will be subject to border-water culling restrictions. The boundaries will be "track to track". We will be staging inside the harbor and easing off outside of the harbor at Wabasha County Park. There are some special regulations on these waters. Trolling-motor only areas and No-Wake zones 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 this year's Alternate water. This year's charity will be the Wabasha County Food Shelf. Please bring \$10 or six canned goods for the donation. 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 has created a new “library page” with links to legislative and conservation issues.

Please take part in the “Creel Survey” program this year. The DNR does use this information as a major source for its research. Mickey will be awarding participation prizes to select individuals from MG Lures.

The Dedicated Funding Legislation will be on the November ballot. The major benefit would be increased water quality paralleled by a 3/8ths taxable sales increase. If voted down this could not be voted on again until 2010.

Mickey is watching several other legislative topics at the Capital. These items include the following: new lead bans, hazardous lead labeling, reduced walleye limits and fishing fees which could impact us at the club level.

We are working on a new email system that would be available to all members. This will allow direct contact through the mnbfn.org website. You will be able to sign up for email lists on this site. The website will have a link to add members.

### **Old Business**

Mickey is circulating an equipment questionnaire. You can find the survey at this URL: [mnbfn.org/membership/forms/product\\_survey2007.html](http://mnbfn.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.

Visit the member benefit page on the mnbfn.org website to see all of the great perks that Federation members have.

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 mnbfn.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.

Time Weiant will have special battery pricing available to the membership again this year. See the website for details.

## **New Business**

Sunrise Bassmaster's submitted two proposals to the Board, at the January meeting, 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 turned it to the membership to be voted on at the March 1 meeting.

The results of the proposal vote are as follows: 39 for and 94 against...the bylaw change did not pass.

A group session was held after the main federation meeting to discuss Proposal 2 above.

Red Lake and Stellar Bassmasters will be accepting donations for the Youth Lure drive at the April 19 Federation Meeting.

## **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 – New Ulm - Prior Lake Hooksetters – Range--Red Lake – Sportsmen – Stellar – Sunrise – Team Ambassador --Viking – West Central – Wright County--Zumbro – 10,000 Lakes – River Rats

## **The meeting was adjourned at 2:12P.M.**

The next meeting will be April 19, 2008 at the Medina Entertainment Center.

Respectfully submitted:

Kollen Parsons, Secretary, MN BASS Federation