

Minnesota BASS Federation Meeting

Medina Entertainment Center

October 20, 2007

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.

23 clubs were in attendance.

Opening Remarks

Paul gave a short review of the 2007 TOC on Leech Lake. The Ed Bogan collection at the 2007 TOC raised \$600.00 for his family. Thanks everyone for helping out.

Presidents Report – Paul Becka

Paul announced that Don Corkran from BASS will be coming to the December 1st federation meeting. This is open to any interested parties. BASS is also allowing the federation to contact all MN Bassmaster members. Paul and Peter addressed some of the rice issues from the 2007 TOC with the membership.

Vice-President's Report – Mark Gomez

Mark updated the members on the progress of the weigh-master program. The federation has had tremendous success with this. BASS and other groups are watching its evolution closely. Mark is looking for input to help take this program further. He is also available to help train federation clubs. If your club would like to take part in this new weigh system please contact him at mgomez@mnbf.org.

Happy Hookers Bass Club is looking for volunteers to help with their casting kids event. They have a large crowd and have trouble getting all of the kids through. It will be held June 14th from 10am to 2pm during Buffalo Days in Buffalo, MN. If you would like to help, contact Greg Poetz at 320-224-8495.

Secretary's Report – Kollen Parsons

Club rosters are due by December 1st, 2007. You must have a minimum of 6 members. Please use the forms available on the mnbf.org website. Make sure that you fill them out completely. Update your club officers and contact information. This is very important for communications with your club. BASS national dues (\$20/member) must be sent to the BASS Federation Nation by your club secretaries. Your club rosters and State dues (\$50/person) should be sent to the MN Federation. We are not sending the National dues and rosters to BASS on your behalf. All forms can be emailed or mailed to the Federation Secretary. Email changes and Club requests for new members should be sent to Kollen as well. Please update your status for new members quickly. We need this information to help place new members.

Secretary MNBF

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Treasurers Report – Jim Battin

Jim reported that the budget is in better shape. We ended 2007 with a surplus. A great help was the sale of the donated Skeeter boat as well as the re-allocation of budget expenditures. Paul added that the board worked hard to “squeeze the nickels” and the end result reflects this.

General Fund balance:	\$49,186.33
Equipment fund:	\$2,200.00
Trailer fund:	\$2,928.00
Divisional fund:	\$800.00
Total Cash:	\$55,114.33

Youth Director’s Report – Joe Barnett

Minnesota Casting Kids State Finals were held at Gander Mountain in Maple Grove on Oct. 20, 2007. Joe will provide the details at the Dec meeting.

Joe is challenging every club to hold an event. The Junior TOC was a success as well. The details will be available on the website.

Tournament Director’s Report – Peter Perovich

Club tournament selection forms are due by December 1st. These are first come first serve so turn them in as soon as possible. Forms are available on the website.

These must be turned in to Peter Perovich.

Peter received a report from Horseshoe Bay. They’ve had observers at the release locations on Leech Lake. They have not seen any dead fish.

He thanked Mark Gomez for the great work helping with the Alternate Tournament weigh-in. 1

The TOC went well with the only hitch being the late launch the 2nd day.

Peter is moving forward with plans for a 2008 MN Bass Federation Pro-Am. The information should be available at the December 1st federation meeting. Any questions, concerns and input should be presented at that time. We are also planning to use this as part of a membership enrollment drive.

The 2008 permits have been turned in for the Mississippi River. Zumbro Valley Bassmasters are working on the accommodations and other details. They should have more information at the next meeting. They are also trying to determine the location of the alternate waters.

Paul Perovich will be contacting the Sheriff’s Departments statewide. He will be compiling permit application information for each and making that available to the federation.

Conservation Director’s Report - Mickey Goetting

Mickey has added new information and links to the mnbf.org website, please take a look. The DNR has found a new exotic species in the metro area. It is a Brazilian aquatic plant species. Big head carp, silver carp and grass carp are now present in Lake Pepin. The DNR would like encounters with these fish reported to them. Norm Coleman is sponsoring an Asian Carp Control Act. Mickey will be emailing them. An Asian carp fact

sheet is available on the website. MNAqua is putting together a new habitat education program for youth. This is something we might implement into our junior clubs. Dedicated Funding has made it through the House and Senate. It has stalled in committee. This will be revisited during the next legislative session. This is something the members of this federation need to watch and vote on. Legislative contact information is available on the federation website.

Mickey helped impact the tournament fee legislation. He helped by influencing them to slip in a waiver for non-profit tournaments.

New tournament legislation is being developed that would include language for live wells restrictions and oxygen concentrations. Mickey will be watching this for us.

New Business

We would like to make the TOC selection process smoother this year. Please submit your nominations as soon as possible.

The Louisiana Lawsuit is being appealed. This is part of the Mississippi backwater trespass suit. The Minnesota Federation Board made the decision to donate \$250 towards this legal endeavor.

There is a new proposal for a rules amendment. The proposal will require a conservation and youth event as a condition for club TOC qualification. Questions will be addressed at the January meeting. Voting will be done at that meeting also.

We are pushing hard this year to increase membership. We have several ideas that will be implemented this year. The first step is to devote a more professional and consistent approach to handling incoming membership inquiries. Steve Hurlburt will be handling new individual inquires and John Murphy will be helping support new clubs. Please update your clubs information as soon as possible. The form is available on the website. We need this information to direct new members to the right clubs. Please mail or email this to the Federation Secretary. The next direction is to add new "appeal" to the federation. Peter is forming a new Pro-AM tournament to draw other anglers and give current members another event in which to participate. This tournament will combine current or new members and non-members. It's a great way to expose non members to the MN Federation experience. The board has also agreed to expand our exposure at the Sport show. A main floor booth combined with Steve Hulbert's new ideas should generate greater interest.

Pat Hagen from Classic 7 Bass Club is taking orders for the boys and girls club calendars. He will have these available at the December meeting.

Rick discussed the possible affiliation opportunities for members with TBF.

Officer nominations were taken at the Oct meeting. These positions are available to any members that meet the criteria. Nominations will still be taken at the December meeting. Please discuss these with your clubs. The current nominations are as follows:

President – Joe Barnett

1st Vice President – Mark Gomez

Treasurer – Jim Battin

Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting

North Region – Shawn Haag

South Region – Need Nominations

The BASS Elite Series slots will be drawn at the December meeting. These are available to any MN federation member. A deposit of \$250 must be made to the Federation President if drawn. This year the options are as follows:

Harris Chain – Florida
Lake Amistad – Texas
Falcon Lake - Texas

Clubs in Attendance:

Baxter – Bay La croix – Bass Rangers - Central MN – Classic 7 – DH – Golden Hook – Gopher – Happy Hookers – Loon State – Metro Hawg Hunters – Minnetonka Classic – Northern Black Bass – Northwestern - Red Lake – Sportsmen – Stellar – Sunrise – Team Ambassador - Upper Iowa –Viking – West Metro – Zumbro

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30P.M.

The next meeting will be December 1, 2007 at the Medina Entertainment Center.

Respectfully submitted:
Kollen Parsons, Secretary, MN BASS Federation