

BASS ANGLERS LTD.
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

CONSTITUTION

AND

BYLAWS

PREFACE TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

**ALL DECISIONS MADE BY THE
BOARD THAT ARE UNCLEAR IN SAID
BYLAWS WILL BE DETERMINED
WITH THESE GUIDELINES!!**

I. WE ARE A FAMILY-ORIENTED CLUB

II. SPORTSMANSHIP

**III. TO RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN FUN AND COMPETITION**

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*****CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS*****
BASS ANGLERS LTD.

I. PURPOSE

To stimulate public awareness of bass fishing in Wisconsin as a major sport. To offer our State conservation dept. our organized, moral, and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his crime. To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass-catching techniques and ideas; to promote and encourage youth fishing and a love of this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters embracing the principles and purpose of Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.

II. MEMBERSHIP

A. NUMBER OF MEMBERS

This chapter shall establish a maximum of forty paid members.

B. REQUIREMENTS

To become a member, a person shall:

1. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership and participation.
2. Be recommended by a member at a regular monthly meeting. A non-member may attend one monthly meeting, then must join B.A.S.S. National and BASS ANGLERS LTD. to continue.
3. Full membership shall then be awarded and membership credentials presented.

C. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

1. Family members will not receive tournament fishing points.
2. Family members wishing to receive tournament fishing points: must become full club members by paying total dues of \$150.00, and; must attend a minimum of one club meeting before the first yearly tournament.
3. Paid family members over 16 years old will be given voting rights for one year.

D. HONORARY MEMBERS

1. Those who contribute time, discounts, prizes, monies, etc., can be awarded the title of honorary member.
2. Anyone who sells over 150 books of tickets, dues will be paid by the club for the following fishing year.

E. AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR TOURNAMENT FISHING

1. Must be 15 years old to join the club; and be 16 years old by the qualifying Zone tournament.
2. Recommended that they take a Boat Safety Program.

F. DUES

1. Membership dues shall be \$150.00 annually, which includes the Classic fee, with payment due October 31 of that year. There will be a \$5.00 per month late payment fee for previous members.
2. All members must be a member of Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.
3. The Wisconsin B.A.S.S. Federation Nation has a \$50.00 yearly dues requirement per individual chapter member. All Wisconsin Federation Nation dues will be paid by the local chapter.
4. \$5.00 per guest at tournaments.

III. OFFICERS, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES, AND ELIGIBILITY

A. EXECUTIVE BOARD: Decision and policy making body of the chapter. Board members have one vote each, regardless of the number of appointed or assigned positions.

B. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES IN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND:

1. President: Presides over all meetings and directs all official business, appointments and directs all committee functions and supervises all club functions.
2. Vice-President: Will assist the President in duties and will preside in the absence of the President.
3. Secretary: Maintains accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings and reports same at each meeting. Maintains regular liaison between chapter and Bass Anglers Sportsman Society National headquarters. Supplies up to date club roster to Tournament Director in time to be included in Tournament Packs. Co-shares responsibility of club newsletter with Tournament Director and Secretary.
4. Treasurer: Collects and disburses all monies. Maintains accurate financial records and presents a current balance report at each meeting. Co-shares the responsibility of club newsletter with Tournament Director and Secretary.
5. Tournament Director: Responsible for all chapter tournament functions. Supplies Tournament Packs to club members one meeting prior to first club tournament of the calendar year and is also responsible for measuring all fish and may designate someone for other duties. Also co-shares the responsibility of the club newsletter with the Secretary and Treasurer.
6. Program Fund Raising Director: Provides interesting and entertaining programs and is also responsible for money making projects.
7. Chapter Representative: Acts as a liaison between the State Federation Nation and this chapter. Attends or sends alternate to all Federation Nation Representative meetings.

C. TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office is for one year, with the exception of the President, which is two years. Officers shall begin their term at the start of the October club meeting and end their term at the start of the following October meeting.

D. ELECTIONS

The nominations of officers shall be held annually at the last club fishing tournament of the year, with elections to follow at the regular October meeting. Elections shall be by the majority of members present.

E. VACANCIES

In the event of an office or appointment becoming vacant, vacancies will be filled by chapter election to follow at the next regular monthly meeting.

F. ELIGIBILITY FOR HOLDING OFFICE

To be eligible for office, a member must:

1. Have been a member for one year.
2. Have attended at least 3/4 of the chapter meetings and functions.
3. Have shown an active interest in all chapter and State Federation Nation functions.

G. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

A board member may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Board in attendance at a board meeting, to which all officers have been notified of such, for the following reasons:

1. Any action which would reflect dishonor and/or disgrace to the chapter.
3. Failure to carry out assigned duties as described in Club Constitution and Bylaws.

IV. METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

A. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any regular club meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

B. The up to date Constitution and Bylaws will be given to the membership at the membership meeting in April of every even year, and to new members upon joining.

V. REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP

A. A member shall be dropped from membership for the following reasons:

1. Any action which would reflect dishonor and/or disgrace to the chapter.
2. Failure to sell or purchase a minimum of ten books of "Bass Anglers Ltd." ice fishing jamboree tickets for that calendar year. It shall be each member's own responsibility to make sure that they have their tickets to sell. Ticket sales will be due on the day of the jamboree.

VI. AFFILIATION

A. Bass Anglers Ltd. must be affiliated with the Wisconsin B.A.S.S. Federation Nation and Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.

1. The board represents and conducts all business connected with the organizations aforementioned.
2. All decisions as to such shall be handled by the board.
3. It is recommended by the board that all members take an active part in Wisconsin B.A.S.S. Federation Nation activities.

*****OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES*****

I. SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship will be paramount at all times. Consideration for the rights of other contestants and pleasure boaters must be displayed by everyone. Courtesy is the byword for all tournaments sponsored by Bass Anglers Ltd.

II. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE consists of the board:

- A. The Tournament Director will be responsible for announcing the official time at the take-off and for designating a finish time. There will be a committee member present at the start and finish to officiate each tournament.
- B. Any questions other than those specified in these rules shall be handled at the discretion of the tournament committee.
- C. Contestants not fishing should notify the Tournament Director prior to tournament.
- D. Any contestant wishing to protest the score or conduct of a fellow contestant must do so to a member of the tournament committee within 30 minutes after the completion of the tournament. The tournament committee may, on its own motion, take up and decide questions relating to any contestant's conduct and score. All decisions to be final.

III. PARTNERS

- A. Pairing of two-day tournaments will be drawn on a lottery system; if there are extra boaters without partners, remaining boaters may pair together on their own. If there is an odd number of boaters left, the remaining boater may take a person out as an observer, or may go as a third person in a boat.
- B. In the event you are not going to attend the tournament, you should notify the tournament director in advance of the tournament.
- C. The only changing of partners after the drawing has taken place will be for emergencies and/or boat breakdown. Club members doing so must notify a committee member at first chance.
- D. All members must be in the drawing for a partner at least once per year.
- E. Family members may fish as partners. Family members consist of father, mother, wife, brother, sister, all in-laws, all step-relatives, all "grand" relatives, etc., i.e. anyone who is family.
- F. Club members will be allowed to fish with a guest of their choice one outing during each calendar year.

IV. SHARING EXPENSES

Any non-boaters must pay boaters a minimum of \$20.00 per day for each day's tournament and launch fees up to \$3.00 or 1/2 of launch fee, whichever is greater per start of tournament.

V. TAKE-OFF

- A. All contestants present at starting time will take off by boat from the official starting point at the same time in sequence determined by their assigned boat numbers. After pairings are done, last boater drawn will send the boats out.
- B. Official time will be per the clock in the tournament director's boat.

VI. WEIGH-IN

All contestants must return to the official tournament and finishing point by the designated finishing time. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Boat or motor problems or failures will not be a valid excuse for late arrival. The penalty will be four (4) oz. for each minute a contestant is late. Anyone more than ten (10) minutes late will lose all fish points for that day's tournament.

VII. WEIGH-IN BREAKS

All contestants must return for weigh-in breaks unless otherwise ordered by the Tournament Director. Anyone not returning will not receive credit for their fish for that day's tournament. Tardiness rule also applies as in VI.

VIII. BOAT OPERATION

- A. All boats must be operated in a safe and courteous manner at all times. No members will be allowed to fish within fifty (50) yards of another contestant's boat which is anchored and has its trolling motor up.
- B. No trailering of boats will be allowed during contest hours, except at the discretion of Tournament Director.
- C. Both partners must be allowed equal fishing time and location of their choice. This time begins in the vicinity of the launch site in cases where contestant's choice of location would be in opposite directions.

IX. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS

Fishing will be permitted anywhere on the lake accessible by boat, unless otherwise specified by the tournament committee. All fishing must be done from the boat. All fish must be landed by contestants from within their boat.

X. OTHER RULES

- A. Only one rod may be used at one time.
- B. Contestants may only have one artificial lure in the water at one time, with the exception of pork rind type baits, which by their nature require them to be kept moist. Pork rind baits, when not in use, will be permitted to be kept moist in this way as long as they remain within one foot of the boat at all times.
- C. Only artificial lures may be used during a tournament. No live bait may be used. Pork rinds, etc., are permitted.
- D. No lures may be propelled by the use of a motor.
- E. No beers or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the boat.

XI. FISHING HOURS

- A. Fishing hours for each tournament are indicated on the tournament schedule. In the event any change should occur, it will be announced at a meeting or you will be informed in the monthly newsletter.
- B. In case of severe weather, the tournament committee has authority to call off the tournament at which time they see fit (if a make-up is necessary, the tournament committee will reschedule and notify qualified contestants).
- C. In the event a contestant must leave a tournament early, it must be prearranged with a member of the tournament committee.

XII. AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION

- A. Any infraction of the following rules constitutes automatic disqualification from that and all future tournaments of that calendar year.
 - 1. It will be prohibited for any contestant to give or receive bass from their boat partner.
 - 2. Drunkenness.
 - 3. Any action that may bring disgrace or dishonor to the club.
 - 4. Caught using live bait.
- B. Any infraction of the following rules constitutes automatic disqualification from that tournament only.
 - 1. Any person found operating a boat in a manner that handicaps their partner.
 - 2. Any infraction of state laws.
 - 3. Any infraction of constitution laws.
 - 4. Any contestant found not wearing a life jacket while the combustion engine is running. **This** is a must.

XIII. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- A. Boats must meet all State and Federal regulations.
- B. Boats must have a functional livewell or suitable fish holding device, such as a cooler with an aerator.
- C. All contestants must wear a U.S.C.G. approved life Vest while the boat is under power of the combustion engine. The vest must be strapped, snapped, or zipped securely and maintained in that condition until the combustion engine is off. Manually inflatable life vests are not allowed.
- D. Fire extinguisher and battery covers.

XIV. RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

- A. Kill switch . 16 ft. or longer boat, must be engaged.
- B. Bilge pump.

XV. LAKE CUT-OFF

Eight hours prior to tournament start time.

XVI. BOAT CHECK

- A. Tournament Director will assign someone.
- B. Prior to take-off all boats may be checked for the following:
 - 1. Fish
 - 2. Life vests
 - 3. Beer and alcoholic beverages
 - 4. Live bait

XVII. PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING

This meeting is mandatory for all contestants and will start one-half hour prior to the tournament take-off, with the exception of two-day tournaments, where the meeting and drawing of partners for the second day will take place as soon as possible following the first day's weigh-in. It shall be each contestant's responsibility to notify the tournament director of their arrival. Contestants not present for the meeting will result in a two pound penalty for that day's catch. The first offense will be a warning.

XVIII. SCORING

- A. Total weight will determine the winner. One bonus point will be awarded to the contestants score for each fish released alive. Bass will be measured with the mouth closed and tail pinched or fanned. Bass which measure less than the legal limit will not be scored. Short fish are disqualified. No points, but you still receive your show points. In cases where the State has a higher size limit, that size shall be the minimum size allowed.
 - 1. Two courtesy bumper boards will be furnished to make sure your fish is legal length, before going to the official measuring and weighing.
 - 2. Fish not alive at weigh-in will result in a loss of four (4) oz. total weight for each dead fish.
 - 4. Any club member leaving early from a tournament without notifying Tournament Director prior to tournament, except in case of an emergency, will forfeit all points for the day. This is to include awards ceremony for the end of each tournament day.

XIX. CATCH AND RELEASE

All bass caught during tournament hours must be released to promote "Catch and Release", the format of B.A.S.S., with the exception of a contestant wishing to keep a trophy bass. A trophy bass shall be defined as a bass five pounds or more in weight. A contestant will lose all live release points for each fish kept.

XX. TIES

Ties for a single tournament day will be broken by that contestant with the heaviest bass, longest, then the most fish. If still tied, then the flip of a coin.

XXI. MR. BASS

Highest total fish point individual for one tournament year will be known as “Mr. Bass” for that year and will be eligible to fish in the “Mr. Bass” tournament held by the Wisconsin B.A.S.S. Federation Nation.

XXII. CLUB ZONE TEAM

- A. All members need to participate in *50%* of club activities/meetings (fish outings not included) in order to qualify for Zone. Activity participation runs from October meeting to October meeting of following year.
- B. The qualifying contestants for one tournament year will be known as our “Zone Team”, and will make them eligible to fish the State Zone Tournament. This will be determined by the highest tournament fish point total for that tournament year.

XXIII. CLASSIC TEAM

- A. The *four* highest scoring contestants for one tournament year will be known as our “Classic Team”, and will make them eligible to fish the State Classic Tournament. This will be determined by the highest tournament fish point total for that tournament year.

TOURNAMENT FISHING POINTS

1st place	70 points
2nd place	62 points
3rdplace	55points
4th place	45 points
5th place	40 points
6th place	36 points
7th place	33 points
8th place	30 points
9th place	28 points
10th place	26 points
11th place	24 points
12th place	23 points
13th place	22 points
14th place	21 points
15th place	20 points
16th place	10 points
17th place	18 points
18th place	17 points
19th though 40th place	16 points

The following points will be added to the above:

Live legal bass released	1 point
Largest daily bass	2 points

ByLaws revised 03-07-06
By the Executive Board