Wisconsin Bass Federation Reps Meeting/Convention

Chula Vista Resort

January 8, 2017

President Jim Jones called meeting to order.

Roll Call taken by Becky Smyers,

- Present: 4 Lakes Bassmasters, Anglers Edge, Antigo Bass Warriors, Bass Assassins, Belle City, Big Sacks, Blackhawk Bass Castrers, Black River, C&R Bass, Lake Ripley Lunkers, Last Cast, Madison Bass, Marshfield Bass Club, Midwest Bassmasters, Northern Illinois, Park City Bass Anglers, Racine County Bass Addicts 1,2,3, River Country Bassmasters, Rockford Hawg Hunters, Shawano Red Nek Bass Busters, Stateline Bass, Team Interstate, Wisconsin Valley Bassbusters

- Not present: Beaver Dam Bass Anglers, Cranberry Country, Hartland Bass, Iola Bass, Packerland Bass, Skoolin Bass, Statewide Bass, Stevens Point Bass Busters, Tri-County Bass

-Minutes from October reps meeting- motion to accept-yes

Treasurers Report given by Mike Watson/Brad Lemke

-$25434 in account at of 11/1/17

-currently approx. $30,000.00 since we’ve had some dues come in for 2017

-Mike and Brad will work together to get everything switched over to Mike, thanks Brad for all your years of hard work.

Conservation Report given by Nathan Greawin,

-Minnesota culling issues/ Mississippi River, more streamlined with Wisconsin

-rules changed for BOUNDARY WATERS ONLY, allowed to cull/reciprocated

-would still have to pull Wisconsin permits for tournaments to cull in Wisconsin

-inland waters are the same as before

-Minnesota may continue to make changes due to impacts it may have on bigger tournaments coming to their waters

Youth Report given by Adam Barnard,

-Madison Fishing Expo, Kids casting 2/24-2/26

-looking for at least 5 clubs per day (min 4 guys) to help run in shifts

-how many will trials will depend on how many volunteers to help run

-he will contact expo to find out about parking, etc.

- if interested let Adam know ASAP

-Youth State Tournament, only 6 kids participated, with 436 members this is very very poor turn out, 4 or the 6 kids were from Jim Jones’ 4-H youth club

-open to ideas to get more participation, youth must be ages 10-13 (14 as of the 30th of august of the following year to fish nationals)

-Have lost a lot of youth to high school fishing but can try to get them before that age bracket

-reach out via Facebook, Instagram, contact the middle schools

-Refer interest emails to Adam if there are questions

-Can be tricky with parents having to bring youth to events, travelling mostly

-9 registered youth clubs in state, only 3 are active -discussed pro-am format such as adult boater brings say a niece or nephew

-open format, child does not need to belong to a youth club but has to be a paid member ($25.00), they will be placed in a youth club but they can still fish in your club

-They fall under TBF insurance policy if they are a paid member, if your club is running an event whoever participates is covered under Liability Insurance

-To start a youth club is the same as staring an adult club, 6 kids minimum but TBF is flexible with that

-always have 2 youth per boat or2 adult and a youth, never take a youth out by yourself unless it is your child.

-A lot of money is given away as scholarships, etc. at the Youth National Championship

-Winner Joshua, second place Emillio Hernande, third place Anthony Curro

-Youth State date 8/27, more than likely be on Big Green but still to be

determined.

-SAF High School Tournament LaCrosse, May 6

Vice president/tournament director report given by Chris Morgan,

-Needs, new scale, re- wrap trailer, new trailer tires

-at weigh-in both pro/co need to be at scale with fish at the same time

- Youth/Conservation projects, need more help, bumping fish running computer, putting stuff away, etc.

-anything that we need to do to improve on

-weigh sheets need separate line for big bass

-bags are in bad shape, new ones or different brand, they came out of the box leaking

-Need to be at meeting evening before tournament, if you absolutely cannot get info to Chris via their linked pro/co prior to meeting

-on pairing sheets/ name of partner, club name, cell #

-for Mr. Bass tournament, Huckleberry Harbor, pavilion will be reserved for us by Shawano Red Neck Bassmasters

-Registration form, there is a cut off and there is a lot to get done, get entry forms in on time but if there is a conflict let Chris know asap

-Again your club could be release boat/help with weigh in as a conservation project, again it has to be several members/boats to qualify as a project

-We need to grow our federation each year, ask if we could get more people we know involved, give our info or refer them to website, facebook, etc.

-We need to keep up on Social Media, Website, on a regular basis. There is a need for someone such as a media director.

-Arthur Watkinson volunteered to do social media stuff, update tournament results, etc. (not TBF website, but our website is ran by TBF and once info is submitted it can take up to a week to be updated on our TBF website.

Federation Business given by Jim Jones

-Bob Luell (Worldwide Marine Insurance) from NPAA conference re: Marine Insurance

-He created insurance forum on Bass Boat Central

-He exclusively does watercraft

-some key points given:

-do not link boat to homeowners

-agreed value policy only

-example, Boat US has a depreciation scale of 10% loss of value per year after 6 years

-check your coverages, inland only coverage (not great lakes), tournament coverage, etc.

-check him out at bass boat central or worldwidemarineins.com

-Check your coverages to make sure you have the proper coverages per TBF requirements.

-Dates for next year 2017 tournaments:

4/3-4/8: TBF Nationals, Table Rock, MO

4/30: Divisional Qualifier #1, Winneconne

5/6: SAF High School, LaCrosse

5/13: Divisional Qualifier #2, Madison Chain

6/4: Divisional Qualifier #3, Mississippi River Pools 4, 5

6/25: Mr. Bass, Shawano-Mr. Bass

8/27: Youth Championship, TBD

9/7-9/10: National Semi-finals, Winneconne

2018 Lakes: Pool 10, Sturgeon Bay, Big Green, Lake Winnebago

2019 Lakes: Pool 8, Pewaukee, Lake Wisconsin, Lac Du Flambeau

Old Business Jim Jones:

-your club is not insured as of Jan 1 through TBF if your dues are not paid

-get member info updated on online roster, email, phone, address, etc., if you don’t have an email use someone else’s info that you know can get it to you

-TBF uses those rosters to send out invites to NSF

-there is a tutorial that can be sent to you from Brad or Mike

-Sponsor updates

-nothing, just an email stating contracts are coming soon, more info will be available in April, doesn’t sound like there will be many changes

-newsletter, having a hard time making one due to lack of clubs submitting anything, takes too much time to do if Jim isn’t getting anything to put Into it

-NSF is set for September 7-10 at Winneconne, out of Winneconne

-Will definitely need volunteers to make it run smooth, as many as possible

-will most likely hire out a release boat

-volunteers need to be there for tournament days to help out, there is a lot to be done, tents, signs, donuts, coffee, check-in, etc.

-Working on picking out the scale, to see what options we have for weigh tickets, etc.

New Business Jim Jones:

-Club presidents reports

- Last Cast Bass, Nick Smyers

-20 members in their club, from the Salem area, members come from Milwaukee-Northern Illinois

-they fish 6 tournaments but only count 5 towards points

-fish all over the area, 4 local tournaments within 1.5 hours of Salem and 2 day traveler that is anywhere in the state

-fish a classic every year, money from each tournament goes towards this payout

-Al Wych, gave a president update,

-out of Rockford/belvedere area, with 7 members, they fish southern WI lakes, the river at Savannah

-conservation project, abandoned railroad cleanup

-2 brothers, father, son, wife, 4 boaters, 3 non-boaters

-they give plaques to winners at their year-end awards

-everybody likes to fish everyone shows up

-Mike Worgolet, Racine County Bass Addicts

-they fish all around the state, they will fish a tournament out of each section of the state

-have a member from eagle river

-23 members last year, should stay about the same

-tough year fishing wise

-club youth project, MA Daily foundation, bring inner city kids in to teach how to fish at his pond. Most of these kids have never fished, they will do several outings a year. The kids get very excited catching even the smallest fish.

- they fish 3-4 weekends a year, 2 tournaments each of those weekends

-members that were non boaters are starting to get their own boats and becoming boaters.

-Blackhawk Bassmasters, (previously Rod Benders) Andy Hill

-located in Janesville

-10 members, 7 boaters, 3 non boaters

-kids casting in Madison e

-adopt a highway

-Sportsmans Alliance, help kids fish shoreline of RockRiver

-Deven Etnyre, Rockford Hawg Hunters

-18 members

-good timing with their fishing, biggest limit of the year at mississippi river out of Savanah

-run an open tournament on Rock River in April, see website, [www.basshawg.com](http://www.basshawg.com)

-great teamwork, annual awards banquet

- Brian Saari, Madison Bass

-8 club tournaments a year

-14 members but there has been some interest with possible new members

-tough year of fishing

-club projects, they don’t do a ton, they have some guys who fish childhood cancer tournament.

-2 opens a year, Wednesday night circuit

-Rex Mctier, River Country

-club was founded over 30 years ago

-11 members

-have a club weekender where they camp but don’t fish, open to family members as well

-casting kids contest in Montello, give a way pries for 1-3 in all age groups

-they run frigid open, buffalo open and big green open

-3 members have gone on to fish all American

-like to have fun and catch fish

-Antibgo Bass Warriors, Mike Gottschalk

-have a meeting every month, ricks roadhouse

-11 members, most members are very active

-fish approx. 10 tournaments a year

-their club is like a family, they are very close knit

-Bass Assassins Adam Barnard

-6 members, located in se Wisconsin

-they tend to stay local, not much more than a couple of hours

-they have side pots

- Marshfiled Bass Chuck Scherrer

-20 members

-they don’t have boater/nonboater, they all compete equally

-go on a point basis

-fish all over the state, learn more on different waters

-help restock Lake that dam went out on, waiting on DNR

-Shawano Red Nek Bassbusters, Wayne Guetschow

-16 members

-fish all over

-set a record of 34 cases of beer this year

-members are from all over the state

-they will try a couple of MLF style tournaments this year

-they are members/sponsors of many youth and conservation organiations, both hunting and fishing

-open tournament on Shawano lake, info should be on Facebook

-Divisional qualifiers, lack of participation, what is the problem

-double qualifying through club and qualifiers, no control over the club qualification that comes from TBF

- are members not understanding the new format, format is in previous newsletters

- $$$ an issue, entry fee is too much of an investment to not make it further

-travel and costs an issue

- some members preferred the one format

-for those who do not want to fish a regular qualifier possibly do some sort of an open to help replace one format and at a cheaper entry fee

- maybe like a wildcard weekend

-for the comradery, getting together for a weekend to fish

-$$$ and time seem to be the biggest issue

Roll call taken by Becky Smyers:

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-Meeting adjourned by Jim Jones