

2013 FALL REPS MEETING, OCTOBER 13, 2013, PORTAGE, WISCONSIN

1. **Mike Simonds, President**, called the meeting to order.
 - a) Roll call was taken. Clubs missing were: Big Sacks Bass Club, Green Bay Bassmasters, and Heartland Bassmasters.
 - b) Mike thanked all of the reps for the jobs they did throughout the year.
2. **Brad Lemke, Treasurer**, read the report and it was accepted.
3. **Steve Hjort, Conservation Director**
 - a) Steve said that all of the tournament hearings are posted on our website. The locations are LaCrosse, Madison and Oshkosh.
 - b) You can also go to the DNR website and write comments on there. The deadline for this is November 8th.
 - c) The articles of discussion are:
 1. Defining culling
 2. Small bass tournaments
 3. Reopen a lottery as to who gets the first of the permits.
 4. The bordering waters of Minnesota
 5. Ice fishing- only allowing a certain amount of participants on smaller lakes.
 6. Catch and release in the Green Bay area. Steve is challenging the DNR because they say that the east side fish are different than the west side fish.
 - d) There is a C Grant – a DNR Grant for Equatic Species. The DNR would like to give us this grant of \$2000.
 1. We would keep track of the volunteer hours for power washing boats after big tournaments.
 2. We would need banners for advertising.
 3. Fishing Expo – we could get some money from the volunteers at \$12 an hour.
 4. Your club should keep track of your hours on projects like cleaning up landings. Let Mike know about your club's hours.
 5. February 1st is the deadline for applying for the grant.
4. **Adam Barnard, Youth Director**
 - a) **Over** 200 kids competed at the Madison Fishing Expo. Adam thanked all of the clubs that helped out. The winners were Luke Loewe and Clayton Weber.
 - b) The High School Tournament was held on the Madison Chain. 12 kids competed. The winners were Steve Sellnow and Mitch VanErt.
 - c) Adam will be getting more targets for the Kids Casting competitions so let him know what you need.
5. **Mike Simonds – Filling in for Andy Ritchie as Tournament Director**
 - a) Mr Bass was held on Pewaukee Lake
 - b) All of the zones were held.
 - c) Adam Buss won the State Tournament on Long Lake. Becky Fisher became the first woman to be on the State Team.
 - d) Top winners in the Divisionals were boater Jim Jones and co-angler was Jason Loewe.
 - e) 4 Lakes Bassmasters won the 4 Man Classic Tournament.
 - f) Winners of the Junior Nationals were Jonathon Ladner and Luke Loewe.
 - g) Some of the sponsors for our Federation in 2014 are: C Grant, Ranger Boats, Solar Bats, Evinrude, Madison Fishing Expo, Uncle Josh, Cabelas and Berkley. If anyone would like to be a sponsor, contact Mike.
 - h) Tournament dates for 2014:
 1. Mr Bass – May 30, 31, June 1 – Lake Winnebago out of Rainbow Park. This is a 2- day event. The tournament committee will be helping with the tournament
 2. The Youth Tournament will be held on July 19th on the Madison Chain.

3. If we sponsor the TBF High School Tournament, it will be held on July 20th on the Madison Chain.
 4. The 4 Man Classic is September 26-28 on Big Green. Clubs can send more than one team per club.
- i) The Board reviewed the proposal that Mike had drawn up. This would eliminate the zones.
1. This was made up for financial reasons. The participation was low this year.
 2. There will be no buying in, as after today, we are accepting no new members.
 3. This will be on a trial basis for 2 years.
 4. This is an amendment change. This is not a by-law.
 5. 100% of your club may go to state.
 6. This may grow the Federation. We could figure on 100-150 boats. This will draw more sponsorship.
 7. We will have an equal amount of boaters and none-boaters.
 8. This will be a 3- day tournament. Thursday night will be the meeting, fishing on Friday and Saturday and the top 20 boaters and the top 20 co-anglers would fish on Sunday. The top 6 boaters and the top 6 co-anglers would make up the state team. Some of the reps disagreed about dividing the boaters from the none-boaters. The reason for splitting them was to increase the participation. Some can't afford to go to zone and state both with no payout and they would have to take off from work. There would be 44 payouts at state. This would be a trial for one year. It was one opinion that we might lose members. More none-boaters have a better chance to get on the state team. It was one opinion that 6 boaters and 6 none-boaters would make a better state team. Mike said that we have the option of running the State Tournament either June 26-29, 2014 or July 31 – August 3, 2014. We were able to get a provision for one high profile tournament on the 3-5 fish deal. One weekend tournament we can have the 5 fish limit. This would only be for one time a year, unless the water is 85 degrees. Individual clubs would not qualify for this new fishing tournament rule. There was a vote on running no zones and just going to state. This would be a trial basis for one year. Results: 18-yes, 11-no and one abstain.

Final results by a show of hands:

1. There will be no zones. You will go directly to state.
 2. There will be a one- year trial basis.
 3. \$100 is the entry into the tournament.
 4. The payout will be approximately 40 positions.
 5. The top twelve we become our state team.
 6. The date for the State Tournament will be June 27, 28, 29.
 7. There will be a meeting at 6 PM on Friday night.
 8. Life jackets should be worn when the big motor is running or else you will be disqualified.
 9. This is a tournament rule.
 10. Entry forms and fees will not be accepted June 1. Fees shall be mailed to the Treasurer and the forms and insurance should go to the Tournament Director.
 11. In a couple of weeks we will know where State will be held. It will either be in Oconto or Prairie du Chien. We are trying to move the tournament around the state.
- j) Other deadlines: Mr Bass – forms, fees and insurance shall be in by May 1.
4 Man – September 1 is the deadline.
No late entries will be accepted.
- k) March 15, 2014 will be the Federation Banquet. Board meeting will be at 8 AM and the reps meeting will start at 1 PM. This will be held at the Best Western Motel in Portage. We need participation or we will not hold it the following year. Cocktails will run from 5-6 Pm. 7 PM starts the awards.
- l) The Youth State Championship will now be opened to the public.
1. Kids can now join the Federation for a \$25 fee.
 2. Flyers for the event will be passed out at the Madison Fishing Expo.
 3. The tournament will be held July 19 on the Madison Chain. We need volunteer boaters.
 4. The top two kids in the event will go on to the Nationals.
 5. There will be a meal for the kids and the parents

6. There will be a trailer weigh-in, just like the adults.
- m) The Federation trailer is at Mike's house.
 1. It needs a good cleaning.
 2. A member, who is in Mike's club, will be measuring it for a stage and canopy.
 3. We will use the money for the C Grant to improve our weigh-in.
 4. We can use the money that we have in our CD for new weigh-in bags. We can also purchase air-compressed tanks.

6. Elections of Officers

- a) The Zone Directors will become our Tournament Committee.
- b) President: Jim Jones was nominated and second.
Mike Simonds was nominated and second.
Ballots need to be sent out to the clubs. The votes will be based on the 2013 membership.
- c) Vice President/ Tournament Director: Dave Aldrich was nominated and second. No more nominations.
- d) Secretary: Pat Loendorf was nominated and second. Nominations were closed.
- e) Conservation Director: Steve Hjort was nominated and second. Nominations were closed.
- e) Mike said that if he were elected, nothing would be any different. He said that things will keep moving Forward. Things have been better since he was first elected. The Federation has money now.
- f) Jim feels that it is time for a change. He thinks that the Federation needs to grow. He feels that Communications has been lacking. He also wants to bring the newsletter back.

7. New Business:

- a) The eligibility rule needs to be changed. It reads that you need to catch at least one legal fish to be able to advance to the next level. (Which would be the State Tournament). It needs to read that any paid member from the previous year can fish the State Tournament. The tournament rule was voted on and approved.
- b) There will be no dues increase for next year for adults. \$50 for new members and \$100 for members.

Meeting was adjourned.

Pat Loendorf – Secretary WBF