

TBF of Connecticut

The Bass Federation of Connecticut

***** *December 2009 Monthly Newsletter* *****

Final By-law proposals are inside this newsletter... be sure to go over them before you get to the meeting on December 17th in Killingworth. (7pm).

You need to have paid your dues to VOTE.

TBF of CT Meeting Minutes Nov. 19, 2009

2009 – 2010 By-law Proposals

All clubs were present.

Chris Blanc the current vice president resigned his position. He will finish out the year.

Minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

So far this year we have made \$2,528. At the TBF Opens. Rich & Jim Sherman are working on the final tournament report. They should have it ready next month.

State Team:

Art Rife & Lee Johnson have not sent their receipts in as of this meeting.

Tournament Report:

The new tournament director, Larry Mansy, came in with proposed tournament procedures.

Old Business:

There is one H2O left for \$186.00.

By-law proposal were discussed and friendly amendments were made and are listed just after these minutes.

New Business:

Fred proposed to use the \$200 vouchers from Ranger for shirts and hats for the two juniors who are attending the Junior Nationals next summer. There was a motion made and passed to use these for the Junior anglers. Yamaha vouchers will be used on oil and hats. Evinrude vouchers we are still looking into.

Officers' Nominations:

PRESIDENT: Fred Perry

VICE PRESIDENT:

Curtis Grasty & Jim Marenzana

SECRETARY: Amy Perry

TREASURER: Rich Suhie

ENVIRONMENTAL DIR. Lee Johnson

Proposed changes submitted by Joe Rackiewicz, BIO Bass Anglers

By-Law Proposal # 1

ARTICLE VI

PRESENT: C.

Secretary #2, Maintain a current roster, inclusive of mailing address, of all members of the T.B.F. of Ct.

PROPOSED CHANGE

C. Secretary/Treasurer #2 Maintain a current roster to be updated by the president or designee as needed, inclusive of mailing address, of all members of the T.B.F. of Ct. This information shall also be provided to the Tournament Director & Executive board.

REASON: To ensure that all state, National and FLW dues are current in order to determine eligibility to fish TBF trail, State Championship and Eastern Regional events.

By-Law Proposal # 2

ARTICLE XIV

FINANCIAL MANGEMENT

PRESENT #3. The Tournament Director shall establish an account in the name of T.B.F. of Ct. in order to document and record all Federation Tournament Trail Entry fees and payouts, which occurred during the tournament year.

PROPOSED CHANGE #3 The Tournament Director shall utilize the account established by the Treasurer of T.B.F. of Ct. in order to document and record all Federation Tournament Trail Entry fees and payouts, which occurred during the tournament year.

ADD New #4

4. Entry fees collected from a prior year's state championship event shall be held in reserved in order to provide support to offset the costs to send the TBF of CT. State team members to the following years Eastern Regional.

REASON: CASH FLOW: If all income collected at a prior year's state championship is spent by 12/31 of that year, yearly dues collected for the upcoming year will not be enough to cover the two representatives to Federation National Championship, president and Environmental Director expenses at the same time frame or the required deposit to cover the cost of the lodging for that state team.

ADD New #5

5. A yearly budget must be presented at the November meeting and approved by the Board of Directors at the December meeting.

REASON: A budget is not a guideline because expenses must be controlled and monitored so that the state teams' spending does not cause hardship on the rest of the required activities of the T.B.F of Ct.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Perry

Proposed changes submitted by Jim Marenzana, Bass Hunters

By-Law Proposal # 3

Article VII

COMMITTEES

2. Youth Director

Presently reads:

To be elected at the December meeting and take office at the January meeting.

Proposed change:

To be elected at the September meeting and take office at the October meeting

By-Law Proposal # 4

Article XII

AUTHORITY OF REPRESENTATION

Presently reads:

C. Divisional Tournament

1. State Team Member Rules

c. State Team members who wish to drop off the

team will be required to do so at least fourteen (14)

DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE TOURNAMENT.

Proposed change:

State Team members who wish to drop off the team will be required to do so at least ten (10) DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE TBF NATIONAL ROSTER DEADLINE.

By-Law Proposal # 5

Presently reads:

The Maximum Performer Award shall be awarded to the individual that finished overall in 1st by way of the C division.

Proposed change:

The Maximum Performer Award shall be given to the maximum performer on the tournament trail based on the point system regardless of division fished.

By-Law Proposal # 6

Housekeeping Bill – To reflect last years By-law change which requires FLW membership.

Numerous By-laws must have FLW inserted for the membership requirements.

ARTICLE IV SPECIAL BY-LAWS

A. **PRESENT-** The following by-laws will require (80%) vote (in the affirmative) of the total membership to be changed.

A. **PROPOSED CHANGE-** The following by-laws will require (25%) vote (in the affirmative) of the total membership to be changed.

REASON: It is impossible for the TBF of CT. to have 80% of our membership in attendance at one time, 50% is still difficult but 25% is realistic.

#2 **PRESENT-** “To insure good relations with the D.E.P., and the public and make tournaments a pleasant experience without lines in the morning and long waits on the water in the afternoon “the organization shall endeavor to do as follows”, When the number, etc.

PROPOSED CHANGE-“the organization may endeavor to do as follows”,

REASON: The word “shall” is mandatory; the word “may” is optional. It is also highly doubtful that we will have 75 boaters in attendance.

#4 **PRESENT-- State team financing:** No more than 20% of the general dues (\$5.00 per member) shall be used to subsidize the State team. The balance of the monies (\$20.00 per member) shall remain with the organization to benefit the overall membership (youth, conservation, newsletter etc.).(Numbers used above reflect amounts with yearly dues of \$25.00).

PROPOSED CHANGE State team financing: No more than 20% of the general dues shall be used to subsidize the State team. The balance of the monies at 80% shall remain with the organization to benefit the overall membership (youth, conservation, newsletter etc.). The Board of Directors shall determine and vote yearly dues amount for each member of the T.B. F. of Ct.

REASON: Yearly dues should be based upon the financial stability and reasonable cost for the members within the T.B.F of Ct. for the upcoming year and not some arbitrary figure of \$25.00.

ADD New #10. Yearly raffles or other similar fund raising activities may be held to offset and cover the cost to fund the T.B.F. of Ct. State team at the Eastern Regional's.

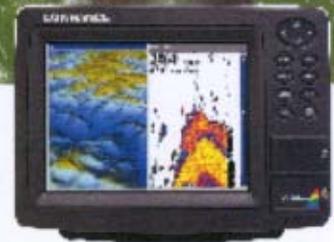


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President's Corner

Hi everybody and welcome to winter in Connecticut - it's raining now, but tonight it's supposed to change to snow and the temperatures are cooling down. Pretty soon we'll be cutting holes if we intend to go freshwater fishing.

At this next meeting, we will be voting on our officers and potential new By-Laws. Each of the proposed By-Laws will once again be brought to the floor for a very brief discussion - so that everyone is sure what they are voting for or against, prior to the vote. Each of the people running for contested offices will be given time to speak briefly as to why they are running and want your vote. The field will be open for questions to the candidates.

As President, I have the luxury of running unopposed this year. Chris Blanc (current Vice-President) told us at the last meeting that known future time constraints have forced him to resign from his post and therefore the office will require an election this year to fill out his term. Jim Marenzana and Curtis Grasty are running for this position. Rich Suhie has graciously offered to once again be Treasurer, and is also running unopposed. When no one else came forward for the job Amy Perry said that she would be Secretary and is running unopposed. Joe Rackiewicz has removed himself from the competition for Youth Director and therefore Rich Schumacher will be running unopposed. Lee Johnson has announced that due to some personal issues he will not be running for the position of Environmental Director this year. Nominations for that position will be open until the voting at the December meeting. Amy has stated that if no one else comes forward for that position, she will do double

duty - since she will be going to the Nationals with me anyhow, and has a good rapport with the D.E.P.

I want to take a couple of moments to let every one know what I want to accomplish over the next couple of years:

First and foremost - we have to increase our membership. I'm not saying that we have to have 500 members, but we do need to increase them to the point that we are never again worrying about failure as an organization. My goal is to increase our membership by 50% each year (it would be nice to do better than that, but I'm trying to be realistic.

Secondly - we need to increase the monies that we have in our treasury. We have talked about different ways of raising money, and so far it basically comes to sponsors, open tournaments and dues. My goal is to have at least \$1,000.00 more in the treasury at the end of each fiscal year (after all expenses are paid) than we start the fiscal year with.

Increasing membership is by far the easiest way of increasing our treasury. More members mean more dues obviously, but more importantly could mean more participation in "C" division and in the State Team Qualifier. It also means we will be better known and that could increase participation in our Open tournaments. My feeling is that we need to make our organization as attractive to new members as possible. I have a couple of thoughts to achieve this. First I feel that we have to keep our dues as low as possible while still being able to balance our budget. In this economy it is not feasible to increase dues substantially and still keep all of our current members, let alone entice new members to join. We obviously have to pay our bills, but

lets continue to be as frugal as possible, so that in the future if we do have to increase our dues it is by a very small amount.

My next thought will require a little more work. While I don't believe that we as an organization will ever have a "Pro-Am" trail (within the state), I do feel that we should have an alternative for those who do not really want to fish the existing A&B trail which we host, or just want something more for their dues. I am therefore proposing a partners trail to go along with the tournament trail that we already have. Obviously we can only do this if we have enough interest to move forward with it. To fish this trail you would have to be a member of the TBF of Ct (possibly increasing membership). The people fishing the trail will set the rules, the entry fees, the payouts, the locations and times. We (the TBF) will do whatever it takes to make the trail happen, but it will be the responsibility of the fishermen to run the tournaments. None of the tournament fees will be expected to come back to the organization. The only thing that the organization will require is that everything is fair for everybody with no "special" people getting any type of preferential treatment. I have talked to several people about this idea and will be bringing it up at the next meeting for discussion.

Over the last year we have proven that we can run a successful "Open Tournament". The weigh-ins are quick and well organized. The big problem has been getting enough people to show up and fish. This is obviously something that we have to work on, but we have already gotten the dates for next year and we have never cancelled, so maybe if we promote them harder we can get some more attendance this coming year. This means that we are going to have to get applications into every tackle shop that we can and we are going to have to make sure

that the entire fishing community is aware that we are not going away.

I touched briefly on the fact that gaining membership is probably the best way to grow our treasury. Over the next couple of months I will be putting articles on the front page of the web-site explaining exactly who and what we are, what we do, and all of the reasons that we are a good organization to join. I doubt that we are ever going to pick up members who are happy with the "Pro-Am" tournament format, but for those people who want to fish in a little more relaxed atmosphere (or in a buddy tournament - if approved), we do offer that with very low dues or obligations. Obviously I can't make any guarantees that this will help our numbers, but it can't hurt. I am asking and will continue to ask that each of our members does their best to talk to people that they know and try to get them to join us or fish our opens. It would also be a good idea to talk to our members and let them know how good it is to make the State Team. Yes this does increase the competition at the "C" division and at the Two-Day qualifier, but that only means that we get a better team qualified and we take in more money for the organization.

We'll be talking about all of these things at the upcoming meetings, along with how to get more sponsors and any ideas that come from the membership. The point to all of this is - we have to move forward and make gains along the way. We all know that we can do it we just have to figure out the best way. WE WILL!!!

Stay safe and warm:
Fred

Vice Presidential Candidate:

Hello fellow TBF of CT members and/or prospective members,

Hopefully this will be a brief introduction of myself to you. In case you don't already know me , my name is Curtis Grasty ("the Fishing Dred") and I would welcome the opportunity to become your TBF of CT Vice President.

I've been fishing in this state (CT that is) for many years, both recreational and competitively on a club level. I've also fished in many other parts of the country all in the effort of learning more about fish and fishing. I consider myself a student of the sport. My largest bass to date would be a 10 lb 8 oz largemouth that I caught on the Mianus River in Greenwich, CT. (we should all say WOW, in CT.).

Okay now for the catch, as far as my qualifications for the JOB?

Umm, I'm friendly?, I'm a good listener! (I've fished with Fred!)

Having said that, I am a quick study, and if you are willing to bear with me I look forward to learning everything I can !

I'm not sure if I'm elected whether or not I'll turnout of be one of the best or worst VP's , but I am sure of one thing I will bring some COLOUR to the position!

Thanks everyone for your time and consideration, and remember this when in Vegas always bet on **BLACK !**

Sincerely,

Curtis Grasty (the fishing dred)
" Idredfishing.com "

Vice Presidential Candidate

I, Jim Marenzana, am seeking the position of Vice President for 2010. For those who don't know me I have spent the last 20 years involved in bass fishing. Over the past 20 years I have served as secretary and vice president of the CBFN, as well as serving on the banquet committee, tournament committee, newsletter editor, audit committee and the committee that hosted the Eastern divisionals on the CT River. As a member of The TBF of CT, I have served as Vice President under Joe Rac., editor for your newsletter and as secretary for our current President Fred Perry. In addition to my commitment to the federation I also acted as the Connecticut liaison for the TBF with the NEPVA for the past 8 years. I have worked with both the past and current presidents to maintain stability within the organization as well as work to increase membership. Based on my past record, my current involvement and the future of this organization I would greatly appreciate your vote at this upcoming election.

THE SPRING FISHING SHOW WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 26- 28, 2009

Anyone interested in
working our booth contact
Fred at 860-663-5557 or
Fram4tbf@sbcglobal.net

TBF of CONNECTICUT Affiliated Clubs:

WEB SITE: ct-tbf.com

Bass Hunters

Jim Marenzana 54 Hobson Ave. Bristol, Ct. 06010 860-582-9730

Bio Bass Anglers

Joe Rackiewicz 21 Birch Place Milford, Ct. 06460 203-878-8909

Midstate Bass Anglers

Jerry Marks P.O. Box 1604 Middletown, Ct. 06457 860-347-7240

Northern Ct. Bass Anglers

John Plonski 18 Field Rd. Enfield, Ct. 06082 860-745-7311

Schaghticoke Bass Masters

Lee Johnson 155 Candlewood Lake Rd. New Milford, Ct. 06776

Southeast Bass

Fred Perry P.O. Box 763 Killingworth, Ct. 06419 860-663-5557

Southern Ct. Bass Anglers

Doug Marshall 8 Winston Ct. Milford, Ct. 06460 203-887-7798

Valley Bass Anglers

Chris Blanc Trumbull, Ct. 203-273-2212

TO ALL MEMBERS:

If you have an e-mail address please send an e-mail to

fram4tbf@sbcglobal.net

We are going to try to e-mail the next newsletter to save the printing and postage costs!! But first we need to collect all your contacts!

(Please state your name and club in the e-mail)

TBF of CONNECTICUT STATE OFFICERS

President: Fred Perry 860-663-5557 e-mail: FRAM4TBF@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Chris Blanc 203-273-2212 christopherbla@yahoo.com

Secretary: Jim Marenzana 860-582-9730 legendbass@comcast.net

Treasurer: Rich Suhie 203-746-5155 asuhie5155@charter.net

Tournament Director: Jim Sherman 203-235-2016 no e-mail

Environmental Director: Lee Johnson 203-788-6950 basssedir@aol.com

Youth Director: Joe Rackiewicz 203-878-8909 rackbass@sbcglobal.net

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