

PENNSYLVANIA BASS NATION
STATE MEETING April 12, 2015 Comfort Inn-Huntingdon, PA

CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Ben Bilott at 9:00 AM

ROLL CALL: Secretary Dave Kreutzer called Roll-9 Chapters were represented

MINUTES: Secretary Dave Kreutzer read the minutes from the previous meeting.

Motion to approve Maiden Creek, 2nd by Bass Holes. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Bilott began his report by discussing some current issues.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS: The President reminds members that the Executive Officers are not up for election in 2015 but the line officers are elected on an annual basis. So if you have the ability to help our organization please consider running for the officers to be elected at our Fall Meeting. Available positions for 2016 will be Treasurer, Secretary, Conservation Director, Membership Director, Youth Director, Media Director, Director and Webmaster.

DIVISIONAL REPORT: President Bilott reported that the Mid-Atlantic Divisional Tournament will be held this year on the Mon River out of Morgantown from the 15th through the 19th of July. He also reported that Divisional Captain Grae Buck has everything under control.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: VP Giran asked members to come to the Divisional Tournament and to support the team as they battle for spots in the Bass Nation National. It is unusual to have the tournament so close and it would be great if we could cheer our team to victory

SPONSORSHIPS: It was reported that PA Bass Nation Member, Paul McCue purchased the certificate for a Triton Boat with a Silver Team Package, the Package that a lot of the Elite Pro are fishing. We will receive a check in the amount of \$4,000 from Mercury for Paul's purchase.

Triton/Mercury offers a promotional boat for each B.A.S.S. Nation state. If any member is interested in purchasing a discounted Triton, please contact President Bilott to discuss.

TREASURER'S REPORT: President Bilott reported for the State Treasurer that State Tournament fees were increased to \$125 per event and the web/credit card for State Tournaments has gone well and has been expanded to the District Tournaments as well.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Tournament Director Ricky Hansen reported on the sign-ups so far with the State Tournaments.

Potomac: 32 boaters – 32 riders

Erie: 24 boaters – 6 riders

Raystown: 14 boaters – 3 riders

YOUTH DIRECTOR: President Bilott read the following report from Ernie Watkins. The 4 youth Events scheduled for 2015 are as follows.

6-20-15: East Qualifier	Lake Auburn	(permit pending)
7-19-15: Central Qualifier	Sunbury (Lake Augusta)	Permit Approved
8-23-15: West Qualifier	Presque Isle Bay	Permit Approved
9-20-15: State Championship	Conneaut Lake	Permit Approved

We will have 6 kids going to the National Championship this year. Four that earned the berth from last years finishes and the 2 PA Kids that won last years National Championship.

Since is the future of our sport and our organization lies with the youth, it is important that we volunteer to assist Ernie with the tournaments and with donations of prizes for the tournaments.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership Director Ryan Buttermore reported our membership numbers. We may have a few more than initially thought based on further review of our records.

CONSERVATION:

PUBLICITY: President Bilott reported that the City of Erie has awarded us a grant to the tune of \$1,000. We will continue to support Erie for future events.

Most or you that fish Erie are aware of a new water and weather buoy. Since the use of this buoy can aid our fishing and protect our anglers, we will donate \$1.00 from every application at our Erie Tournament to the operation and maintenance of the buoy positioned offshore of the Peninsula.

WEBMASTER

Derick Severns reported that all is well on the Website. He invited all members to visit our website to remain informed on PABN issues. Derick can be reached by email at derekseverns@yahoo.com. Derick encouraged all members to get any information to him if you wish to display it on the website.

BY LAW COMMITTEE

Due to cost of a By-Law change, we held off from the proposed changes until the completion of this meeting.

PA BASS NATION TOURNAMENT CHANGES

PA Bass Nation receives 8 more Super Regional Positions.

To comply with BASS National updates to the Divisional Tournament, we will now have a Super Regional event that will host 19 States and 380 competitors. Through these updates, each state was granted 20 positions in the new event that has individual cash payouts as well as the traditional award of a boat. It was necessary to make some changes to our State Tournament Structure to be able to participate in the new National System.

The following is our answer to the requests from National.

20 Super Regional Spots (the old Divisional Team)

10 spots will be from the State Circuit AOY / 10 will be from the State Classic

Base of 72 Classic Spots (top 5 boaters and top 5 riders from classic to the Super Regional) **State**

Events 8 boaters/9 riders; plus last year's classic champ = 18 to classic from State **East** 6

boaters/6 riders = 12 to classic from East

Central 5 boaters/5 riders = 10 to classic from Central

West 16 boaters/16 riders = 32 to classic from West

State Events

Best 2 out of 3 count towards AOY points for **2015 only**

We will extend the cut off for the Potomac 1 week till 4/17 to allow for the changes Top 5 from state AOY will be Super Regional Boaters

6-10 from state AOY will be Super Regional Riders

11-18 from state AOY will qualify to the classic as BOATERS

19-27 from state AOY will qualify to the classic as RIDERS

Any Super Regional rider qualifier from state AOY can decline his spot from the state events and fish the state classic in an effort to qualify for super regional as a boater, **but cannot go back if he fails to qualify from the classic.**

Any Super Regional boater or rider that has qualified through the top 10 in the State Circuit AOY can choose to fish the classic for the CASH prizes available, but first must confirm their regional spot and cannot change that qualification once the classic is finished no matter how they place. In other words, the ten super regional qualifiers from the state AOY must be locked prior to the state classic.

We will go down the list until the spots for the classic are full.

Classic will have a pro-am format and payout. The boaters will fish for a boater payout and riders will fish for a rider payout – 2 separate pots.

Classic will be \$150.00 boaters and \$100.00 riders

Classic spots were determined from the prior year's membership numbers \$10.00 processing fee for any return apps

REMARKS:

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by BassHoles and seconded by South Side to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 AM.

SECRETARY: Dave Kreutzer

Chapters Present: BassBones, Bassholes, Fort Pitt, Loyalhanna, Maiden Creek, Patton, Mingo Creek Road Warriors, Standing Stone