

PENNSYLVANIA BASS NATION
STATE MEETING
November 19, 2017
North Irwin VFD
North Irwin, PA

CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Josh Giran at 9:30 AM.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Dave Kreutzer called Roll-10 Chapters were represented

MINUTES: Due to circumstances beyond our control, the minutes of the previous meeting were not available for review at this meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Giran began his report with:

BASS NATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Ben Bilott reported on his experience at the Bass Nation Championship held on Lake Hartwell near Anderson, South Carolina October 19 through October 21. Bilott expressed appreciation to BASS and to PA BASS Nation for his opportunity to participate in this year's Championship.

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Dave Kreutzer and Wayne Proctor attended the BASS Nation Annual Presidents Meeting that followed the Nation Championship. They reported to the Board that Most States are experiencing similar issues with regard to membership growth and funding of the State Team for the BASS Nation Super Regional Tournament. There are also Issues discussed by BASS's Conservation Director Gene Gillyland regarding threats from the privatization of some of the country's waterways. The treatment of black bass as an invasive species in the West that eliminates the size limits and reel limits. There are actually areas in the West that require a catch and kill order for Black Bass.

The location for the 2018 BASS Nation Championship has not been selected until BASS can decide whether to have our Championship at the same location as the following year Bassmaster Classic.

Beginning on January 1, 2017 no penetrating cull clips will be permitted in any of our tournaments, including the Elite Series. This should not be a huge change since they use is already banned in PA & Maryland. Remember, this includes the scale and the balance beams as well.

A BASS Nation Club Handbook was recently created and it is posted on the website (bassmaster.com). It is 41 pages long and includes the Bassmaster Creed as well as a sample guideline of your Chapter By-laws. You are reminded to review your by-laws annually to keep them in tune with your current practices and compliance with State & National.

The majority owner of BASS has become Chase Anderson. The Andersons have been owners since 2014 and recently increased their position in BASS by purchasing some of the holdings of Jim Colbert who is experiencing some health problems.

YOUTH DIRECTOR: Ernie Watkins reported that all is well in Youth/High School. Watkins attended the recent College, High School and Youth meetings conducted in conjunction with the BASS Nation Championship in Anderson, South Carolina. Ernie found out that the younger side of the organization is expanding in a huge way. In fact, the membership in College, High School and Youth should surpass the adult members in 2018. This is an import fact regarding the future of our Association. This years High School/Youth Championship was held at Raystown Lake on Saturday the 30th of October. The event was well attended and the weigh-in included many spectators. Ernie is planning a new qualification for next years Championship. A three tournament series will produce the entrees from the Harrisburg/Susquehanna Area and a single tournament will produce the entrees from the West and a single tournament will produce the Championship entrees from the East. The2018 Championship will be held on Raystown Lake.

Ernie is making great progress in his area with membership but help is needed in the West. There are currently youngsters in the West that need Clubs to sponsor them and there is also a need to have a High School/Youth Co-Director in the West. Anyone who wishes to help in any way should contact President Giran. Remember the youth is the future of our Organization.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

VP Severns reported that we are in need of a member to step up and to be the Youth Director in the Western part of our State.

He also discussed some of the opportunities for our State Team for Members to save money through the Alliance Package and the other sponsors.

TREASURER’S REPORT: State Treasurer Wayne Proctor reported that the treasury remains healthy at this particular time. Proctor indicated changes in our State Funding Methods to continue to support State Team in the future.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Tournament Director Craig Matz reported that the PA Bass Nation events were run well and enjoyed by those who fished them. Participation could have been better this year but hopes are that attendance will increase in the coming years.

In an effort to improve income, a second Open Buddy Tournament will be held on the Flats.

PA Bass Nation will again conduct the Ike Foundation Tournament. This Tournament will benefit the youth through the Ike Foundation.

MEMBERSHIP: Dan Laur reported on the latest membership numbers. Mr. Laur also said the “state club” has been helpful to members who are not near a current PABN club. Dan reminds all members that the PA Bass Nation Dues should be paid soon to avoid the penalty period that begins February 1.

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. Derek can be reached by email at derekseverns@yahoo.com. Derek encouraged all members to get any information to him if you wish to display it on the website.

He also reminded Members that the tournament will be on the website and can be accepted on or After February 14th.

NEW DIRECTOR

President Giran introduced Josh Winebrinner as our Sponsorship Director. Josh will be charged with obtaining sponsor money and goods to benefit our State.

NEW BUSINESS:

OPEN BUDDY TOURNAMENT: In 2017, the Open Buddy Tournament was dedicated to James Adams our member and supporter who served our organization for many years. The weigh-in was attended by the Family of Jim Adams and the winners of the tournament Chuck Main and Bill Lortz presented the trophy donated by Mike Moran to the Adams's.

It is expected that the 2018 Tournament will be dedicated to Past President Jim Dalesandro.

DUES

It was proposed that the State Dues be increased by \$5.00 per year per member beginning in 2019. Action on this proposal will be tabled until the Spring Meeting.

DROP TOURNAMENT

There will be 3 State Tournaments in 2018. Your top 2 tournament finishes will count for your AOY points and qualification for State Team.

WEIGH-IN DELAY

In order to facilitate a more orderly weigh-in, there will be a 15-minute delay from the check-in time until the first bag will be weighed in. This change will allow the weigh-in crew to become better prepared and should improve the safe release of the bass if this delay is adhered to.

REMARKS:

Dale Glessner suggested that Chapters that have Club Tournaments and they allow PBN Member outside of their Club to participate should post the tournament information on the website.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

SECRETARY: Dave Kreutzer

Chapters Present: BassBones, Bassholes, Fort Pitt, Mingo Creek, Road Warriors, Central PA, Loyalhanna, Maiden Creek, Mariner, PA Southwest,

