

12/21/13

BYLAWS of The Sportsmen Bassmasters of Minnesota

ARTICLE I: CHAPTER NAME

Section A. The name of this chapter shall be "Sportsmen Bassmasters of Minnesota".

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section A. The on-going objectives of this chapter are:

1. Improvement of its members' skills as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of ideas and techniques.
2. Stimulation of public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport.
3. Promotion of full adherence to all conservation codes.
4. Encouragement of adequate water standards and strict enforcement of existing statutes and regulations.
5. Detection and publication of violation of existing pollution standards.
6. Organized support and encouragement of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
7. Functioning as a dynamic and effective link with other state chapters and with B.A.S.S. insofar as their goals and objectives are consistent with this chapter's stated objectives.
8. Development and implementation of at least one service project per year.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section A. The chapter shall not exceed 32 members.

Section B. Any person 16 years of age or older is eligible for membership if he/she:

1. Expresses a genuine interest in membership.
2. Completes the required application form.
3. Adheres to the stated objectives of the chapter.
4. Pays the required membership dues in a timely manner.
5. Receives the recommendation of at least two regular members.
6. Attends at least two chapter-sponsored activities as defined in Article VIII, Section A.
7. Receives a majority favorable vote of the membership at the next regularly scheduled club meeting.

6. Any new member admitted to the Sportsmen Bassmasters after the club has achieved a twenty-five percent (25%)/seventy-five percent (75%) non-boater/boater ratio shall be deemed a boater for participation in future club tournaments.

Section C. Membership dues shall be \$105 annually. Dues may be adjusted to reflect changes in dues payable to B.A.S.S. or the Minnesota Federation without need of amendment to the Bylaws. Dues shall be prorated for individuals joining during the middle of a membership year.

Section E. Dues are payable no later than the November meeting. If a member does not pay in full by April 1st, he/she will be deemed to have dropped out of the club, subject to reinstatement under Section H of this Article and the maximum membership ceiling of Article III, Section A.

Section F. A member may be expelled from the chapter for any one of the following sufficient reasons:

1. Failure to pay dues in a timely manner.
2. Any action that reflects dishonor and disgrace on the chapter.

Section G. Procedures for expulsion of any member shall be as described in Article IV, Section J (Removal of Officers).

Section H. Any member who voluntarily drops out or fails to pay dues in full by April 1 may be reinstated to full membership status upon recommendation of at least two regular members and the majority vote of the membership at the next regularly scheduled club meeting, subject to the membership ceiling of Article III, Section A.

Section I. Any individual who becomes a member of the club after May 1 is ineligible to fish the State Tournament of Champions in that calendar year unless:

1. No member in good standing as of April 1 is available to fish
2. The individual has paid dues for the rest of the year
3. Priority among individuals who have met conditions 1 and 2 of this section shall be determined by tournament point achieved over the first three tournaments of the year.

Section J. Any waiting list for membership in the Sportsmen Bassmasters shall be administered as follows:

Priority for candidates for membership shall be determined by the date on which the candidate joined the waiting list. A coin-toss shall break any ties.

Any individual who has never been a member of the Sportsmen Bassmasters will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list upon attendance at the second of two club functions and a request to be included in such list communicated to the President.

Any current member who drops out may request inclusion at the bottom of the waiting list by notifying the President in writing (email or hard copy) of his intent. Date of receipt by the President shall determine priority.

If an opening occurs, a non-member or former member with priority on the waiting list may:

- A. Request a vote of the membership for admission at the next club meeting.
- B. Decline and be eliminated from the waiting list.
- C. Defer a vote. Any individual who defers shall maintain his priority position for one calendar year.

The Secretary shall maintain the waiting list.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section A. The officers of the chapter shall consist of:

1. The President, who shall preside over all meetings, direct all official business, direct all committee functions and generally oversee all club functions.
2. The Vice President, who shall preside in absence of the President, assist the President in his/her duties as required, and serve as tournament director.
3. The Secretary/Treasurer, who shall maintain accurate minutes of all meetings, maintain requisite liaison between the chapter and B.A.S.S., distribute communications to the membership as required, maintain accurate financial records, and report to the membership on the chapter's financial status at all meetings.
4. The Federation Representative, who shall act as liaison between the chapter and the state federation. It shall be the Federation Representative's responsibility to reflect the will of the chapter membership at all Federation meetings.
5. The Special Projects Director, who shall coordinate events and activities including but not limited to, the annual banquet, and charitable or community service outings.
6. The Education Director, who shall procure and present speakers and/or other educational programs at the monthly meetings.
7. The Data Director who shall maintain and distribute standings in the Mr. Bass and total weight competitions.
8. The Internet Director who shall maintain the club web site. This position is voluntary and not subject to the provisions of Section B herein.
9. The Youth Director who shall organize Casting Kids or similar appropriate youth events at the direction of the membership.
10. The Conservation Director who shall monitor conservation developments, report news to the membership as appropriate, and supervise ramp clean-ups and or similar appropriate events at the direction of the membership.
11. The Marketing Director who shall act as a liaison between current sponsors and prospects, execute a marketing plan, delegate marketing activities to a Marketing Committee, and assist in budgeting and recommend spending of advertising sponsorship monies to the club.

SECTION B. Officers shall receive points toward the Mr. Bass competition according to a schedule recommended by the Data Director and approved by a majority vote of the membership.

Section C. The election of officers except for the Internet Director shall proceed by secret ballot or acclamation at the regular October meeting.

Section D. Election of officers shall be by a simple majority of all members present and voting. Proxy or absentee voting is not permitted.

Section E. Each officer listed in Article IV, Section A shall be determined by separate ballot.

Section F. In the event an office becomes vacant for any reason, elections shall be held to fill the unexpired term at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section G. The term of office for all officers [except the Federation Representative] shall be one year, beginning with the regular November meeting. The Federation Representative shall serve a two-year term.

Section H. The board of directors shall consist of the officers noted in Article IV, Sections 1 to 5.

Section I. Minimum standards for eligibility to hold any chapter office are as follows:

1. Regular membership for at least six months.
2. Attendance at three-fifths of all chapter functions during the prior year.
3. Demonstration of an active interest in the chapter and specifically the office sought.

Section J. An officer of the chapter may be removed from office under any of the following conditions:

1. Conduct as described in Article III, Section F.
2. Inability or unwillingness to perform the duties of the office.
3. Other conduct unbecoming to a club officer.

Section K. An officer shall be removed for violation of any of the standards described in Article IV, Section J. Removal must be recommended by the vote of by at least two-thirds of the non-offending directors sitting at a special meeting. Removal will occur if voted by two-thirds of those members present and voting at the next regularly scheduled club meeting. Notice of the vote shall be given as prescribed in Article VII, Section B.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS

Section A. Regular meetings shall be held on the fourth Thursday of each month starting at 7:00 P.M. or as rescheduled by the President to accommodate Thanksgiving and Christmas. Meeting date and time may be temporally changed by majority vote of the members.

Section B. Special meetings may be called as directed by the President or any two other officers.

Section C. Board meeting may be called as directed by the President or any two other officers.

Section D. A quorum at any meeting of the board or membership shall consist of fifty percent of the current membership.

ARTICLE VI: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section A. Upon the request of any member, the rules included in *Roberts Rules of Order* shall govern all meetings.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

Section A. These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the chapter membership.

Section B. The membership shall be notified in writing that amendments to the Bylaws will be proposed at least forty-eight hours before the vote to amend. Such notice shall include a complete text of the proposed amendment.

Section C. The club tournament rules may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the chapter membership.

Section D. The membership shall be notified in writing that amendments to the club tournament rules will be proposed at least forty-eight hours before the vote to amend. Such notice shall include a complete text of the proposed amendment.

ARTICLE VIII: INACTIVE MEMBER STATUS AND GUESTS

Section A. Inactive membership shall be determined as follows:

1. Any member who attends less than six chapter-sponsored activities within the year shall be designated as an inactive member. Chapter-sponsored activities include the monthly meeting, club tournaments and special events.
2. Failure to pay dues in a timely manner, per Article III, Section H.

Section B. Inactive members and guests may not instantly or retroactively receive points, plaques or any other club awards.

Section C. Inactive members and guest may participate in any big bass pools upon payment of an appropriate entry fee.

Section D. Guests may participate in club tournaments only with permission of the Tournament Director.