



July 26th, 2007

Sportsmen Bassmasters

Meeting Minutes



Members Present:

~~Jim Battin~~

Paul Becka

Craig Belbeck

Pat Bisek

~~Rusty Bisek~~

Jim Boettcher

Dan Bonneson

Mike Breuer

~~Chris Glaze~~

Mickey Goetting

Ron Grav

~~Rory Gunderson~~

~~Eric Hauge~~

Rick Hill

~~Matt Hitzeman~~

Dave Huttner

Todd Martin

~~Carey Nordling~~

Mike Owens

~~Mary Purdue~~

Dale Richardson

Bill Rineveld

~~Dave Saterbak~~

~~Todd Saterbak~~

Brent Schwab

~~Craig Strom~~

~~Doug Thies~~

Bill Young

21 Members Present

Guest(s): Mike Bercusa, Nicholas Pick, (2nd meeting for both)

Rick Hill's brother visiting from Indiana.

President's Report (Paul B.):

- Paul gave us an update on the American Legion fiasco from last month. Evidently the word didn't get to the nasty lady manager that we were supposed to be there and she went bonkers. Several of the other employees came up to Paul and apologized for her behavior.
- Our Secretary/Treasurer Mary Purdue has taken a new job in Winona and will be leaving the club. We are going to miss her humor and wit at the club meetings and excellent fishing skills on the water. Best wishes from everyone in the club on the new position. We will need to find a willing volunteer to fill her shoes as Secretary/Treasurer.
- Notification has been sent out from the DNR about the new tournament fees. An article appeared in the paper yesterday covering

- the story and featured comments from our very own Mickey Goetting who is also the Federation Conservation Director.
- Elections are coming up and we need to start thinking of who will be filling the positions. Paul told us that he will not be running for the President office this year, but will remain active in the club. He's just tired of the politics and needs a break from it for now.

VP's / TD's Report (Pat B.):

- The Waconia tournament went fairly smoothly with the exception of the failure of the Federation scale. Fortunately we had the other scale available and even though it isn't as accurate (1/10 vs 1/100) it came out all right. Thanks to everyone who pitched in and helped with the weigh-in.
- There have been some quiet "grumblings" that some of the non-boaters aren't helping out with gas expenses as they should. Everyone is reminded that with the cost of gas nowadays, it is a real hit in the wallet for the boater to tow the boat to the lake and operate the big motor. The upcoming tournament on the River isn't going to be cheap and the normal \$20 per day probably won't be enough to cover it. Everyone is also reminded that the prefishing days are just as expensive as the tournament days and need to be shared as well.
- The August tournament will be launching from Ikes marina (the big public access) in Wabasha. Show time is 6:00 am and launch time is 6:30 am. Weigh-in will be at 2:00 pm. This will be a tape tournament.

Pool 4/5 Tournament Pairings & Ease-Off Order

Tournament Date: August 19th, 2007

Check-In Time: 6:00 am

Weigh-In Time: 2:00 pm

Ease-Off Time: 6:30 am

Launch: Ike's Marina (large public

access in Wabasha)

	Boater	Non-Boater
1	Matt Hitzeman	Mickey Goetting
2	Dale Richardson	Brent Schwab
3	Chris Glaze	Rick Hill
4	Craig Belbeck	Mike Burcusa
5	Pat Bisek	Todd Martin
6	Bill Rineveld	Doug Thies
7	Bill Young	Craig Strom
8	Paul Becka	Nick Pick
9	Ron Grav	Mike Breuer
10	Dan Bonneson	Dave Saterbak
11	Jim Battin	Dave Huttner
12		
13		
14		

Involuntary Non-Boaters: None

Secretary/Treasurer's Report (Mary P.):

- Not present - No report.

Internet Director (Mickey G.):

- Mickey has provided links to maps for the Mississippi River and pool information.
- He will provide a link for driving directions to Ike's Marina.

Special Projects (Jim B.):

- Not Present - No Report

Data Director (Mickey G.):

- So far, we are half way through the club's fishing season and only about half of the data is in. If we don't get better participation, he isn't going to bother with all the work to put the end-of-year report together for us as he has in the past.
- Since the next tournament is a paper tournament, make sure to include all of the supporting information on your sheets. That way if you can't make the website work, the information will be available for manual entry.

Federation Rep (Mike B.):

- Late in arriving - No Report
- Paul B - Yankton, SD team tournament was cancelled by BASS due to lack of interest. There were only 6 teams signed up (out of a possible 36), 5 from SD and one from MN (Brainerd area). The good news for these 6 teams is that they get an automatic bye into the Nationals.

Education (Dale R.):

- Provided a safety briefing on the hazards of big water boating.
- The recent tragic accident on Leech Lake reminds us of how dangerous it can be if the boat gets hit by a rogue wave or capsizes as a result of "spearing" a wave.
- As we prepare for our club event on the River and get ready for the TOC on Leech, we need to make sure we are ready for these situations.
 - You need at least two bilge pumps installed in you boat, one automatic, and one manual. Preferably they are powered by separate power sources. One from the trolling motor batteries and one from the cranking battery.
 - You need a bailing bucket. Take a gallon plastic jug (with a screw on cap) and cut the bottom out. This also can also be used as a funnel to add gas to the tank from a 6-gallon can.
 - You need a loud horn to signal for help. A good one to have in the boat is one of those hand-held horns that are so annoying at sporting events.
 - When on the big water (like the River and Leech), wear the life preserver whenever the big motor is running (even when prefishing

and the rules don't require it) and most importantly, attach the kill switch. If you get tossed out and the boat gets away from you, it can be deadly.

- You need a means of getting back into the boat if tossed out. Most people, even those young folks in good shape, can't get back into the boat when wearing heavy clothes and a life preserver. Cold weather makes it even more difficult. Options are:
 - Buy a new Triton with the built-in ladder.
 - Install an aftermarket metal boarding ladder like the water skiers use.
 - Learn how to use the big motor's trim system to lift yourself up and out of the water.
 - Build an emergency rope ladder (see below).
- Dale demonstrated how to make an emergency boarding ladder out of PVC pipe and poly rope. 4 ladders were built during the beer break. Instruction sheets were handed out to those who wanted to make one at home. Note: correct the instructions for the length of rope to use. It needs to be at least 14 feet long, not 12.
- It was suggested (by Mike Owens) that everyone, while the weather is still warm, jump in the water and practice getting back into the boat. Make sure that you have someone in the boat to help you if needed. You'll be surprised at how difficult this is and need to know how to do it if/when the actual time comes.
- Waconia recap. The report will be sent out separately.

Conservation Director (Matt H.):

- Not present - no report
- Mickey reported that he visited the DNR to brief them on the data collection system. He was given a warm welcome and a demonstration of how they are using the data we provide. They are very appreciative of what we are doing for them in this area.

Youth Director (Brent S.)

- No Report

Old Business:

- The State Tournament is coming up and we have to get everything organized and the paperwork in to the Federation Tournament Director by August 17th.
- Paul passed around a list of members in the priority order for the TOC. Basically, it is the final rankings from last year (of those members still in the club) followed by the rankings of the new people this year after the first three tournament.
- For all practical purposes, we have 12 slots so pretty much anyone who wants to participate can do so.
- Please let Paul know ASAP whether or not you are going to go.
- If you are going to go and want to be a boater, you have to provide proof of insurance along with your paperwork. If you were not at the meeting and want to go, download the paperwork from the Federation website and get it to Paul immediately.

New Business:

- New members Nick Pick and Mike Burcusa were voted into the club. Both are non-boaters. Welcome Nick and Mike.
 - nick.pick@cimalabs.com
 - michael.burcusa@cimalabs.com
- Note to Paul, Pat, Dan, Nick, & Mike: Not sure if dues were collected or not. This needs to be done prior to the next tournament so we are covered by insurance.
- Dan Bonneson was voted in as replacement Secretary/Treasure.

Next Meeting: August 23rd, 7:00 pm, David Fongs.