



B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia, Inc.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2026

Call to order: Sid Ryan called the conference call meeting to order at 9:06am
Roll Call: Susan Owens conducted roll call by logins. All present except Kayak.
Minutes: Last Meeting Minutes November 2025. Motion by R7, seconded by R6. Approved as written.
Treasurer Report: Treasurer’s Report presented. Motion by R7, seconded by Conservation. Approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:
NATIONALS:

Our State Championship’s top 4 teams Eubank/Eubank, Lemaster/Norton, Page/Triplett, and Grant/Miskell have earned a berth in the 2026 Nationals to be held on Lake Hartwell, SC in November 2026. Final tally of 2025 membership earns VA 2 teams for the 2027 Nationals.

REGIONALS:

Congratulations to our State Team Tier 1 anglers (5th through 14th place finishers from our State Championship). Marty Howard, Dustin Guthrie, Cavin Young, Jacob Lee, Adam Richardson, Bryant Copley, Chip Martin, Steven Hardy, Craig Owens and Michael Gunn will be our 10 boaters with Keith Wright, Chip Woody, Sam Terry, Blake Richardson, DJ Johnson, Scott Reuschling, Jeff Poplin, Dustin Wilhelm, and Bryan Harlow as our 9 non-boaters registering this week for the BASS SE Regional to be held April 6-12 on Cherokee Lake, TN. This is our Virginia State Team, and the top Virginia boater and non-boater at the SE Regional earns a berth to the 2026 Nationals as well. Sid is still trying to fill the 10th non-boater slot for State Team. Cabo agrees to create jerseys for the State Team at anglers’ expense.

Tier 2 registration for SE Regional opens for Bass Nation members January 13th.

TEAM TRAIL:

Congratulations to our top points leader teams Weaver/Weaver, Martin/Johnson, and Salmon/Shores who fished the BASS Team Trail Championship tournament held Dec 3-6, 2025 on Lake Hartwell, SC. COLD but they represented Virginia well. Angler of the Year plaques will be awarded to Land and Rob Weaver at the Richmond Fishing Expo. Congratulations again.

2026 Tournament Schedule
(Updated calendar attached)

Qualifier #1	March 28, 2026	SML/Parkway Marina
Qualifier #2	May 2, 2026	Gaston/Holly Grove
Qualifier #3	June 20, 2026	Kerr/Occoneechee
Qualifier #4	Sept. 12, 2026	Chick/JCC Riverfront Park
State Championship	Oct. 10/11, 2026	Chick/JCC Riverfront Park

- Fixed teams. Points follow team, not individuals. A team may fish a lone boater for 2 tournaments which can include the state championship.
- Eligibility to fish championship is a top 50% finish plus 2 tournaments (minimum 3 tournaments) or fish all 4 tournaments.
- No pre-tournament meetings. Rules provided online. Registration by mail or online payment is due by Monday prior to the tournament. Boat numbers will be randomly assigned by tournament software and posted on Facebook the night before as well as texted/emailed to paid anglers. Raffle and/or side pots possibly at weigh-in.
- The amended proposal from R6 was discussed and voted on. Amended motion by R6, seconded by Tournament Director, motion passed. For 2027, the number of teams determined by BASS going straight to Nationals will be pulled 50% from State Championship and 50% from Points Standings (after 4 tournaments with no drops) Odd number pulls majority from state championship first then point standings. The Tier 1 early code recipients (10 teams now considered Virginia State Team) to pull 5 teams from point standings and 5 teams from the championship with any double qualifiers coming down the championship side.

STATE SPONSORS

Currently our State sponsor list includes:
Cabo Fishing Apparel
Glass Baron – glass for raffles
Missile Baits – Product donation
Gaston Marine (formerly Budget Mobile Outboard Repair)
A & W Welding - Services
Microtel Hotel South Hill – discount code for rooms

Cashion Rods – product donation
Balsax Line – 30% discount for all members
Creedmore Wellness, Bracey, VA.

Looking to open communications with local cities, counties, and Chambers of Commerce for assistance with state tournaments.

ALLIANCE PROGRAM

2026 Alliance Program has been received, executed by Sid, and submitted to BASS. Discounts by sponsors will be provided for the teams going to nationals and the State Team Regional. Deadline dates on discounts can be stopped by vendor at any time, so order early. Do not abuse discounts. Use is for national and state team regional team members only.

NEW BUSINESS:

2026 Rosters:

Several clubs have already submitted rosters and dues. For those remaining, please submit your updated 2026 rosters with dues no later than February 15th. A \$10 late fee will be applied after February 15th. Any clubs not submitting a roster by February 28, 2026 will not be eligible to fish the first 2026 state qualifier.

State Bylaws:

Current state bylaws specify a minimum 75hp limit. BASS rules do not specify a minimum HP requirement. Motion by R5, second by R7 to remove the hp limit thereby following BASS minimum HP rules. All approved. The bylaws otherwise will be updated administratively with any new BASS and state tournament formats accordingly. No proposal/vote for administrative updates needed.

Richmond Fishing Expo:

2026 Fishing Expo is January 16-18 at the Meadow Events Park in Doswell. Passes waiting at the door for attending board members.

College Championship:

BASS Nation of Virginia College Championship for 2026 to be March 29 on Smith Mountain Lake the day after our first state championship qualifier. BASS's College Championship is scheduled for May 29/30, 2026 on the James River.

Kayak 2026 Schedule:

BNVA Kayak is sending 3 anglers to the Bassmaster Classic Kayak Series Championship!

Youth:

Remaining 2025-2026 youth schedule:
March 21, 2026 West JSQ#4 – Philpott
April 19, 2026 Central & North JSQ#4 – Chickahominy
May 30/31, 2026 – JSC Championship
June 27/28, 2026 – JAT Memorial Scholarship Tournament & Fun Tournament
JR/HS Nationals last 2 weeks of July

Fall tournaments for 2026-2027 season scheduled to date:

September 20, 2026 North & Central JSQ#1
October 3-4, 2026 North & Central JSQ#2/#3 and West JSQ#1/#2 – Kerr Lake
TBD (pending state Nationals dates in November) West JSQ#3- TBD

Conservation

Conservation Directors will be meeting at the Bassmaster Classic this year. Brunswick Academy and Foothills Youth clubs are continuing with their habitat projects and reporting to grants. Funds budgeted will be provided to Melanie to attend Conservation Directors meeting.

Scholarship/Facebook/Website

Scholarship fund balance reported. Funding is derived from the JAT Memorial Scholarship tournament and the youth Fun Tournaments held in June each year. Thank you to youth for supporting the scholarship program.
Scholarship application is on the website. Deadline to submit is April 1, 2026. Last year, 6 scholarships were awarded. Hope to do the same this year.
Send any pictures specifically ones involving sponsors to Abby Ryan to post on Facebook site. The state website will be changed and maintained by Sid and Abby.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD:

Each director reported on any additional region news, updates, issues, or concerns.

- Region 1: Confirmed updated bylaws will post on website as soon as possible.
- Region 2: Tournament schedule has been set.
- Region 3: Regions 3, 6 and 7 combined. Tournament schedule is set.
- Region 4: Meeting Saturday to discuss combining schedule with Region 5.

Region 5: Meeting Saturday to discuss combining schedule with Region 4.
Region 6: Regions 3, 6 and 7 combined. Tournament schedule is set.
Region 7: Regions 3, 6 and 7 combined. Tournament schedule is set.
Tourn Dir: Ready to go.
Vice Pres: Ready to get the season started.
President: Last question: Bass National dues are \$30 across the board; adult, youth, kayak. If a youth fishes both adult and youth side, youth should pay the difference of \$40 state dues to join adult club. Approved by all.

Adjournment: Motion by R2, second by R5. All approved. Meeting adjourned 10:26am

Next meeting will be by conference zoom meeting/call on March 22, 2026