



B.A.S.S. Nation of Virginia, Inc.
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
November 5, 2023

Call to order: Meeting was called at 9:05am by Sid Ryan, President at the Pizza Pub, Clarksville, VA
Introductory: Sid thanked all for a successful year. Presented holiday gift bags to the members; thanks Abby.

Roll Call: Vice President – Steve Woodroof
Youth Director – Jack Babcock
Conservation Director – Melanie Barrow
Tournament Director – J. T. Williams
Region 2 – Ray Tweedy
Region 3 – Cavin Young
Region 4 – Stephen Davis
Region 5 – Mike Bryant
Region 6 – Chris Merritt
Region 7 – Absent
Region 10 – Bruce Shepherd

Minutes: Last Minutes, August 20, 2023. Motion by J.T Williams., seconded by Stephen Davis to approve as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report: October 2023 Bank Reconciliation. Motion by Steve Woodroof, seconded by Bruce Shepherd to approve the treasurer’s report as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

2023 NATIONALS

Kevin Walton and Larry Witt represented Virginia at Lake Hartwell in October.

2023 BASS Kayak

We now have 18 members in roster management for Virginia’s Kayak Series. State held its first BASS Nation of Virginia Kayak series tournament to qualify for BASS Kayak. Casey Reed takes first place.

2023 STATE Tournament

State Championship Tournament (#4) held on the James River out of Osborne Landing. Top 5 teams for Nationals identified. Early registration teams identified.

CLUB ROSTERS

Reminder: 2024 Rosters and member dues coming up. Due no later than December 31st.

2023 STATE SPONSORS

Cabo Fishing Apparel
Glass Baron – glass for raffles
Missile Baits – Product donation
Budget Mobile Outboard Repair – Monetary donation for member new Mercury motor purchases
A & W Welding - Services
Microtel Hotel South Hill – discount code for rooms
Cashion Rods – Open House first Saturday in December
The Prop Alert – Product donation (8 prop alert covers)
Balsax Line – 30% discount for all members
Graves Mountain Lodge
Angler’s Choice – batteries – Open House in February

NEW BUSINESS:

B.A.S.S. Meeting

The BNC meetings for President and Youth Directors were well received. B.A.S.S. treated all very well as this was the last Nationals in State team format. Highlights reported from the meeting:

- National dues across all Nation classes (College, HS, Youth, Kayak and Adult) are \$30/year.
- 2024 Nationals – November 6-8 on Grand Lake of the Cherokees, Tulsa, OK
 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places receive berths at Bassmaster Classic with winner’s berth fully paid
 - Payout over \$300k with \$200k purse and berth values
- 2025 Nationals – Summer of 2025 someplace north / smallmouth. The BASS member count made on August 31 of this year qualifies Virginia for 5 teams for the 2025 Nationals

- BASS has new title sponsor – fishing endemic sponsor. Not announced yet.
- Mercury to step back on Alliance but will participate to some degree.
- 2024 Divisional – Southeast (Virginia is part of this division) February 7-9 on Lake Eufaula, Eufaula, AL. Our 10 team registration codes have been received by Sid.
 - 1st phase of registration – Nov 28 to Dec 4 for anglers with codes
 - 2nd phase of registration – Dec 5 to Dec 11 for Nation members in SE division
 - 3rd phase of registration – Dec 12 to Dec 18 for at large members w/state paid dues
 - Note: When registering, initial response online will be “Pending”, then an email with confirmation.
- Bassmaster.com has a link for Nation members offering several discounts to Nation members.
- Virginia Nation Kayak Series determines 1 team to go to the National Kayak tournament.
- Virginia Nation College Series determines 1 team to go to the National College tournament.
- Alabama Bass continues to be a problem. Gene Gilliland does not agree with killing them at weigh in as recommended by Marty Stone and Chuck Murray. Don’t move from one body to another and selective harvesting are better options.
- Landing Nets: BASS’s position is more challenging in the upper levels. Gene Gilliland says 100% the best way to land is with a net to prevent stress and strain on the fish. If you do use a net, use the rubber net or coated net, not nylon nets with knots. Up to each state to determine.
- Skeeter Yamaha presented their discount program that states do not have to sign contract for. Skeeter owners tournament held every year with lots of swag. Sid spoke with Skeeter rep who indicated lots of stuff leftover that they give away free. Sid asked and will be receiving a box of FREE/No Obligation stuff shortly.
- BASS Team Trail is free for Nation members. One berth for every 25 boats competing in state events to the Team Trail Championship that is held in December every year. First 2 days anglers fish as a team. If you make the cut, the last day each angler fishes alone. The winner goes to the Classic. Registration is \$500/team. State must sign up at the beginning of the year to be part of the Team Trail.

Officer Nominations

No new nominations were made for the positions of VP and Youth Director. Both Steve and Jack accepted to continue these positions for another two years.
Regions 3, 5, and 7 will have elections for their Directors this year. Please be sure to send Sid your confirmation letters within 15 days from election to be approved by the Board at the January meeting.

National Team and
Early Registration Codes

New territory. Bylaw change.
Board to discuss and determine state team member control and processes for replacement of those earning berths not able to fish the Nationals in Oklahoma in November and the amount of state’s expense contributions.

Early registration codes for 6th through 15th place finishers processes for replacement of those earning codes not willing or able to fish the Open Regional in Alabama in February.

A motion by Chris Merritt, seconded by Ray Tweedy to accept the proposed budget for BASS Nation of Virginia anglers advancing to B.A.S.S. National and Regional Tournaments. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously.

The proposed budget is:
BASS NATION National Championship \$2000 per team
BASS NATION Regional Championship to reimburse entry fees upon proof of registration and completion of fishing the tournament

BASS NATION Team Trail Championship to be discussed and voted on at the January meeting.

2024 Proposed
Tournament Schedule

The 2024 tournament schedule proposed at the August meeting was motioned by J.T., seconded by Melanie Barrow, with roll call vote unanimously approved.

- Mar 16/17 on Smith Mountain Lake, Parkway Marina
- Apr 20/21 on Lake Gaston, Holly Grove
- Sep 21/22 on Chickahominy River, Riverfront Park (Rt. 5 Bridge)
- Oct 26/27 on Kerr Reservoir, Occoneechee State Park

Region 6 made a motion to change the tournament format by removing the drop making all 4 tournaments count. The motion was seconded by Region 4. A roll call vote was taken: 6 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain, 1 not present. However, this does require a bylaw change which requires 30 days' notice of proposal. The motion and vote were voided by Sid. If you want to make a motion to change a bylaw, it must be distributed 30 days before our next meeting in January.

Region 6 made a motion to increase the entry fee to \$200. Did not receive a second.

Conservation

Melanie provide her report of 2023 activities had and upcoming projects for 2024.
Renewal of DWR grant coming up.
AFTCO gives 10% of sales to conservation – Purchase AFTCO items

Youth

Tournament schedule for youth per division:

North: September 10 Lake Anna
October 7/8 Kerr Lake (all divisions combined JSQ 2 and 3)
April 14 Chickahominy

West: October 7/8 Kerr Lake
March 9 Smith Mountain Lake – may need to move to March 10
April 6 Philpott Lake

Central: September 9 Lake Gaston – 49 boats
October 7/8 Kerr Lake – all divisions 111 boats Sat / 111 Boats Sun
April 14 Chickahominy

Junior State Championship May 4/5 Kerr Lake
Fun & Scholarship Tournaments June 8/9 Kerr Lake

2024 new youth rules: HS clubs must have 6 members. National dues are \$30.

May need to change the March 9th tournament to Sunday. May work to add the Virginia Nation College Championship to March 10th in conjunction with the West youth division event.

Scholarship/Facebook

Abby Ryan reports on the 2023 scholarship fund and awards. Plans to award at minimum 3 - \$1000 scholarship awards for 2024.
Send pictures to Abby Ryan to post.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD:

Region 2: Ok
Region 3: Ok. Set 2024 schedule
Region 4: Ok. Meeting next week
Region 5: Ok. Meeting Tuesday night for 2024 schedule.
Region 6: Trying to grow. Sid thanked Chris for his prompt responses to member inquiries.
Region 7:
Region 10: Alabama Bass problem. Please support F1 bass program. DWR won't discuss or participate but will not interfere with self-raising to do it. Will be combining with Region 4.
VP: Ok.
TD: Ok. Appreciates state letting him fish.
CD: Ok.
YD: Ok.
S/T: Rosters. Next meeting January 7th, 2024.
Think about sponsors and fundraising ideas.

Adjournment at 12:30pm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Owens, Secretary Treasurer