

NH BASS Nation
Monthly Meeting
January 19, 2021

1. Attendance

- PRESENT: Lakes Region Bass, NH Basscasters, NH Hawg Hunters, Sail 'em Bass, Upper Valley, Back Bay, Sunapee, Grassroots, NEBA, Forge Pond, Merrimack Valley, Granite State, NH Last Cast, NH Junior Bassmasters, NEBA, North Country Bronzebacks

2. Secretary's Report

- December minutes distributed and accepted

3. Treasurer's Report

- No report

4. Conservation Report

- Classic has been moved to June
 - Fish care will be important due to heat in Texas in June
 - Scott Mason from Strafford NH is the new Fish and Game director
 - Jamie will discuss the tagging study with him in hopes of getting the two body of water rule (e.g. Squam-little Squam) reversed
 - State parks are not issuing event permits before Labor Day
 - You can still use Newfound boat launch but cannot weigh in at the beach
 - Tagging study at Squam
 - No one at Fish and Game really knows the details of the study; we should ask Gabe (US Fish and Game) who partnered with us help with this
 - Previous NH Fish and Game administration said the rule was just a Fish and Game rule and that it should be easy to reverse if the data showed no impact.
 - Jamie will reach out to Gabe
- Two submissions for Barry Conservation Camp scholarship so far
 - John will send submissions to Board on 1/30 to select winner

5. Youth Report

- Ray just sent dates out to everyone on Zoom meeting list
- Tentative schedule
 - 5/1 JR Tournament
 - 5/22 Conservation
 - 6/26 HS Open
 - 7/17 JR Tournament
 - 7/31 HS Open
 - 8/14 JR Tournament
 - 8/28 HS Championship
- Next Junior Meeting
 - April 3 on Zoom
 - No major changes
 - No real issues last year

- Big thanks to NHBN for making it happen
- No date yet for BASS JR Championship
- BASS HS Opens are still being scheduled

6. President's Report Old Business

- Banquet tickets \$40 and rescheduled to March 20th, 2021 at Puritan Backroom. Current protocols limit to 100 attendees. What should we do?
 - 40 or 50 tickets already sold
 - Maybe refund everyone and try to do event later
 - March date is too close
 - People still need vaccinations
 - We will likely get a refund from our deposit
 - Can we do something outdoors
 - Picnic tables, raffles
 - Should we just wait until next year
 - Hard to get people together in summer
 - Concern about doing three years worth of awards in 1 banquet
 - Maybe do awards on a zoom or Facebook Live
 - Facebook Live works well
 - Can we look for some time in November
 - Members are hunting
 - Awards
 - Team of year
 - STQT winner
 - Juniors
 - Presidents Award for excellence
 - Separate recognition from raffle
 - Ticket sales cover non-sponsor raffle prizes
 - We'll hold onto the prizes from last year, if anyone has any ideas please share
 - John will circle back with the board on how to recognize season awards
 - Tickets will be refunded
- 2021 Team Open Schedule
 - May 2 – Winni - Lee's Mills/State's Landing with NH Basscasters
 - July 11 – Winni – WAM with NH Last Cast
 - Aug 21-22 – Champlain – Mallet's Bay with NY BASS Nation
 - Oct 10 – Squam with North Country
- 2021 Other events
 - Aug 8 -- Club vs Club - Pawtuckaway
 - Sept 18-19 -- STQT -- Winni – Lee's Mills/State's Landing
- Discuss and vote on constitution and tournament rule changes.
 - Rule: 2lb culling penalty for bringing too many fish to weigh in
 - Sail'em, North Country, and Hawg Hunters were on board
 - Motion to accept, seconded
 - Forge Pond and Merrimack valley not in favor
 - Should be the largest fish
 - Rationale is that if someone weighs in 9 two pounders, there isn't a penalty for culling the largest

- All other clubs in favor
 - Motion passes
 - Rule: An exception should be made for being a boat captain on STQT waters during cut off
 - Discussion: this may impact volunteers
 - NHIAA tournament is on a Thursday and volunteer captains may be on the water
 - Junior Bassmasters work out dates with NHBN so this doesn't happen
 - Being on the water as a captain with people catching fish is an unfair advantage
 - This year it may not be an issue because of dates
 - NHIAA should do a better job working with state fishing organizations to schedule
 - Proposal may need to be reworded to be more specific
 - Consider adding "Should being an NHIAA captain"
 - Vote
 - Yes – Forge Pond, Merrimack Valley, Sail'em, North Country, Sunapee
 - No – Back Bay, Lakes Region, NEBA, Bass Casters, Hawg Hunters, Last Cast, Upper Valley
 - Motion did not pass
 - Equipment required for boaters during STQT will require a functioning outboard
 - Discussion:
 - Everyone wants a functioning outboard
 - If they are unable to participate with a boat that's broken down prior to the tournament and cannot find a replacement vote, the link (not the non-boater) and boater need to drop out
 - If your boat breaks down in the middle of the tournament, you can still weigh in fish
 - Tournament officials have held back participants for non-working live wells, safety equipment
 - Forge Pond withdraws the proposal
 - Next Steps
 - John will get these rules circulated for signatures
- Send dues and rosters to John Foster, 9 Grove St, Byfield, MA 01922.
 - Please get your national dues in as John uses these to cross reference members
- Fantasy Fishing is back. www.bassmasterfantasy.com Group name is NH BASS Nation
 - Winner gets free entry into STQT
 - Last year's winner was Cam Sterrit
 - Events start in a few weeks

7. President's Report New Business

- Next meeting will be Tuesday February 16 via Zoom
- NH State Parks not issuing any special use permits through Labor Day (9/6/21).
- Sponsors returning: Dobyys, Thayers Marine, Stabil/303, Skeeter, Yamaha, TH Marine, Minn Kota, Humminbird, Rapala, Garmin, Power-Pole. Welcome new sponsor – Ridgeland Farms (Stefan Lillios) they will donate syrup!

8. Pass the Gavel

- We have the permit for Champlain event
 - John is meeting with the NY BASS Nation leaders this Saturday to discuss the event
- Double down events
 - Are there requirements for the Club that's doubling down?
 - No requirements this past year because we have been doing things differently
 - Freebie due to Covid for the club
 - John will make a registration form with options to fish either event and will provide checks for their payout after the event
 - Club doubling down should publish results for participants to see soon after event