

WNY Bassmasters General Meeting – January 2017

Gander Mountain – Tonawanda, NY

Call to Order: 7:11 PM

**Attendance:** Bill Pilington, Jim Lamb, Ed Kuberacki, Ken Johnson, Ron Faith, John Evans, Josh Snyder, Chris Benninger, Kelly Roeser, Dan Sank, Andrew Full, Alex Gauld, Scott Gauld, Doug Catalano, Joe Kugel, Kenn Kolo, Dave Killion, John Killion, Walt Babiarz, Mike Giulino, Cory Krawczyk, Keith Pease, Todd Ceisner, Scott Callen, Patrick Schlosser

**Guests:** Lisa Zuppelli.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

> 2016 Man of the Year tiebreaker. Two men were tied with 4 votes each – Scott Callen and Jim Lamb. Both men left the room. A show of hands vote was held. Jim Lamb won 13-5.

> 2016 Awards update (John Evans). John is still waiting on final details for awards (MOY) before proceeding with ordering the plaques.

> Ladies Night (Kenn Kolo). 6 p.m. March 4 at Orazio's (Main Street, Clarence). \$15 pp. Let Kenn Kolo know if attending and head count ASAP.

> NYS B.A.S.S Nation membership/insurance update (Kolo/Callen). Callen has been in contact with local NYS BASS Nation reps. Peter Knight is the current president and there's been little to no progress in securing local sponsorship for NYS tournaments. Only 22 anglers back from 2016. Kolo offered update on insurance

> **SC been in contact with local Fed reps. Peter Knight is current president. His effort is lacking, according to some. Fed has secured no local sponsorship support for any events. Only 22 returnees to 2017 team. Kenn Kolo looked into insurance coverage through NYS BASS Fed. It offers a \$1M umbrella policy for any club event, which covers club, but not individual. Discussion had about whether to remain affiliated with BASS Nation/NYS Fed to take advantage of insurance coverage. \$35 club fee/\$50 per individual. 9 members confirmed they want to or have joined. Motion made for WNYBM to join BASS Nation for 2017 by Andy Full/Scott Gauld with stipulation that membership is reviewed annually. No opposition. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

> Membership report: Club dues are due. \$70 (dues/raffle tix) due in January. Dues rise \$10/mo. until March.

> Club Raffle/NF Show report: \$100+ generated from raffle tix sales at show. Joe Kugel reported that Bruce Blakelock expressed interest in joining the club and inquired about having Rapid Fishing Solutions support the club on a sponsor level. Bruce has membership packet.

> Tournament Committee: Schedule is set; Paul Pilkington secured several permits, others were handled by Keith Pease.

> 2017 Military event: Scott Callen is not able to continue to spearhead this event. He asked if another club member wanted to take it over. He has asked for a \$250 donation from NYSCOPBA to support the event this year if it goes forward. No interest expressed. Tabled until February meeting.

> Wednesday Night Open Series/Battle of the Border: Both have been scheduled. Discussion had about club's interest in sponsoring Open Series (letting scale be used) and participating in Border event.

> Border War scheduled for May 6 (early season/trophy regs apply) – 90% payback/5% dispersed to each club. Concerns were raised about blast off procedures from last year; Per Scott Callen, South Gap will serve as blast off/check-in point. There will be a starter boat. Entry fee \$100. Motion made by Josh Snyder to participate in Border War. Motion carried (show of hands).

> Wed Night Open Series begins June 21. There was noticeable growth in last year's series. Payout will be 95% this year/5% to club for use of scale. Last year, final jackpot was close to \$700. Feedback was great. More growth is expected. Jim Lamb expressed concerns about use of club scale for this event. Scott Callen will explore purchasing scale just for Wed night Series. Motion made by Jim Lamb to continue sponsoring series with the stipulation that club earnings go toward equipment upgrade (purchasing add'l scale). Seconded by Bill Pilkington. Motion carried.

> Proposed Rule Changes for 2017

If approved, these rules/regulations will be added to permanent Club rules. If members want to alter them beyond 2017 season, proposals will need to be made prior to 2018 season.

> Proposal 1 RE: Live draw (see attached). Good feedback.

> Proposal 2 RE: Last chance (see attached). Good feedback.

> Proposal 3 RE: Standings/Classic eligibility/payout revision (see attached). Discussion had about members who don't compete in 6 tournaments not being eligible for Classic. Jim Lamb spoke about his club experience and how financial interests affect how people interact. Scott Callen said goal of proposal is to foster additional participation; members encouraged to offer up other suggestions

Vote on all 3 proposals to be held at February Meeting.

> Tournament weigh in bags. Josh Snyder will research different styles/options and present information at February meeting.

> Members of UB fishing team approached club at NF Show. Talk of possible partnership on an event. Josh Snyder (UB employee) will do more research.

> Alex Gauld has satisfied the preliminary requirements for membership. Motion made by Scott Callen to add him as full member. Motion carried.

> Sponsors: Scott Callen believes person who secures sponsor for club should have say in how sponsor support (\$\$\$ or equipment) will be allocated/used.

> Swap Meet: 3 tables left; Contact Joe Kugel for more info.

> Dan Sank has returned to active status.

> Motion to adjourn: 8:40 pm approved.

> Next meeting: Wed. Feb. 22 at 7 pm at Gander Mountain



### **2017 WNY BASSMASTERS/LAST CHANCE**

For the 2017 season a proposal has been set forth to keep the tournament entrance fee the same per event (\$25). Boaters and Non-boaters all pay equal amounts to enter a tournament. The non-boater is still responsible for the non-boater fee + ½ of the launch fee. The Last Chance (proposal#2) will allow any Boater or Non-Boater a “last chance” to fish an event that they were unable to pre-register for during the open Draw. This will give any member who previously was unsure if they could fish an event an opportunity to fish.

#### **RULES:**

1. Any member will be allowed to register for an event after the draw has been completed prior to the completion of ½ of the events. After ½ of the events have been fished the “Last chance prop” will no longer be allowed.
2. A boater that wishes to use the “Last Chance” policy will be allowed to fish. They will be placed in the last draw spot for that event (Starter Boat). They will also be awarded the last seed Co-angler for that event.
3. If a co-angler wishes to take advantage of the “Last Chance” policy, they will also be placed in the last angler draw boat following the lowest placed Co-angler.
4. A \$25 Late fee will be imposed by either party on top of the normal tournament fees for that event. This will go directly to the payout for that event. This is to ensure that any member does not abuse this policy.
5. Both Angler/Co-angler will be allowed to use this policy once during the first half of the season. After ½ of the events have been fished the policy will no longer be allowed, you must use the imposed tournament procedures.

## 2017 WNY Bassmasters Standing/ Classic Proposal

For the 2017 season a proposal has been set forth to keep the tournament entrance fee the same per event (\$25). Boaters and non-boaters pay an equal amount to enter tournaments. The non-boater is still responsible for the non-boater fee and ½ of the launch fee.

### **Change to pay and standing format is as followed:**

- For the 2017 Tournament Season a running monetary total will be kept for every event. Each weekly tournament's monetary total will be posted so all members will be able to track the running tab throughout the tournament season.
- After completion of each event, the competing anglers will only receive points for their respective finishes, as well as lunger in the club standings for Mr. Bass and Non-boater of the Year.
- There will be no money given out for top 4 finishers and lunger. That tournament money will be tallied and awarded to the top finishing anglers who compete in the end of the season classic tournament.
- AOY (Mr. Bass) will have a boater and non-boater award.
- Our current point system will be used for the 2017 Season. 1<sup>st</sup> Place = 50pts. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = 44pts. .... 25<sup>th</sup> Place = 1pt and Lunger = 4pts.
- All anglers are eligible to fish the 2017 Classic, as long as they have fished 50% of the scheduled tournaments for 2017 (11 scheduled tournaments in 2017, therefore you **MUST fish at least 6** to be eligible for the 2017 Classic).
- If a tournament is cancelled because of inclement weather the % still stays at 50% fished to be eligible for the Classic.
- The current seeding for the Classic will still be used.

### Total Tournament Pot (TTP)

- TTP will be the cumulative total of the 11 weekly tournaments.

The following chart is used for demonstration purposes only:

2015 and 2016 Totals (Boaters and Non-boaters)

2015: 116 Boaters, 61 Non-boaters (Based off current \$25 entry fee)

2016: 83 Boaters, 46 Non-boaters (\$25 entry fee)

199 Boaters + 107 Non-boaters = 306 / 2 = 153 yearly fishermen

153 Fishermen

X \$25 Entry fee

\$3,825 Total

- \$765 (20% to WNYB)\*

\$3,060

- \$460 (15% total/5% each for the 3 categories) \*\$153 LOY \*\$153 MrB \*\$153 NBOY)

LOY = tourney season including classic. MrB&NBOY = tourney season only

\$2,600

+ \$1,000 (SHM)

\$3,600 Payout at Classic