

# **BRYAN BASS CLUB**

## **Constitution**

### **ARTICLE I–Name, Purpose and Objectives**

**Section 1. Name.** This non-profit organization shall be named the Bryan Bass Club.

**Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of the Bryan Bass Club is to have regular meetings of the members at which time all the aspects of bass fishing may be reviewed, discussed, and planned to meet the objectives of this organization.

**Section 3. Objectives.** The objectives of the club are as follows:

1. Assist the members to improve their skills in bass fishing through the exchange of techniques and ideas.
2. Enhance the pleasure of bass fishing for each member.
3. Promote friendliness and fellowship among fishermen.
4. Support conservation and acts that improve bass fishing on public waters.
5. Maintain good sportsmanship by all members.
6. Encourage and promote bass fishing to the youth and other interested individuals of our area.
7. Be sensitive to our communities needs and support our sponsors.

### **ARTICLE II–Membership, Qualifications for Membership, and Membership Dues.**

**Section 1. Membership.** Any person, sixteen (16) years old or older, meeting the qualification for membership, properly voted into the club, and upon payment of the membership dues shall become a voting member of the club. A member's spouse and children are granted non-voting membership.

**Section 2. Qualifications for Membership.** The qualifications for membership are as follows:

1. The prospective member must make a statement to the members at the regular meeting, a desire to be a member, willingness to comply with the constitution and by-laws, and specifically to support the purpose and objectives of the club.
2. Club members are also required to be members of the club's state and national affiliations for the current membership year.
3. The current club affiliations are:
  - (a) B.A.S.S. Federation Nation (affiliation requires all members).
  - (b) TBF (affiliation requires six members minimum)

**Section 3. Membership Dues.** Membership dues include annual club dues and club affiliation dues. To be a club member in good standing, all membership dues must be paid.

1. Club members must pay annual club dues of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per calendar year. Five dollars (\$5.00) of each member's annual club dues will be awarded to the club member who catches the biggest bass of the calendar year at a monthly club tournament (called Big Bass of the Year). Annual club dues for a club life member are paid from a life member annual fund in the club treasury.
2. Club members must also pay club affiliation dues, which can vary each year. Affiliations may require full, partial or percentage club member participation. Affiliations may require dues for region, state and national levels. Affiliations may require certain organization memberships as a prerequisite before payment of dues. Club members must qualify for such memberships and keep affiliation requirements current during a calendar year.
3. The club secretary/treasurer collects membership dues from current club members during the monthly business meeting in December each year to cover the next calendar year. After that, new prospective members must pay all membership dues to the club secretary/treasurer at a monthly club business meeting.
4. If a new club affiliation is approved during a calendar year, adjusted membership dues are paid by members before the end of the next monthly club business meeting.

### **ARTICLE III–Officers and Directors: Eligibility, Election, Term, Duties, and Vacancies**

**Section 1. Officers.** The officers of the club shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Tournament Director. Reporter and Door Prize Director are non-elected volunteer positions approved by the club members.

**Section 2. Eligibility.** To be eligible for office, a member must meet the following qualifications:

1. They must be in good standing with the club.
2. Attend at least one half of the regular club meetings and tournaments during the year of office.
3. The candidate must demonstrate an active interest in club functions.

**Section 3. Election.** The election of officers shall be as follows:

1. The election shall take place at the December meeting each year.
2. To be elected, the candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast by the members present.
3. Election for each office will be in the order listed in Article III, Section 1. Candidates defeated remain eligible for nomination to other offices.
4. Nominations for officers open during the November meeting and remain open until closed by motion immediately prior to the voting on that office.

**Section 4. Term.** All officers are elected for a one year term, and shall take office on January 1. No elected officer may serve more than two (2) consecutive years in that given office in hopes of promoting parity and participation among all the members.

**Section 5. Duties.** Duties of the officer are outlined as follows:

1. *Duties of the President:* The President will preside at all meeting and functions for the club. The President, at his discretion, may appoint special committees. He is authorized to sign checks to disburse club funds in the absence of the Treasurer, and shall inform the Treasurer of any such disbursements as soon as possible.
2. *Duties of the Vice-President:* The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the President when the President is absent or upon request of the President. The Vice-President will advise or assist the officers, directors, and committees within the club. The Vice-President is responsible for the program at all regular meetings.
3. *Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer:* The Secretary is responsible for recording the minutes at regular meetings. The Secretary is responsible for timely notification to members for the time and place of the regular meetings, social functions, upcoming club tournaments, and special activities as directed by the President. The Secretary shall maintain the official files. The Treasurer is responsible to pay all financial transactions incurred and authorized by the club and shall give receipts for all funds received or disbursed. The Treasurer shall maintain financial records and present a statement of the financial condition at each regular meeting. Statement items shall be as directed by the President.
4. *Reporter:* The Reporter shall be responsible for maintaining website with club activities and information that can be made available to newspapers, magazines, TV stations and any other news media.
5. *Tournament Director:* The Tournament Director is responsible for the operation of monthly tournaments. It is their duty to collect entry fees, look after the club's scales, preside over the weigh-in and record the weights of each fisherman, report results and weights of each fisherman, report results and distribute money to anglers at the meeting following the tournament. The Tournament Director has the responsibility to enforce tournament rules, including, but not limited to: start and stop times, measurement of fish, ramp location, etc. It is their duty to appoint a substitute Tournament Director in case of their absence at a tournament. The substitute inherits the same responsibility and authority for the tournament they direct.
6. *Door Prize Director:* The Door Prize Director shall purchase fishing related items to be awarded, by draw, at each of the regular meetings.

**Section 6. Vacancies.** In the event an office becomes vacant, the secretary shall notify the membership at least five (5) days prior to the next regular meeting that nominations are open and an election shall be held at the meeting. Should the Office of Secretary become vacant, the President shall provide notification to the membership as provided in this section.

## **ARTICLE V—Amendments: Procedures, and Time Requirements.**

**Section 1. Procedures.** Amendments to this constitution or modification to articles, or sections, may be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting if Section 2 has been fulfilled.

**Section 2. Time Requirements.** An amendment or modification of the constitution must be presented in writing to each member a minimum of one regular meeting prior to the regular meeting in which the vote will be conducted.

## **BRYAN BASS CLUB**

### **By-Laws**

The By-Laws of this club are the rules adopted by members to regulate the activities and functions of this organization. The By-Laws may be amended by addition, deletions, or modification by proper motion and vote at regular club meetings as outlined by Article V, Section 1 and 2. A simple majority vote is required by the members present. The By-Laws are as follow:

- 1.** No member may participate in any club activities unless that member is in good standing.
- 2.** All official communications, program costs, and official debts authorized by the club will be paid by the club Secretary/Treasurer.
- 3.** Yearly dues shall be outlined in the club constitution. The annual club dues shall include an entry fee into the "Big Bass of the Year" pot. This fee is kept separate in treasury funds each year. Dispersal of other funds from annual club dues shall be described in subsequent by-laws.
- 4.** Once a year, the club's Top Six fishermen will be recognized.
  - a.** The Top Six Fishermen, based on a calendar year of January through December will be awarded plaques/trophies, and the top finisher shall be designated Angler of the Year. These six anglers shall also represent the club at a prestige tournament.
  - b.** Alternates or additional participants for a prestige tournament shall be chosen by order of annual point system finish starting with number seven, and continuing until enough anglers are found to represent the club.
- 5.** The Top Six anglers will be determined based on the following point system:
  - a.** Ten (10) points for attending monthly club meetings and designated club functions, with a maximum of one-hundred-twenty (120) "show points" per year.
  - b.** Twenty (20) points for fishing monthly point tournaments if no fish are weighed, and therefore no placing awarded.
  - c.** One-hundred (100) points for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the club's monthly point tournament with two (2) points less awarded for each succeeding place (i.e.: 98 points for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 96 points for 3<sup>rd</sup>, and etc.).
  - d.** A member may invite a guest to fish in the club member's (or guest's) boat during any tournament conducted by the Bryan Bass Club. Guest, to be eligible for awards, shall pay an entry fee to the tournament director for that tournament, and will not be eligible for the big bass pot. The guest will receive no points in the club standings. A particular guest may be invited only two times in a year.
- 6.** In addition to finishing in the Top Six in total points, anglers must fish a minimum of seven (7) point tournaments during the twelve (12) month period to qualify for recognition.
- 7.** Top Six points shall be calculated as follows: A member's top nine (9) Tournament point totals (out of 12) shall be retained. The three (3) lowest Tournament point months shall be discarded from the members point total. In case there are any ties in the final standings of the year, the following succession of tie-breakers will be used: 1) The individual with the highest total weight of bass in the nine counted tournaments will break the tie, or 2) tie remaining, the individual with the largest stringer, or 3) tie remaining, flip a coin. Meeting rosters and monthly tournament rosters shall govern the assignment of "show points." Designated club function "show points" will be applied toward top-six point system calculations by replacing, in earliest order, any missed meeting points occurring within the same calendar year. A club event becomes a designated club function for this purpose by a majority vote at any monthly club business meeting occurring before the event. The vote shall include what participation is required for the event, and a minimum of three events will be designated each year.

**8.** The qualifying angler who catches the “Big Bass of the Year” shall be awarded prize money in the amount equal to the “Big Bass” yearly entries. In addition to prize money, this angler shall be awarded a trophy recognizing their achievement.

**9.** The club shall assist in paying expenses to a minimum of one (1) prestige tournament per year as mentioned in By-Law 4 (example: a B.A.S.S. Federation Nation championship). Funds for these expenses shall come from the club treasury, with the amount of assistance to be determined by majority membership vote at a regular monthly club business meeting. These funds shall be the primary usage of at least 50% of the previous paid yearly club dues. These dues shall be kept in a separate annual fund in the club treasury.

**10.** Membership of any member may be terminated at any time by the President with just cause. An appeal may be made to an appeal board chosen by the President. Upon completion of the board’s investigation, a recommendation to the club at a regular meeting shall be voted on by the members present. This vote shall determine if the member shall remain part of this organization. The most common reasons for loss of membership include, but are not limited to the following:

Page 4 of 4

- a.** Failure to pay dues.
- b.** Conviction of a felony.
- c.** Failure to comply with federal, state, or local game and fishing laws.
- d.** Public conduct unbecoming to the club, including the use of profanity.
- e.** Any action that would reflect dishonor or discredit to the Bryan Bass Club.

**11.** The following general rules shall govern all Bryan Bass Club point tournaments:

- a.** The President shall call a special meeting of the tournament director and several members to propose alternative tournament weekend dates and annual tournament rules for the upcoming twelve (12) months. The membership, by majority vote, shall approve the two-day tournament weekend dates and annual tournament rules by the January meeting.
- b.** The President shall request discussion and nominations for tournament lake, tournament launch/weigh-in site, and daily tournament start/stop times at a monthly club business meeting prior to each tournament weekend date. The membership, by majority vote, shall approve the tournament lake, site and times for that weekend date.
- c.** The Tournament Director has authority to enforce general and annual tournament rules at all tournament sites.
- d.** Anglers may fish either or both tournament days on the tournament weekend, but total weight awarded will be the best single day catch.
- e.** All entry fees must be paid prior to the start of the tournament, unless previously arranged with the Tournament Director. Prepaid members, unable to attend, can request an entry fee refund or transfer only by contacting the Tournament Director prior to the start time of the first tournament day.
- f.** The monthly entry fee for members shall be fifteen dollars (\$15) with a Big Bass Pot of five dollars (\$5) for a total of twenty dollars (\$20). Guests and associates pay only the entry fee (\$15) to be eligible for place prize money; they are not eligible for big bass money. Fourteen dollars (\$14) of the entry fee will be returned as three place prize money. The remaining one dollar (\$1) goes to the club treasury in an annual fund for expenses outlined in By-Law 9. Four dollars (\$4) of the Big Bass Pot will be paid as prize money for that tournament. The remaining one dollar (\$1) will go to the club treasury in an annual fund for expenses outlined in By-Law 9. The Big Bass Pot will be awarded only if the tournament Big Bass weighs six (6) pounds or better. If not awarded, the pot will be added to the next tournament.
- g.** Paper or draw style tournaments may be allowed at the option of the membership.

Re-adopted January 1996  
Amended January 1997  
Amended March 1997

Amended April 1999  
Amended September 1999  
Amended May 2002  
Amended October 2002  
Amended (By-Law 5) July 2003  
Amended (By-Law 5, item c rev, item d add) January 2004  
Amended (By-Law 11, item 11 add) March 2004  
Amended (By-Law 7, tie-breaking) March 2007  
Amended (Art I, Sec 3, item 6-7 add; Art II Sec 2.2-3 rev; Art III Sec 1-4-5-6 rev) December 2007  
Amended (By-Law 4, 9, 11 rev) December 2007  
Readopted with separate tournament rules January 2008  
Amended (Article II Sections 2-3, By-Laws 3, 4, 7, 9, and 11 to allow multiple affiliations) March 2010