



# Michigan B.A.S.S. Nation



*Dedicated to Youth, Conservation and Bass Anglers of Michigan*

**Web Site: <http://www.michiganbass.net>**

Aaron Litwin, President

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11 Board members and 24 Clubs

Bass Pro Shops

Auburn Hills, Mi.

Presidents Meeting minutes

December 10, 2017

Called to order at 1:40PM

Mike Kujawski (Secretary) Jay Berwick (Treasurer) Aaron Litwin (President) Larry Gargus Brett Straffon  
Scott Hrcka Paul Wagner Chad Timmer Jason Hurst Patrick Bell Paul Sacks (Vice President)

Reviewed October's President's Meeting minutes

Motion to accept October's minutes by Dan Posey and seconded by Tom Boland. Motion passed unanimous.

Matt Reagan has become the new Sponsorship Director for the Michigan Bass Nation.

We welcome our newest members to the Board. They are Chad Timmer, Scott Hrcka, and Bret Straffon.

We now have a Presidents only app within our Team app. We also now have Michigan Bass Nation decals for \$6.00 each or two for \$10.00.

It was asked if the Presidents felt that BASS picking Bassmaster Classic waters is important to us. A show of hands by the Presidents indicated that it was not important to the Michigan Bass Nation.

#### **Treasurers' Report:** Jay Berwick

Jay presented the current monies in our accounts to the Presidents and handed out expense/revenue sheets to the Presidents. A motion was made by Tom Boland and seconded by Mike Dawson to accept the Treasurer's report. This motion passed unanimously. Three options were discussed with the Presidents for funding of our future State Teams. They are as follows: 1.) No longer fund the State Team. Make it a pay to play sport. Two thirds of the Bass Nation States operate this way. 2.) Net profit from State Championship plus sponsorship monies dedicated specifically to State Team plus raffle monies generated at the State Championship banquet. The Central Regional Team would have entry fee paid. Pros would receive State Championship net profit minus Regional Team entry fee times 65% divided by 11 Team Members. Amateurs would receive State Championship profit minus Regional Team fee times 35% divided by 11 Team Members. 3.) Net profit from State Championship plus sponsorship monies dedicated specifically to State Team plus raffle monies generated at the State Championship banquet plus no more than 10% of all Michigan Bass Nation dues as recorded on May 1st (final roster due date). The Central Regional Team would have entry fee paid. Pros would receive State Championship net profit from State Championship plus 10% of the membership dues minus Regional Team fee times 65% divided by 11 Team members. Amateurs would receive State Championship net profit from State Championship plus 10% of the membership dues minus Regional Team fee times 35% divided by 11 Team members. A vote was taken by the Board and went as follows: Option 1-0 votes, Option 2-0 votes, and Option 3-10 votes. Option 3 will be implemented toward the 2018 State Team going to Toledo Bend and forward.

#### **Scholarship Report:** Jay Berwick

There were 7 applicants who applied for Scholarships this year. Three of the seven are from the same family. Five Scholarships at \$500.00 each were picked just before this meeting. Those that will receive Scholarships are Hunter Scharphorn, Jannelle Posthumus, Mathew Posthumus, Cade Bell, and Peter Lombardo.

#### **Team Championship Series Report:** Larry Gargus

The schedule is set for 2018 year. The lakes and dates are as follows: June 2 Hubbard Lake, June 3 Fletchers Pond, July 15 Lake Margrethe (near Grayling), September 8 Wixom Lake. The Championship will be held on September 9 on Saginaw Bay out of Au Gres. Larry also handed out a new proposed "Senior Series" tournament trail which would take place on Tuesdays. The lakes and dates are as follows: June 12 Holloway Reservoir, June 26 Kent Lake, July 10 Lake St. Clair (Smallmouth only), July 24 Lake St. Clair (Largemouth only), and August 7 Fenton Lake. A date and location for the Senior Championship is to be announced at a later date. Entrants would have to be a minimum of 55 years old to fish the series. Entry fee would be \$50.00 per team for each of the 5 series tournaments. No entry fee for the Championship for those whose who qualified.

#### **State Championship:** Aaron Litwin

The tentative date for next years State Championship will be August 23-25. Three locations are currently being looked at for next years State Championship. One of these three locations will be chosen. They are \*1. Elk Rapids (Torch Chain or Grand Traverse Bay), \*2.

Indian River (Burt/Mullet), and 3. Charlevoix (Lake Charlevoix). "\*" denotes the locations that has offered us funding for the event. We will table a discussion on restructuring the State Championship with the possibility of holding multiple events to another meeting.

**Conservation:** Dan Kimmel

Dan showed the Presidents a new proposed website for the Michigan Bass Nation. This new website will be easier to navigate than the one we currently have up and running. This website will also be more mobile friendly. Hopefully we will have this up and running sometime in January of 2018. May 14, 2018 on Lake St. Clair will be next years outing for the Michigan Legislative Sportsmans Caucus. Dan is looking for 35 volunteers to take out DNR and Legislators out for a day of fishing. Dan told the Presidents some of the benefits we get for having a Conservation Director. He told the Presidents that we now get year bass fishing, we have a seat on the Warm Water Resources Steering Committee. Dan also attends meetings for the Lake Huron and Lake Michigan Advisory Committee. He also attends meetings on the Burt/Mullet Inland Committee, MUCC meetings, Conservation Consultation, Michigan Legislative Sportsmans Caucus, and also attends meeting Natural Resources Commission in Lansing. Dan told the Presidents that we must keep a voice with these organizations or we will lose ground.

**Membership:** Jason Hurst

We are now accepting payment of membership dues via Paypal. The Paypal account is a secure way of paying dues. Late fees after December 30, 2017 and on will be \$10.00 for all returning members. Adult membership dues will be \$30.00 if paying by check or \$31.00 if paying by the new Paypal account. If clubs pay by the due date via Paypal, they will be entered into a drawing at the next Presidents meeting for a chance to win the proceeds from Decembers 50/50 raffle.

**Youth:** Brett Straffon

Brett told the Presidents that Tom Kiefer's Youth club has already sold 96 raffle tickets for the guided trips by Marcel. They have a total of 1,000 printed for this raffle. Brett also told the Presidents that they will not be pursuing the Masons Grant. Brett is also looking for an Assistant Youth Director. If anyone is interested, please contact Brett. There will be a change to the minimum boat length in Youth and High School tournaments on inland lakes from 18' to 16'. The 18' minimum length for big waters would still remain as it is. There will be a meeting for the High School National Team on Saturday January 13, 2018 at or near the Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi. Four different Teams from Michigan will be going to the Nationals. We are looking at forming a Statewide Junior Club consisting of members from second grade through eighth grade. Central Michigan Universities club will help run it. The Youth tournaments schedule for 2018 will be as follows: June 21st on Lake St. Clair, June 22 on Kent Lake, July 21 on Hardy Dam Pond, July 22 on Muskegon Lake, and August 17 and 18 on the Torch Chain.

**Fundraising:** Aaron Litwin

Chad Timmer will be our new Michigan Bass Nation Fundraising Director. We will table to a later meeting on how to generate more money and product for the Michigan Bass Nation. We currently have set up a raffle for the camper that we still have. Tickets are \$20.00 each and the drawing will be held on March 18, 2018 at the Ultimate Fishing Show in Grand Rapids. We have 1,000.00 ticket printed up to sell. We will be giving clubs \$.25 per \$1.00 for members that meet their quota and \$.50 per \$1.00 for members who exceed their quota. The minimum quota will be 4 tickets per member. All unsold tickets must be returned no later than March 9, 2018.

**Communications:** Aaron Litwin

Scott Hrcka has become our new Communications Director that will lead, organize and execute activities within the Michigan Bass Nation. Please send Scott anything you want posted to any of our sites. Our Team App, Facebook page, YouTube page is all up and running. Members need to frequently check on these sites for updates. We will soon be receiving the Version 8 of Tournament Keeper which will be available to all of our clubs.

**Sponsorship:** Aaron Litwin

Matt Reagan is our new Sponsorship director and is beginning to set up our sponsors for the 2018 year. We are looking for a volunteer to assist Matt in his new role.

**Poker:** Paul Sacks

Our last event was held at 5 Star Lanes. Paul still needs volunteers to help. Our next events will be held on January 21-24 at the Auburn Bar, May 5-8 at the Knights of Columbus (near the Auburn Bar), and November 17-20 also at the Knights of Columbus. Please contact Paul if you can help.

\*\*Patrick Bell has volunteered to lead, plan organize and execute activities associated with our By-Laws.

\*\*We have Mercury oil available as follows: Optimax at \$85.00 per case of (3) or \$35.00 per single gallon, Premium Plus at \$75.00 per case of (3) or \$30.00 per single gallon, and Mercury Quick Clean for \$9.00 per bottle.

\*\*We have Yamaha Yamalube for \$125.00 per case of (4) or \$37.00 per gallon, and Ring Free for \$22.00 per bottle.

\*\*We also have Please Release Me livewell treatment for \$9.00 per jar.

