



# **Constitution and Bylaws of the Mineral Wells Bass Club Mineral Wells, TX**

**Submitted to the membership for approval,**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading 4 Jan 2011**

**Approved 8 Feb 2011**

## **Article 1 – Organization**

### **Section 1 Name**

**The name of the organization will be the Mineral Wells Bass Club.**

### **Section 2 Objectives**

**The objective of the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall be: To meet regularly and discuss the various activities and problems of bass fishermen; to help the membership become more skilled in fishing through organized competition and collaboration to make fishing more enjoyable through fellowship and, to make bass fishing a more productive sport through active participation in ecological conservation and sportsmanship. This club shall be a non-profit organization.**

### **Section 3 Meetings**

**The regular meetings of this organization shall be held monthly at such time and place as the membership decides. Until changed by the membership, the meeting time shall be at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each calendar month at a place to be announced to each member with reasonable prior notice. Special membership meetings may be called at anytime by the President or Board of Directors, so long as they give a minimum of five days notice of the special meeting. If a regular meeting falls on a holiday, the Club will meet on the second Tuesday of that month.**

## **Section 4 Order of Business**

**The order of business for each regular membership meeting of the Club shall be as follows:**

**Calling the meeting to order**

- A. Reading the minutes of the last regular or special meeting**
- B. Financial report**
- C. Reports from officers and committees**
- D. Special announcements**
- E. Miscellaneous business. (Welcome guest, new members, ECT.)**
- F. Election of officers if needed**
- G. Program ( May be proceeded by a recess)**
- H. Presentation of awards and prizes, if any**
- I. Adjournment**

**Note: Each member will observe standard parliamentary procedure and will conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all times.**

## **Article 2 – Board of Directors and Officers**

### **Section 1 Elections**

**Elective officers of this organization shall be filled by vote of the membership present during the regular meeting in the month of November.**

### **Section 2 Installation**

**Newly elected officers and Board of Directors shall be installed at the regular December meeting and shall assume their duties at the regular January meeting of the Club.**

### **Section 3 Board of Directors**

**The affairs and business of the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall be managed by the Board of Directors composed of six (6) voting members. In addition, the President of the Club shall sit with the Board of Directors and shall act as chairman of the board, but he shall have no vote except to break any tie vote of the board.**

### **Section 4 Election of Board**

**In order to be elected to the Board of Directors, an individual must be properly nominated as provided by these bylaws, and must receive a simple majority of the votes cast at the membership meeting at which the election is held. The outgoing President at his option will fill one place on the board for one year following his term.**

## **Section 5 Terms of Office for Board of Directors**

**The term of office of each of the Directors shall be one year. An individual shall not hold office as a Director for more than two consecutive years.**

## **Section 6 Duties of Board of Directors**

**The Board of Directors shall have the central and general management of the Mineral Wells Bass Club. Said Directors shall in all cases act as a board, regularly convened, by a majority, and adopt such procedures for the conduct of their meeting and the management of the club, consistent with these Bylaws, the Constitution, and the laws of the State of Texas. The board shall approve or disapprove any and all budgets and disbursements of the club. The board will audit the treasury quarterly. The board will make recommendations for Honorary Members as they deem deserving.**

## **Section 7 Board of Directors Meetings**

**Regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly at a time and place set by a majority of the Board prior to the regular monthly membership meeting. Special Board meetings may be called by the President, at any time, and must be called by the President upon request of any two Directors. The board may require or allow the attendance of any officer, committee, or other member at their meeting. The board will report activities of their meetings to the membership.**

## **Section 8 Membership**

**A. Membership in the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall be open to any person who is in good standing with the community. Membership will start upon payment of dues; member's dues will become due at the January meeting. Any person wanting to join after 1 June of the membership year the dues will be pro-rated at a rate of \$2.00 a month.**

**B. Membership in the club is contingent upon full payment of the required dues annually and agreement to abide by the bylaws and rules of the club. Dues shall be \$20.00 per family per year. Family membership in the club entitles that family to one vote per adult member seventeen years or older. A family is defined as those related by blood living in the same household.**

**C. Upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and ratification by a majority of a quorum, a member may be dropped from the roll for any of the following reasons, with forfeiture of all dues and rights:**

- 1. Failure to comply with the civil and criminal laws of our state and government.**
- 2. Failure to conduct oneself in a morally ethical manner.**
- 3. Any action which would tend to reflect discredit upon the Mineral Wells Bass Club or its membership.**

**D. Honorary membership in the Mineral Wells Bass Club may be bestowed upon any person recommended by the Board of Directors and a majority of eligible voters present at the meeting when the motion is made. Honorary members shall all the rights and privileges for life afforded to any member, except in the voting of Club's business. Honorary membership shall be limited to one per club year.**

### **Section 9 Voting**

**Each eligible voting member shall be entitled to one vote in each matter of business, which may come before the membership. Voting in the election of officers and directors shall be by written ballot. Voting in all other matters, except dissolution, may be by voice or a proxy. A simple majority vote of a quorum shall be required for approval of any issue otherwise exempted in these Bylaws.**

### **Section 10 Quorum**

**A quorum of the membership of the Mineral Wells Bass Club will be represented by the number of members present at the January meeting of the club. This is to say that if, for example, there are ten eligible voting members at the January meeting a quorum for the entire year will be ten eligible voting members.**

**A quorum of membership of the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall be defined as two thirds (2/3) of the total number of eligible voting members at any meeting unless otherwise exempted by these bylaws.**

### **Section 11 Voting by Board of Directors**

**At all meetings of the Board of Directors, each director is to have one vote on each matter of business. The act of a majority of the directors present at a meeting where a quorum is present shall be the action of the Board of Directors.**

### **Section 12 Vacancies on the Board**

**Vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment by the board on an interim basis until the next general election of the club. Any board member that missed three consecutive board meetings shall be expelled**

**from the board and a new director appointed. Any one or more of the directors may be removed from office either with or without cause by a majority vote of a quorum of the membership.**

### **Section 13 Number of Officers**

**The officers of the club shall number eleven (11) and shall be; President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant of Arms, Board of Directors (6)**

### **Section 14 Election of Officers**

**All officers of the club shall be elected annually by the membership at the time specified by these bylaws and shall hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are duly elected. No individual may hold two offices concurrently; however, an officer may temporarily assume the duties of another officer for good reason.**

### **Section 15 President**

**It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of members and directors and to see that all directions and resolutions of the board are carried out by the club. The President shall appoint all committees and may be a member of any committee. He shall perform all such duties as may properly and ordinarily relate to his office.**

### **Section 16 Vice-President**

**During the absence or inability of the President to render and perform his duties or exercise his powers, as set forth in these bylaws, the Vice-President shall have all the powers and be subject to all the responsibilities hereby given or imposed upon the President. He shall also perform all such duties as may properly and ordinarily relate to his office and those designated to him from time to time by the Board of Directors. The Vice –President will counter-sign all disbursements and bank checks with the Treasurer. He will be responsible for the programs at the regular membership meetings. He will be chairman of the awards committee appointed by the President and will act as the officer in charge during installation of new officers.**

### **Section 17 Secretary**

**It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a current record of all business meeting of the membership and at their option, the Directors meetings and to keep a record of all memberships, account of all disbursements made, handle correspondence of the club, and to perform all such duties as may be delegated to him/her by the board.**

## **Section 18 Treasurer**

**The Treasurer shall render a statement of the conditions of the finances of the club at each regular meeting of the membership and to the Board as they may request it. He/She shall give a full financial report quarterly. He shall keep for the club a set of correct books describing all transactions and business as may relate to his/her office. He/She will keep an account of such sundry possessions of the club as patches, decals and other tangible property and shall have custody of such property. He/She will countersign all disbursements and bank checks with the Vice-President.**

## **Section 19 Sergeant at Arms**

**It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to make sure all members conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all meetings. He/She will also make sure all the meetings are conducted in a standard parliamentary procedure.**

## **Section 20 Vacancies**

**Any vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board without undue delay at the regular meeting or a special called meeting. In case of the prolonged absence of any officer or for any reason that the Board deem sufficient, the Board may, except as otherwise exempted in these Bylaws, delegate the duties of such officer to any other officer or director for a limited time, provide a majority of the entire Board can concur therein.**

## **Article 3 - Committees**

### **Section 1 Appointments**

**The President, or Vice-President in the Presidents absence, shall, from time to time, appoint such committees as may be necessary to the proper operation of the club. Certain committees whose composition and duties are specified by the Bylaws shall be appointed by the President according to their provisions. Other committees shall be appointed for a purpose and time for which they are necessary.**

### **Section 2 Nominating Committee**

**The President shall, at least two months prior to the annual elections, appoint a nominating committee for the purpose of selecting candidates for the offices to be filled by such election. Said committee shall be composed of not less than three (3) members, not more than five (5). The nominating committee shall canvass the membership for willing candidates for each office to be filled.**

## **Section 3 Awards Committee**

**Two (2) members shall be appointed each January by the President, to serve for one year on the awards committee which shall be lead by the Vice-President. This Committee will select what monthly, annual, and special awards are to be given, upon approval by the membership.**

## **Article 4 – Elections of Officers**

**The officers of the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall serve terms as provided by these bylaws and shall be elected at the regular meeting in November of each calendar year. All officers, including directors shall be elected by a simple majority of eligible votes cast by written ballot. The nominating committee appointed by the President will prepare the ballots and distribute them to those present at voting time. The nominating committee shall canvass the votes and announce the winners.**

## **Article 5 – Disbursement**

### **Section 1 Disbursement**

**The Vice-President and Treasurer will sign together all disbursements and bank checks made by the club. All disbursements must be approved by the board, and any disbursements to be made in excess of \$50.00 must also be approved by the membership.**

### **Section 2 Budget**

**A committee composed of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Board will present to the membership a proposed budget for the club, not to exceed the total money on hand at the adjournment of the January meeting. This budget will be presented to the membership for approval/disapproval at the February meeting.**

### **Section 3 Awards**

**All prizes and awards (other than tournaments as provided in these bylaws) will be proposed by the awards committee for approval by the board membership as directed by these bylaws.**

### **Section 4 Officers Awards**

**The President of the club will be awarded a plaque proclaiming the year of his service. All officers will receive, upon their installation, a patch to wear on their club uniform, denoting the position and year of their service.**

## **Article 6 – Uniform**

### **Section 1 Type and Color**

**The uniform of the club shall be of color that is accepted by the majority of the membership. The type, (i.e. shirt, vest, jumpsuit, etc.) shall also be decided by a majority vote of quorum.**

### **Section 2 Names and Patches**

**The club uniform will bear only emblems provided by the organization and there shall be no commercial patches worn on the club uniform. A members name will be written on the right side with the club emblem worn on the left side, both just above breast pocket height. A large club emblem may be worn on the back of the uniform. A member may add an American flag on the right shoulder and a Texas flag on the left shoulder. All other patches will be worn below the name and club emblem. Each member that weights in a legally caught fish with a weight over four (4) pounds will receive a patch for his uniform denoting his achievement.**

### **Section 3 Place**

**It is requested that all members that have uniforms wear them proudly and at each meeting and all tournaments he/she attends.**

## **Article 7 – Tournaments**

### **Section 1 Place and Weight**

**All fish caught in any club tournament or for monthly awards will be caught using artificial bait in public waters within the boundaries of the State of Texas. In the case of a tournament, no fish caught outside the tournament lake shall be weighed in for credit in said tournament.**

### **Section 2 Tournament Directors**

**It shall be the duty of the tournament director(s) to implement the provisions of these bylaws, which pertain to the planning and conducting of the club's regular fishing tournaments. The tournament director(s) shall act as the presiding officials at all tournaments and may appoint tournament judge(s) and worker(s). The director(s) shall submit a written report of the results of each tournament to the club secretary to be read into the minutes by the next regular meeting following a tournament. The director(s) shall perform all duties as may properly and ordinarily relate to such office. The tournament director(s) shall be appointed by the President.**



### **Section 3 Budget and Schedule**

Each tournament shall be scheduled and budgeted subject to the approval of the tournament director(s) in compliance with these bylaws. The club shall hold a minimum of eleven (10) inter-club tournaments each year, with their (30) days notice of each given to the membership. An invitational tournament may be held upon approval of a majority of a quorum of the membership. Invitational tournaments will be set five (5) months prior to the holding of said tournament.

### **Section 4 Tournament Awards**

Awards to be presented for each tournament shall be determined by the tournament director(s) subject to the budget and disbursements of these bylaws.

The rules for presenting awards are as follows:

- a. If ten (10) or less people fish, the awards will be split into two (2) places 60% and 40%.
- b. If only one (1) person catches a fish, then all awards will be presented to him/her.
- c. If no fish are caught, then all awards remain in the club.

**Payout/Breakdown of Tournament entry fees per contestant to make up accumulative money for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Tournament Big Bass, Club Funds and Big Bass over 6 lb pot.**

<b>Tournament entry fee</b>	<b>\$22.00</b>
<b>Payout for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>\$14.00</b>
<b>Tournament Big Bass</b>	<b>\$ 4.00</b>
<b>Club Funds</b>	<b>\$ 3.00</b>
<b>Big Bass over 6 lb pot</b>	<b><u>\$ 1.00</u></b>
	<b>= \$22.00</b>

## Section 5 Eligibility to Participate

Any member or prior member in good standing of the Mineral Wells Bass Club shall be eligible to fish any club tournament upon payment of the prescribed entry fee (\$22.00). Members and prior members have to pay outstanding fees for Big Bass over 6 lb pot to be eligible for this money. In addition, any guest may fish with a member during one club tournament at a fee of (\$21.00), but must become a member in order to fish any further tournaments. A guest may not join the club the day of the tournament to make him/her eligible to compete for the Big Bass over 6 lb pot.

## Section 6 Tournament Rules

The following general rules shall apply to all regular club tournaments:

- a. Each participant is responsible for assuring that his name is entered on the roll of entrants for a tournament and his/her entry is paid. The tournament director(s) are not responsible for accepting entrants until thirty (45) minutes prior to the designated time to begin the tournament, but participants who are late can sign themselves in by pre-arrangement with the tournament director(s) and the director(s) will later verify his eligibility to participate and that his entry fee is paid.
- b. All participants shall have their live-wells and nav lights checked prior to the tournament. A participant that is late has two (2) hours after the tournament starting time to find an officer in the club and at that time he may pay his entry fee and the officer will then check the participants live-well.
- c. Five fish limit (Largemouth bass, Spotted/Kentucky bass, Smallmouth bass only. Fourteen (14) minimum length or as set by TPWD for the lake being fished. It is the responsible of the participant to know the legal length limit. All fish must be caught on artificial baits, no trolling allowed.
- d. Entrants may fish from a boat, tube, or wade.
- e. No iced fish allowed, dead fish are allowed at tournament director(s) discretion with a ½ pound deducted from said fish's weight.
- f. Any fish brought to weigh-in ½" or more under the lake legal length shall be fined the weight of said fish from the participants overall weight.
- g. Tournament director(s) will designate launch/weigh site, starting time and weigh-in time for club tournaments and furnish official clock. Launching from a different boat ramp will be allowed after the participants live well has been checked and he/she has been added to the tournament roll. All contestants shall remain at the launch site until released by tournament director(s).
- h. No fish will be weighed in after designated weigh-in time (except for verified boat malfunction(s) which cause the angler(s) to be late, it will be the tournament director(s) discretion to weigh said angler(s) fish.
- i. All federal and state game laws must be observed.

- j. Each contestant must catch his/her own fish and shall be kept separate from his partners and those of other contestants. Each contestant must weigh in his/her own fish.**
- k. The tournament director(s) shall implement rules as necessary, and will furnish contestants a copy of said rules prior to the tournament.**
- l. All ties will be determined by a coin toss.**
- m. All fish will be measured by the club measuring board.**

Monthly club tournament entry fees will be three dollars (\$3) per person regardless of age.

## **Section 7 Disputes**

**Due to the competitive nature of tournament fishing, there will sometimes occur conflicts and disputes among the contestants or officials from time to time. In order to deal with any such situations in a fair and equitable manner, any participant or official who feels that he has been treated unfairly, or any participant or official who observed an infraction of any rule governing tournament participation, may report the situation to the Board for resolution or action. The report must be signed and in writing. The Board will consider the problem and come to what it determines to be an equitable resolution. The Board may refer any such matters to an appropriate officer or committee for investigation and recommendation prior to making a decision. In order to be considered for review by the Board, any such reports must be presented to a club officer or director within 48 hours following the tournament cut-off time. The Board may take whatever action it considers appropriate for each case, including disqualification from the tournament, the disbaring of a member from fishing future tournaments for a specified period of time, or removal from membership according to the provisions of these bylaws.**

## **Section 8 Awards**

### **Club Top Six**

**The club's top six fisherman of the year will be based on total number of points. The top six will be awarded patches/embroidering on their club jacket to reflect the year of said award. Should the top six fisherman's club jacket be worn and tattered the club will replace said jacket. The Top Six will represent the club at any open or invitational tournament the year following the award.**

- 1. Eligibility – In order to be eligible for the above award, a member must have attended six of the twelve regular monthly meetings during the award year.**
- 2. Point System – Members will receive 2 points for attending club meetings, 1 point for attending tournaments 1 point for a new member joining**

under a current members name (1 point per year) and 2 points for volunteer service (This being decided by the President)

### **Club Top Fisherman (Angler of the Year)**

The club top fisherman will be the person with the most points at the end of the year. The top fisherman will receive (funds permitting) one hundred and fifty (\$150.00) dollars or a prize of similar value as well as a patch/embroidering on his/her jacket to reflect the year of said award.

### **Big fish of the Year**

If club finances are available, the club will mount the heaviest fish caught by a member during the year, or will reimburse the member their mounting expenses upon presentation of a receipt and approval by the Board of Directors. The payment not to exceed one hundred and fifty (\$150.00) dollars.

### **Section 9 Club Month and Year**

A club year is defined as that period of time between January 1 of one year to December 31 of the same year. A club month is defined as that period of time from one monthly meeting to the next monthly meeting.

### **Article 8 – Amendments to Bylaws**

These bylaws may be altered or added to by the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of eligible voters upon recommendation of the Board of Directors or appropriate motion made during a regular membership meeting.

### **Article 9 – Dissolution**

In the event the organization herein formed shall be dissolved by a 4/5 vote of eligible voting membership, all assets of every kind, wherever located, shall pass by majority vote to merge with another area bass club or become property of the Department of Parks and Wildlife of the State of Texas. In the event the said Department of Parks and Wildlife should not be in existence at the time of dissolution, the assets of the organization will be distributed by a court of competent jurisdiction to provide research, development and promotion of conservation of natural resources in the State of Texas.