



Michigan B.A.S.S. Nation



Dedicated to Youth, Conservation and Bass Anglers of Michigan

Web Site: <http://www.michiganbassnation.com>

Aaron Litwin, President

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10 Board members, (14) Clubs

Bass Pro Shops

Auburn Hills, Mi.

Presidents' Meeting minutes

October 29, 2017

Called to order at 1:47PM

Mike Kujawski (Secretary) Jay Berwick (Treasurer) Aaron Litwin (President) Larry Gargus
Gary Emerson Paul Wagner Dave Demott Jason Hurst Patrick Bell Paul Sacks

Reviewed April's Presidents' Meeting minutes.

Motion to accept April's minutes by Larry Leonardi and seconded by Tom Boland. Motion passed unanimous.

Luke Gritter has moved on to the Bassmaster Classic next year at Lake Hartwell in South Carolina. We wish him the best of luck at this event. He won his spot by finishing the highest in the Central Division.

Paul Rambo and Bob Kowal have resigned from the Board. We thank them for their years of service on the Board. Aaron Litwin will act as the President until elections are finalized at today's Presidents meeting.

Our new National Bass Nation Handbook is now available via our Team App or the MBN website.

B.A.S.S. and B.A.S.S. Nation have a new majority owner in Anderson Media (Chase Anderson).

Conservation: Dan Kimmel

Dan will be writing a proposal once again for spring tournament delayed catch and release. The MUCC will work with the DEQ on a resolution on aquatic weed control on our inland lakes. The DNR has reported a voluntary catch and release rate for bass at 98%. The DNR has not seen any change in bass populations since the new, year round catch and release regulations have been put into place. Non-piercing cull tags will be mandatory at next years Central Regional. Dan will be attending the Classic Conservation Summit in South Carolina on March 16-18 of next year. Dan told the Presidents of the benefits of being part of the Michigan Legislative Sportsman Caucus, which happens to be the largest caucus in the state of Michigan.

Treasurers' Report: Jay Berwick

Jay presented the current monies in our accounts to the Presidents. Two thirds of the states do not pay for their State Teams who qualify for the Regional's. However, most of the States do pay the \$3,000.00 entry fee for a full team. A motion was made by Dan Posey and seconded by Mike Kujawski to accept the Treasurers' report. This motion passed unanimous. The Board needs to come up with a selling point sheet or Powerpoint presentation of what we would bring to a community for holding our State Championship there in order to receive money for holding the event. We also discussed that clubs be required to send a minimum amount of pros and amateurs to the State Championship to help fund the event. We presented three options to the Presidents' today of what we think that would be possibilities to help fund future State Teams. 1.) The State Team will be funded only by the State Championship revenue brought in by the tournament based on the participation for that year. 2.) We could possibly hold two qualifying tournaments to bring in additional revenue for the State Team. 3.) Complete funding comes from a certain percentage from the membership dues. We need feedback from the Presidents' about possibly restructuring our Banquet and Friday picnic that we have in order to save money.

Scholarship Report: Jay Berwick

There are currently 7 applicants who have applied for Scholarships this year. Three of the seven are from the same family. We need to pick a Scholarship committee at today's Presidents meeting to determine who will be awarded Scholarships in December. Dave Demott, Scott Hrcka, and Tom Boland have all volunteered to be part of this committee.

Team Championship Series Report: Larry Gargus

Larry told the Presidents' that he will have a full balance sheet to present at the December meeting. Our numbers were down in 2017 from the previous year. No dates have been chosen as of yet. Dates and lakes along with the flyer will be finalized and be ready by the January Ultimate Fishing Show.

State Championship: Gary Emerson

This year's adult State Championship was held on Muskegon Lake on September 14-17 out of Fishermans Landing. Over 1300 fish were brought to the scales over the two days with only nine fish dead. We need more volunteers to help run our future State Championships. A

survey was sent out to all of the entrants who participated in this years State Championship. Thirty five surveys were filled out and returned. The majority of the surveys returned indicated that they were pleased the way this years' tournament was run. The valet launching and retrieving of boats went well this year and hope to continue it in future State Championships. We discussed about having incentives for those who volunteer to help out at the tournament. The tentative date for next years State Championship will be August 23-25. No lake has been chosen yet, but it will be somewhere in the northern part of the lower peninsula.

Membership: Jason Hurst

We currently have 450 active adult members, 256 active High School members, and 41 active Junior Members for a total of 747 members overall. In 2016 we had total membership of 707 active members. Dues will be \$30.00 for the up and coming year and the \$10.00 late fee, starting December 30, 2017, for returning members will still be in place. An email will go out to our membership explaining that we will be going digital for payment of membership dues by 2018 via Paypal. Final rosters for 2017-2018 season will be due by no later than May 1st. We need to update the membership form for new members before the show season starts. We will be looking for someone to volunteer to be a Membership Outreach Coordinator to act as a liaison between the leadership and membership. One of the task would be to visit clubs around the state during their membership meetings.

Youth: Brett Traffon

Brett told the Presidents that he hopes to have 600 High School/Youth members within a three year time frame. Dues will be \$31.00 for High School members and \$21.00 for Youth members. \$1.00 from each will go to Paypal. This years High School tournament schedule will be as follows: 1.) Lake Saint Clair on June 23, 2018, 2.) Kent Lake on June 24, 2018, 3.) Hardy Dam Pond on July 21, 2018, & 4.) Muskegon Lake on July 22, 2018. College dues will be \$31.00 with \$1.00 going to Paypal and \$10.00 going to the Michigan Bass Nation. A new Statewide Junior Club will be formed for Youths who can not find a club in their near area which they live. Dues for the new Statewide Club will be \$80.00 per year. We are looking for a volunteer to run a new Statewide Junior Club for clubs that are already full and not accepting any new members. The College State Championship will be in early September with the location to be announced. As always, we are still looking for boater volunteers to help out with the High School/Youth tournaments.

Communications: Aaron Litwin

We are currently looking for someone to become our Communications Director to lead, organize and execute activities within the Michigan Bass Nation. 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

We are currently looking for a volunteer to be our Sponsorship Director. The deadline date for ordering TFO Rods will be November 23. Only TFO rods not Edge will be discounted. There is still a \$15.00 shipping/processing charge for each rod ordered. Three or more rods ordered will only have a \$45.00 charge. A list of all of our sponsor and discounts can be found on our new MBN Team app. We have still not sold the camper or kayak. We are also currently looking for a Fundraising Director to help generate funds for our advancing State Team.

Poker: Paul Sacks

We brought in less than what we had hoped at our last event. Paul still needs volunteers to help. Our next event will be held on November 29 through December 2. Please contact Paul if you can help.

****Elections:** We currently have 6 open seats from our past Board members. The vacant seats are as follows and will be filled at today's Presidents meeting: Paul Rambo, Bob Kowal, Dave Demott, Patrick Bell, Paul Wagner, and Gary Emerson. We have 8 nominations to fill those seats and they are: Scott Hrcka, Gary Emerson, Dave Demott, Patrick Bell, Chad Timmer, Larry Leonardi, Paul Wagner, and Brett Traffon. The new elected Board members are as follows: Scott Hrcka, Gary Emerson, Patrick Bell, Chad Timmer, Paul Wagner, and Bret Traffon. Michigan Bass Nation Officers will be as follows: President: Aaron Litwin, Vice President: Paul Sacks, Secretary: Mike Kujawski, and Treasurer, Jay Berwick.

****We thank Dave Demott for his dedicated years of service on the Board.**

**** Aaron Litwin has been added to our bank accounts as he is now the acting President.**

****We are looking at offering Michigan Bass Nation Decals again for \$6.00 each or two for \$10.00.**

****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.**

**** We have Catch and Release livewell treatment for \$13.00 per jar.**

**This years show dates are as follows: January 11-14 Ultimate Fishing Show in Novi, March 1-4 Outdoorama in Novi, and March 15-18 Ultimate Fishing Show in Grand Rapids.

**Presidents can send anything they want posted to our Facebook page to Jason Hurst.

**The Veterans Tournament on Kent Lake will be held on June 9, 2018. Last years event we had more boaters than Veterans.

**\$50/50 raffle netted \$91.00 total with \$46.00 going to our winner Bret Staffon.

** December 10, 2017 will be our next meeting at Bass Pros Shops in Auburn Hills, Mi.

A motion was made by Tom Boland and seconded by Larry Gargus to adjourn.

Motion Passed. Meeting Adjourned at 5:35PM.

Minutes recorded and written by Mike Kujawski Michigan Bass Nation Board Secretary