

**PA Suskie Bassmasters  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday 2-10-16, Grotto, Edwardsville**

**BOD Attendance:** Chuck Saypack, Ed Mrochko, Rob Rosencrans, Jim Lacomis, Chris Ostrowski

**Call to Order:** Jim opened the meeting at 7:05.

**Quorum:** A quorum was established as 5 of 7 board members were present.

**Guests:** None

**Prior Minutes:** Jim asked for a motion to approve the prior minutes. Chris Ostrowski first, Rob Rosencrans second, motion to accept minutes passed.

**Business:** Chris Ostrowski gave an update on the grant for lighting at the Nesbit launch. Chris attended the grant award meeting on Feb 9 to see how or application was received. There was no mention of our grant at that meeting. Chris followed up with e-mails to key individuals in the grant process and was informed that our application had been lost. Fortunately, he had copies of all paperwork and proceeded to resubmit the application. He was told that the application would be graded and if the grade exceeded others in the award process, then we would be eligible for the Grant. We hope to provide some updated information at the next meeting.

Trophies or plaques for 2016 was brought up for discussion again and most in attendance favored going back to trophies for 2016.

We are in the process of updating the forms for 2016 and will put them out on the website before the next meeting.

Sponsorship levels for 2016 will remain the same. \$50 per week for trophies and \$150 to sponsor the championship trophies.

Chris has registered Suskie Bassmasters for participation in the 2016 River Fest which will take place June 24-26 this year. We are looking for sponsorships and give-aways for this event. Rob Rosencrans will contact some of his sponsors including Denali, Cabin Creek and others for giveaway items and Bob Albee from Dallas Sporting Goods, said that will speak with some of his vendors including Shimano, Mr. Twister and River Rock Baits to see if they can help us out. The club will dedicate some money for this event to purchase items to hand out to the Children. We will continue this discussion at the next meeting in March as we continue to develop a plan for this event. We will likely be looking for some members to help us out manning the booth. We hope to have a strong presence at this event.

Rob polled the meeting attendees to see if there would be interest if the club sponsored a Pickerel Tournament at Harvey's Lake sometime in May. There seemed to be adequate interest from those who attended. We will put something out on Facebook to gauge the interest prior to the next meeting.

Members inquired about the possibility of having a few open tournaments this year. The Board agreed to put this question out on facebook to gauge the interest and continue this discussion at the next

meeting. The Board agreed to consider 2 open tournaments this year, possibly one in July and one in August if the interest from members justifies it.

There was a continued discussion on the dead fish policy for 2016. The Board has decided to continue the policy of not allowing dead fish to be weighed in 2016. The only change in the policy would clarify the method of enforcement by the club. The policy for 2016 will be as follows:

2 (Two) Directors must be present to make the decision.

The fish in question must demonstrate 2 voluntary movements within 10 seconds.

Once again, the Board emphasized that there is no culling at weigh-in on Wednesdays. Anyone found to have additional fish in the livewell beyond the fish they are weighing in, is subject to disqualification. The club will police this policy in 2016. All members are being asked to keep their livewells open upon returning to the launch for weigh-in so that their livewells can be inspected without boarding or disturbing the contents of a members boat.

Several members brought up the fact that there are some major projects forecast to take place in and around the river in the coming months/years. Rob emphasized that as stewards of the river, we should all be keeping an eye on this activity and report anything out of the ordinary back to the club or directly to DEP.

We will change the policy for Day Passes in 2016. There will be a \$3.00 charge for a day pass for anyone who wishes to fish a tournament as a guest. The guest is still responsible for the Entry fees in addition to the day pass. We will only allow 1 day pass per individual this year. If a guest wants to fish an additional week, they will need to pay the \$20 Membership fee to fish a second time at which point they will become a member for the year.

We continue to solicit ideas on making sure that everyone is treated fairly during our tournaments. We are invoking a Zero Tolerance policy this year as far as our rules are concerned. Everyone will receive a copy of the rules when joining the club. The expectation is that you read them and understand them. No Wake zones and late boats will be monitored this year and penalties will be issued on the spot.

The Board has decided to eliminate the Tourney Director position going forward. The Board as a group will be responsible for all events and communication. We will continue to utilize our website and Facebook page to keep everyone informed of Club activities.

We will look to have some Suskie Bassmasters Tee-shirts made this year. A few potential vendors were mentioned at the meeting. If anyone has any connections in the business, please let us know.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, at 7PM at Pizza Bella in Dallas.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM