

PA Suskie Bassmasters  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday October 23, 2019

**BOD Attendance:** Jim Lacomis, Ed Mrochko, Chuck Saypack, Matt Miller, Chris Ostrowski, Frank Slymock

**Call to Order:** Jim Called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

**Quorum:** A quorum was established as 6 BOD members were present

**Business:**

We are adopting a zero tolerance for alcohol on-board during a tournament. Any first offense to this will result in immediate DQ for the tournament and in the event there is a second occurrence, the guilty party will be disqualified for the entire season.

Weigh-ins will commence 15min after the close of a tournament to allow BOD members time to set-up. Please keep your fish in the live well until the scales are opened to reduce stress on the fish.

Cull tags for 2020 season. All cull tags used in a tournament must be a clip-on type tag. No piercing tags or tags through the gills will be allowed.

Several ideas were circulated about possible changes in 2020.

It was suggested that small fish be replaced by a walleye pool to reduce the stress on young fish. We would still collect \$5 for anyone who wants to participate and \$1 will be carried over for a largest of the year prize at the end of the season.

It was also proposed that we change the minimum length to 14" for 2020 to alleviate the stress we put on younger fish by moving them every week.

Another proposal was to make it a true team format with a 1 or 2 fish limit and then perhaps go back to a larger AOY prize. The AOY prize has been reduced over the years because it is impossible to police the movement of fish among participants in a single boat and it created unfair situations as not all participants follow the same guidelines. The team format would essentially end the practice and produce a true AOY team.

There was much discussion on whether to allow largemouth to be weighed in in 2020. Historically, these bass are an anomaly and there is decades of info to support the fact that they are not reproducing in our stretch of river. In 2019, we saw the largest numbers of largemouth in our history and it coincided with a large opening of the ponds in Duryea. Although members caught them across a wide area, their presence at the weigh in was not consistent with years of data collected by the club. The Susquehanna is primarily a smallmouth fishery and we are looking to respect that moving forward.

Try for next meeting mid-January after the Holidays.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 PM