

**Board of Directors Meeting
March 6, 2016
Minutes**

President Chris Wilson brought the meeting to order at 8:00 am and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed. Roll Call was taken and there were 28 out of 37 clubs present. The proposed agenda for the meeting was accepted.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Chris Wilson**

Chris began with an update about agenda. A motion to accept the agenda and dispense with the reading of the minutes was accepted.

The 2016 Harrisburg Sports Show was a huge success. The booth space was free of charge again this year thanks to the work of Barry Potteiger. The Reel Kids Casting Contest saw nearly 600 kids go through the program. All of them got a rod and reel and the winners got an additional upgraded rod and reel combination. At the booth, nearly 50 names were collected from people who wanted more information about the joining the federation. The Federation also sold new PA BASS clothing; sweatshirts for \$25 and T-shirts for \$15. The raffle that was run raised \$800 with a \$300 cost. With more than \$1300 deposited into the account, our net expense was zero! Barry Potteiger got \$6,000 in donations for prizes, rod and reels and cash. The NRA loved our help and sponsorship at the event and we had good membership turn out to help.

E-mail is the method of communication and that all e-mail should be handled in a professional manner. Communication is the key to a healthy organization and we all must remember all officers, state and district, do this for free and are here to serve the membership the best we can. Please use and communicate through your District Chairmen. All ideas and or suggestions are welcome so please just let us know through your Chairmen what your constructive thoughts are and we will respond.

Chris provided a recap of the dues discussion we had in November about how important it was for all the clubs to have their dues submitted on time and reminded everyone that they are due starting October 1. The membership approved that Dues paid after December 30 will be \$50.

Chris reviewed the Federations relationship with the Ranger Bucks program and the importance of following the rules such as the need for the the owners at the location of the tournament to take a picture wearing their Ranger shirt, with their Ranger boat and with the proper logos. There was an issue with Ranger bucks last year and some people did not get paid via e-mail issues by the 12/15 deadline by Ranger. If you do not get paid, please let Chris know ASAP. Please remember that Ranger owners are responsible for following the program guidelines and if you own a Ranger you should join the program.

As a reminder, when there is a State Event, Districts and Clubs cannot schedule events on the same day. When the District has an event, a Club in that district cannot schedule an event. During the Team Regionals, the Districts/Clubs who are part of that Regional cannot schedule an event.

**NEW BUSINESS
Chris Wilson**

Chris recapped the information on the National Championship Semi Final (NCSF). The number of people that qualify from the Semi-final to the TBF National Championship (TBFNC) is 1 additional Angler and CoAngler for every 50 boats. So, if we get 50 boats to the NCSF, 2 anglers and co-anglers will go to the TBFNC.

This is how you get to the NCSF: (1) Each club in good standing will send an Angler/CoAngler. If every club participates, that is 37 boats. (2) The Top 10% from MR BASS KO, Team Regional 1, Team Regional 2, MR BASS LC and the State Championship. This will hopefully be the other 23 boats we need to get to 50 or beyond. If a member, who was their clubs representative qualifies on their own, then another member from that club can take that spot; so it helps you club for those people to compete and make it on their own. The deadline the clubs to submit their members to the president will be announced.

The NCSF will be in New York on Lake Champlain out of Ticonderoga on October 15-16 with official practice on the 13th and 14th. The lake will be OFF LIMITS October 10th-12th. The tournament fees are \$200 Boater \$100 Co-angler. 75% of the entry fees will be paid back to 20% of the field.

With the NCSF in future years being held on the 4th Saturday in September, our tournament order needs to change to keep the one year qualification process. For 2017: Mr Bass Spring Classic (April/May), State Championship (June/July), Team Regional July/August) and MR Bass Fall Classic October/November. With the 2017 State Championship moving to June/July, 2016 will be a DOUBLE QUALIFICATION YEAR. The Motion made by Hawg Hunters and seconded by NEPA; UNANIMOUS. Also passed was the format change for the Team Regional to Angler/Co-angler format. Motion made by the NEPA and Leggett's Creek; UNANIMOUS

Our November State BOD meeting will need to be moved to the 13th November due to a Peen State football game. The 2017 – Meeting will stay the same no calendar changes for March, June and November and in 2018 same location will be used. The BOD approved moving this meeting.

The BOD bought 2 new 10x20 canopies for approximately \$1,300.00. We will need an additional one since the Yamaha one is shot. We will work on getting sponsor funds for this third tent.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike Sabbi

New sponsor is Irod; please check out their web site at Irod.com and as always thank all our sponsors when you interact with/purchase from them.

SFT has requested our help on their big sale day with security and parking from March 23rd thru 26th.

2011 Toyota and newer models along with Talon have contingency programs. We have submitted the paperwork to Minnkota and you can view the Toyota guidelines on their website.

The new Frabill order will be sent in soon; the next order will be in the fall. Our sponsors continue to step up like Ardent – Venom – Gamma line and more. Our Rod Glove 25% discount and Save Phace discount of 25% can be had by entering (get codes from your DC or email Mike).

Divisional Team get your applications into Mike so we can continue the planning process. You must print, sign and send.

July 17th is the Quad State Youth Tournament; boater volunteers are desperately needed so please call Mike if you can volunteer your time and boat. There are now 20,000 members of the SAF which is the next generation of anglers in the US so promoting our youth is key to our long term success.

TREASURER REPORT

Chris Wilson

The Treasurer report is available upon request to Chris Wilson. Please do not share PA BASS financials outside club meetings.

SECRETARY REPORT
Scott Carlisle

Reminder for volunteers for Wounded Warriors event in September (second week typically), we had a good turn out this year but the more boats the more time the vets get on the water. Contact me with any questions.

Facebook is a great way for us and your districts to get the word out about your events and local recruiting for your clubs. If your district is interested in creating a FB page please reach out to Scott Carlisle for details and he'd be happy to review the basics with you.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Chris Wilson

There are about 500 adult PA Bass members as of March - total 28 clubs and 2 new clubs. Josh Hoshour is the new Membership Director and will provide full update at the June meeting.

YOUTH REPORT
Greg Smith

Greg has had a busy spring working on the youth programs for the state. Please update your youth members, SAF or TBF kids with Greg as soon as you can so we can keep the youth ranks growing.

The JR state champions will be on 8/20 and 21st at Anchor Marine in the Northeast. There were 15 kids showed up at last year's event so put the word out so we can grow the participation in the program and events. There is a \$2,500 scholarship available to winners so the incentives are all there to be had by the kids.

The Reel Kids Casting event at the Harrisburg show was a great success with 560 children being put through the program. The Reel Kids programs also did well across the other spring events this year with Blue Mountain having 60 kids in their program, BuxMont Bassmasters with 200 and Berks also had a good showing of 90 kids at the Oaks Sportsman Show. Thank you to all the volunteers who make this happen.

With such a great start this year with the Reel Kids programs the prizes and rods and reels are in great demand. There are plenty to go around but please try to remember to notify Greg Smith well in advance to handle the logistics of getting you your kits for your show. Please remember when ordering that there are 2 rods per kit and that all paperwork must be returned to Greg ASAP after a show to report to the Federation and get new orders in. There will be a Reel Kids Casting Championship held at Cabela's on Labor Day in Hamburg at 10am. Please thank sponsors at every opportunity.

CONSERVATION REPORT
John Henning

John started with an overview of the newly proposed catch and return policy that has been put on the table for the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay for bass fishing. It was stated that a1,000 people have been contacted some bass anglers who were not tournament people and the general public. The proposal would last for 3 years and would limit fishing in most of the major spawning areas of these fisheries. John asked the membership to weigh in on this proposal and to please write a note to the MD

DNR about the 10 page report. It is well known and proven that 95% bass return to their last location when released. FLW's president sent a letter to Scotty Soles conversation director for MD.

Pennsylvania and Farmers Insurance Company are working out a deal to figure out who will be responsible for cleaning up the Susquehanna River. John will provide more details as event unfold.

TOURNAMENT REPORT Chris Wilson

Bruce Bramer resigned as tournament director. The first tournament this year will be Mr. Bass on the Potomac River on May 13th and 14th. The tournament headquarters will be the Super 8 in Indian Head and we will be trying to secure additional rooms at a couple locations on route 301. The launch will out of Smallwood. The Team Regional 1 is at Cayuga Lake, June 18-19 out of the state launch. Tournament Headquarters will be at the Holiday Inn with a negotiated rate of \$99.00 per night for your entire stay; rooms are under PA Bass Federation. Team Regional 2 location TBD in June.

Start planning for 2107 tournament locations now. The State will be making a very concerted effort to have locations nailed down by the November meeting.

TBF UPDATE Chris Wilson

The NCSF is being very well received across the country and has already resulted in Federation growth. The annual Presidents Meeting is in August and we will most likely discuss any of these events that have taken place at that time.

OLD BUSINESS Chris Wilson

Chris covered old business with a reminder about the Our Wish fishing event on May 21st and 22nd event will be held on a full moon weekend so fishing should be good. The launch will be at Aitch ramp Raystown. The Federation National Championship is just about a month away on Table Rock so keep an eye out for results on that tournament. Lastly if you are in the Mid Atlantic Championship if you leave on Friday, you need to be sure to check out your room information

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Lottery tickets will be handed out to clubs as needed if you need more contact Chris; sales end at the June meeting. They are for \$250 for 40 weeks with 4 payouts. We will stay with the same format for tickets in 2016.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:00; Motion by Lebanon County, seconded by NEPA
Recording STE-032**