**Arkansas B.A.S.S Nation**

 **Board of Directors Meeting**

 **August 25, 2019**

**To: Nation Board of Directors**

1. **Call to Order:** Ron Plate called the meeting to order at 10:02 am, Ron Plate led the pledge of allegiance and led us in prayer.
2. **Roll Call:** Ron Plate conducted roll call, there were 19 club in attendance, constituting a quorum.
3. **Introduction of Officers Present:** Robbie McDonald- Conservation, Roy Brunson- Treasure, Chuck Rexford- Secretary, Ray Webb- Tournament Director, Mike Estes- Administration. Luci Johnson- Youth Director.
4. **Guest:** Luci Johnson introduced our College, High School, and Junior Anglers, that represented Arkansas, and Arkansas Bass Nation during the Nationals, for each Division. Young Anglers from each division shared their experience of competing at the Nationals and what it means to each of them.
5. **Minutes:** Dardanelle Bass Club called for point of order, to suspend the reading of the minutes and approve as posted. Motion made by Dardanelle, second by Johnson County Bass Club, Motion carried.
6. **Treasures Report:** Roy Brunson, furnished print outs of the budget. He gave an overview of the Nation’s Budget, line item by line item. Ending balance of $51,871.08 with the following checks issued for, Tournament Trailer purchase, $9,164.93 and Luci’s $603.89 leaving a balance of $42,102.26, Roy added that this will change after the tournament entry monies are added and he will post an update on the budget.
7. **Conservation:** Robbie McDonald, nothing to report, other than there was a lot of unused conservation grant money left on the table. We as a Nation did not put together any conservation project this year. If anyone has ideas on conservation project please contact Robbie, that way he may start working on getting some grant money to help fund a project.
8. **Youth Director Report:** Luci Johnson, repots last year Arkansas Sent 5 teams to the National Championships. This year Arkansas sent 12 teams to National Championships. Arkansas growth in the youth program was mentioned and noticed by B.A.S.S. Officials this year.

Luci furnished the finial standings for the youth programs, High School State Champions, 1st place Dalton Johnson & Riley Cartwell, 2nd place Bryce Lane & Payton Reu, 3rd place Harrison Friddle & Payton Foster, 4th place Weston Villines & Jacob Rhea, 5th place Travis Howard & Derrie Kale.

Youth Club break down; Arkansas Youth Anglers, Clay & Brady Tresler and Brack & Mason Beeks. Cabot Community Club, Payton Taylor & Mady Lehrke and Zach Young & Josh Harless. Arkansas Bass High School, Cabel Eddy & Tristan Kirksey. From the Opens, Conner Crafton & Jade Craft and Tyner Redton & Hayes Grooms.

Junior Division, State Champion, Austin Schmidt & Ben Smith, 2nd place Dugger Tipton & Amos Mays. Through the open, Keaton Bassham & Hunter York.

College, through State, Arkansas Tech. Hunter Bryant & Brandon Mam. Through the opens,

U of A, Noah Boyett & Hunter Handy, U of A Jackson & Walker Hall, Arkansas Tech. Mat Baker & Kory England and Cole Lamb & Tristen Weaver.

1. **Administration/public Relations:** Mike Estes, reports that he has received delivery of our new Arkansas Bass Nation Tournament Trailer and the trailer is parked out front for everyone to inspect. Thanks to Allen Stewart he sold us the trailer at his cost and delivered it to Mike for the meeting.

1. **Tournament Director:** Ray Webb, Discussed the up coming 48th Arkansas Bass Nation State Championship Tournament to be held on Bull Shoals Lake, take off from the Bull Shoals Boat Dock. The official practice shall start at 12:01 am Monday 21st through Thursday 24th, all official tournament rules shall apply during the practice days, ie: life jackets must be worn while big motor is in operation, kill switches must be attached and in working order.

Check in will be at Reds Bait & Tackle on Wednesday 23rd 4pm-6pm and Thursday 24th 10am-12 noon. If your teams have no changes you may check in by phone with the tournament director. In case changes are needed we urge you to make these changes in person if possible. We urge everyone to come by Reds Bait & Tackle for meet and greet, Reds is one of the sponsors.

 The pre-tournament meeting will be held at the VFW Hall Thursday 24th at 6pm.

You may use nets to land fish. You may not use Alabama Rigs. Non penetrating style culling devises are the only legal system allowed.

OFF LIMITS shall be regulated by the Corp of Engineers regulations, no fishing with in fifty feet of any commercial marina/fuel dock or any marina that has been marked no fishing, no swimming, no diving by signs or buoys.

Spare boat, must checked by the tournament director for insurance and live wells verified before any fish may be transferred from the disabled boat in the presence of the director.

Legal Length Fish, Largemouth 15”- Small Mouth 15” and Spotted Bass 12”.

Legal Limits- Boaters 5 fish Non-Boaters 3 fish

Take Off- will be in numerical order under the direction of the Tournament Director, Life jackets on, live well open, and kill switches hooked to the boater. Take off Times will be as scheduled unless weather prohibits. On day 1 boats 1 through total number of boats entered in flights TBD. On day 2 the take off order will be reversed largest boat number to the smallest number.

Check In- all boats must check in at the check in location.

The directives and entry forms have been sent out and the official rules shall be B.A.S.S. Open Tournament Rules with the pre mentioned changes.

Ray and Ron related there will be two tours through the Bass Cat Boat Plant on Thursday 24th, at 10am and 1pm. We urge every one to take advantage of the tour, learn how a bass boat is built from start to finish. We hope to have a large turn out for these tours.

The Executive Committee will be staying at Boondocks Resort 327 Westview Road, 870-431-2600.

2020 Bids for the State Championship, please have your packets and presentations ready for the December meeting so the information may be taken back to the clubs for consideration for the vote at the February Meeting.

Luci has the WEB Page up and going, check it out @ “ arbassnation.com”

1. **President Comments:** Ron Plate, we have received several ideas for the By-Laws changes that is being considered. We welcome all ideas from the board and members to help us with this undertaking. The Executive Committee wants your input in order to better prepare the first reading at the December Meeting if possible.

If we can have a rough draft of the changes by the December meeting for a first reading and copies for each club to take back and study and be ready for the second reading and vote at the February meeting is our goal. All help is appreciated.

Ron ask everyone to support our sponsors both state and national, they are Humminbird, Minn Kota, Bass Cat, H20 sports, Mercury, Favorite Rods, Pro Guide Batteries, Big Bite Baits, and AFTCO.

Ron related that the trend from most of the major sponsors are moving towards the state teams only, however, there are a few still offering deals to Bass Nation Members. Favorite Rods is still onboard. He is still working with Pro Guide Batteries on their sponsorship.

Ron related he will be visiting with Suzuki to see what type of numbers they may have in mind for the Nation with their sponsorship package, it will have to be substantial for us to change from Mercury.

Ron advised that he and Luci will be attending the Presidents meeting during the National Championship Tournament.

Door Prize drawings will be for 10- $50. /50 % off gift cards from AFTCO and a Rod from Favorite Rods, the winners are for the gift cards, Dardanelle Bass Club, united Bass Anglers, Northwest Arkansas Bassmasters, Arkansas Valley Bassmasters, Lake Norfork Bass Club, Columbia Bass Club, Alma Bass Club, Green Forest bass Club, natural State bass Club, Ark Outdoors Bass Club, and for the 6’6 M/H Favorite is Old Plugs Club.

Ron asked for motion to adjourn, motion was made and second, motion carried. End roll call. Next Meeting is December 8, 10:00 am, at the Howard Johnson in Conway, Arkansas.