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

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**August 21, 2022**

**To: Nation Board of Directors**

1. **Call to Order:** Ron Plate called the meeting to order at 10:06 am, Ron Plate, lead us in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Roll Call:** Ron Plate conducted roll call, there were 24 clubs in attendance, constituting a quorum.
3. **Introduction of Officers Present:** Roy Brunson- Treasure, Ray Webb- Tournament Director, Chuck Rexford- Secretary, Mike Estes- Administration, Luci Johnson- Youth Director, Chris Johnson Conservation, and Ron Plate- President.
4. **Minutes:** Chuck Rexford, furnished printed copies of May minutes and the agenda for the August meeting, motion by Tom Phillips and a second to accept minutes from May meeting as posted. Motion carried.
5. **Guest:** None
6. **Treasures Report:** Roy Brunson, furnished printed copies of the financial report. Roy went over the 2022 Year to Date Financial Statement. We have reduced the expenditures not cleared with one of the outstanding checks being cashed. We will be working on the remainder of the outstanding expenditures. There is $9,862.50 in pending deposits with a pending balance of $42,055.23 (not cleared). The Current Account Balance is, $33,263.51. Tom Phillips made a motion to approve the financial report, Jim Alexander second the motion, and the motion carried.

Ron explained to the board the need to open an account for the youth side for Luci’s Operations. The account will be a youth account with Arvest Bank as a sub-account of the adult account, with signees being Luci Johnson, Roy Brunson, and Ron Plate. The adult account remains the same with Roy Brunson and Ron Plate as signees. A motion was made by Johnson County Bass Club and second from the floor to establish the said account, the motion was carried.

1. **Conservation:** Chris Johnson, Talked, about the Black Bass Management Plan through 2022 to 2031. Meetings are being held around the State by Arkansas Game and Fish, sharing their purposed plans to improve Arkansas Fisheries. He urges us all to attend some of these public meetings and give support.

Chris reminded us of the plastics recycle program and ask for our support with this program.

1. **Youth Director Report:** Luci Johnson,

The youth side has grown to over 600 kids covering both Junior and High School Divisions. This is 2nd grade to 12th grade.

We were able to send 25 teams to the Mossy Oak Bass National Championships, with 314 teams. Arkansas Youth Program has risen in the ranks from dead last to 4th in the Nation during a five year period.

The 2022/2023 season will have five trails through-out the state, with Trader Bill’s a new Bass Nation trail covering the central division. The remainder of the trails are, Northern Trail, Southern Trail, Northeast Trail, and the Southwest Trail.

There were 3 teams sent through the Bassmaster Open on Lake Norfork with the Salem Team winning it and earning a birth at the Bassmaster Classic where they will fish on the third day of the classic.

The Arkansas Teams finished at different levels, with Bee Branch holding the 11th place finish, and several teams in the top twenties, with the remainder of the teams spread out through the rest of the field of 314 teams.

The 11th place team earned $500.00 each in scholarship money to use as they see fit and was also offered 40K Scholar ships through Webber University in Florida if they decide to use it. Drury University offered a full ride to the 1st place team, Bethel offered scholarships to the top 5 place finishers. There was over 2 million dollars of scholarships offered to the kids.

1. **Administration and Public Relations:** Mike Estes,

Mike asked for volunteers for the nomination committee, Jim Alexander, Terry Webb, Ricky York, and Ronnie Duncan volunteered. Anyone interested with any of these Offices please contact any one of the nomination committee.

We will be voting on the following Executive Board positions, Youth Director- (currently held by Luci Johnson), Treasurer (currently held by Roy Brunson), and Tournament Director (currently held by Ray Webb) at the December meeting.

1. **Tournament Director:** Ray Webb,

Ray thanked everyone for bringing their paperwork for the tournament and it appears we will have about 150 boats for the Lake Norfork Tournament. Tournament wise we have the Corp permit, catch & release covered, coffee and breakfast food available at the marina for the anglers. Official Practice starts at 12:01 am. Monday 24th October through 3:00 pm. Thursday October 27th, all boats off the water, and Team Captains must pick up their team packets at the Henderson Marina Ramp from the Tournament Director.

The Corp of Engineers regulations states no fishing with-in fifty feet of any fuel dock/marina which covers all the attached docks of the said marina.

Ray advised he will put together an email list of Team Captains, as well as, a list of the off-limits including marinas/docks, with the help of the area bass clubs and email it to the team Captains.

Boat slips, teams that store their boat in a slip may work on tackle and equipment

while in the slip, however, they are restricted from fishing in the

slip area.

Mechanical/Electrical repairs may be conducted while in the slip area if needed, however, the Tournament Director must be notified and authorize all test running of the repaired boat.

Ricky York of NEA advised of a problem with the Norfork Inn, the Inn has been sold and the new owner will take over during the Labor Day Holiday. Ricky will be in contact with the new owner and check to see if they will honor the $69.00 rate that was offer earlier and he will advise of his findings.

Boat Raffle Tickets, Ray advises we have sold around half of the printed tickets with the ticket stubs and money being turned in. There are a couple clubs that will be turning in their stubs and money later. We still have time to sell the rest of the tickets, the finial cut-off date is Thursday October 27th.

Raffle Boat will be with AVA Bass Club and NEA Bass Club next month, anyone needing the Raffle Boat contact Luci or Ray to secure your time.

2023 bid for the Arkansas Bass Nation State Championship Tournament has been presented by Terry Webb, with the Union County Bass Club, to be held on Lake Felsenthal. They are working with the Crossett Chamber of Commerce as well as other sponsors.

Terry Webb, also brought to light a timing issue when dealing with the corporate world, by the time we vote, we have missed their budget deadlines. Causing us to miss out on sponsorship money. Due to the wording in the bylaws the Nation has long past the dead line for most corporate budgets. The solution is to redo parts of the bylaws that will better fit with in the corporate time frame. After some discussion from several clubs concerning this issue.

Ron Plate ask for a motion to amend the bylaws. A motion was made and seconded to amend Article XII Section 1 Tournament operation and Bid procedures. Paragraph E. by the Executive Board in draft form to be submitted to the Board of Directors for review thirty days prior to any vote of the amendment. Motion Carried.

Ron Plate ask for motion for an addition to Section 2 Tournament Eligibility Requirements. Paragraph d, motion made and seconded to approve the addition of (in the event a club cannot hold their youth event during the August dates, they must get approval from the Youth Director and have completed their youth event prior to the State Championship Tournamet

1. **Old Business:** Ron Plate, None
2. **New Business:** Ron Plate,

United Bass Anglers will be hosting an Open Team Tournament October 15, 2022 on Lake Norfork, 7am – 3pm Entry $110.00 per team. Contact, Todd Wilcox [todd@wilcoxcustomhomes.com](mailto:todd@wilcoxcustomhomes.com) or 870-243-0172.

1. **Open to the floor,** No other business.
2. **President Comments:** Ron Plate,

Ron talked about our sponsors ie. Bass Cat Boats, Mercury, Lure Lock, Humminbird, Pro Guide Batteries, ACT Tackle, and Favorite Rods. Please support these fine sponsors to help show our appreciation.

1. Door Prize Drawings: two ACT Tackle packs given away and one Favorite Rod given away
2. Ron Plate, ask for motion to adjourn, motion made and carried. Closing roll call completed.

The next Board of Directors Meeting is December 4,2022 at the Expo-Event Center of Conway, Arkansas