

# NEW HAMPSHIRE BASS FEDERATION

AN AFFILIATE OF TBF/FLW - PARTNERS IN FISHING

## MAY 2012 MEETING MINUTES

### **Meeting called to order:**

Back Bay – Present	Monadnock Bass- Present
Contoocook- Present	NH Bass Casters- Present
Manchester Bass- Present	Bass Hookers- Present
NH Bass Hunters- Present	Grass Roots- Present
NH Bass Assassins- Present	Breakaway Bass- Present

### **Treasurers Report:**

- Dave has received \$3,990 to be deposited in the NHBF account the breakdown is as follows
  - \$1050 state team sponsor funds
  - \$1715 state team raffle tickets
    - Total amount of raffle ticket funds raised by each member of the state team
    - Each state team member will get more or less money for travel/expenses from the NHBF depending on the amount of tickets they were able to sell.
  - \$400 Club Raffle tickets
    - Total amount of raffle tickets purchased by each club.
    - Each club was required to purchase \$40 worth of tickets.
  - \$650 Outdoor show raffle
    - Money earned from raffle tickets sold at the outdoor show.
  - \$175 New Members
    - Money from new members \$15 of this was an overpayment and is due back to Joe Spinello
- Most of this deposit will go into the state team account with the exception of the new member dues. This will be deposited into the general operating account.

### **Vice Presidents Report:**

- Marc Hamel did not attend this meeting

### **Conservations Report:**

- Dick Smith did not attend this meeting

### **Presidents Report:**

#### ***Old Business***

- Please spread the word of the spring open urge your club members and everyone else to attend.
- You can now follow NH Bass Federation on Twitter @NH\_Bass\_Federation.  
<http://www.twitter.com>
  - Could help network with sponsors.
  - Make it easier to spread the word about federation events.
  - Just the early stages very preliminary hope to build this as time goes on.

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## *New Business*

- A motion was made to re-word the constitution. Article VII State Team Qualifying Tournament
  - These changes would make it easier to host and improve the quality of our STQT.
  - See *attachment #1* at the end of this document for the original wording of the constitution.
  - There will be a vote during the June meeting on whether or not to accept this.
  - The changes proposed are as follows
    - Remove the term "site" and replace it with "lake"
      - This would allow the federation the flexibility to host tournaments wherever logistically possible.
    - Remove part about not being able to host a tournament at the same "site"
      - Currently there are a limited amount of "sites" that are logistically capable of hosting an event this size
        - With the way the constitution is currently worded it limits the "sites" even more.
        - This doesn't mean it will be the same "site" every year; the final decision can still be put to vote.
    - The last change is that the state team will run the STQT and opens.
      - Currently it's the individual clubs/chapters that run things.
- Next area of business was pertaining to this year's STQT
  - If you're not staying at the hotel please try if possible to launch at other locations on the lake. We cannot be over capacity at the state ramp parking lot.
  - If you're staying at the hotel electrical hookups will be provided at the hotel docks.
  - Further information needs to be acquired about parking at the church across from the hotel.
  - **Clubs need to submit their STQT roster with funds by July 17<sup>th</sup>**
    - **\$120 STQT entry fee check made out to NH Bass Federation**
    - **Current roster (*please do not copy this from previous years*) the following must be included and up to date!**
      - **Name, Email, Mailing Address, Number and Cell Number**
    - **Boater or Non-Boater**
    - **Boaters proof of insurance**
- Last area of business, the need to grow the federation.
  - At our April meeting a lengthy list was compiled with ideas to grow the federation.
    - See *attachment #2* at the end of this document for the list of these ideas.
    - Important that each club president brings this list back to their clubs and goes through it adding ideas or finding out if there members really like a certain idea already on the list.
    - This will be revisited at future meetings to gain some insight on this topic based on the discussions within eac

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## Open Discussion

- Justin Brigham brought up two topics
  - Lead ban update
    - Lead ban bill was sent to interim study (basically put on hold for at least a year)
    - There will be a special committee created to remove any bias and study the actual effect lead has on the states Loon population.
    - Joe expressed thanks to anyone who participated in any of these meetings or did anything that they could to help stop this bill for the short term anyways.
  - Smallmouth spawning behavior thesis Squam Lake
    - Justin explained of a thesis he is working on about Smallmouth spawning behavior and how there aggression level is influenced by recreational angling.
    - This work is all being done on Squam Lake and 20+ nests have already been marked. He is hoping to have around 200 over the next couple months.
    - Justin asks that anyone that sees these tagged fish on beds please move on and try not to catch them.
      - There will be pockets of marked fish all around the lake
      - Tags are uniquely colored
      - All fish are in <2' of water
    - See *attachment #3* at the end of this document for more detailed information on Justin's thesis along with an example of the tags used.

Next Meeting: June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42PM

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*May 2012 Meeting Notes*  
*Attachment #1*

## ARTICLE VII: STATE TEAM QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

### Section 1: Site Selection:

(see Addendum #2) The tournament committee will provide three **sites** for the club representatives to vote on. The first round of voting will narrow the **sites** to two, and then a fresh vote will determine the STQT **site** by majority vote. The alternate **site** will be the second place site. Site selection will be made two (2) months prior to the date tournament permits are due at the Department of Fish and Game. Once a site is selected, the next club(s) in line will be responsible for hosting the S.T.Q.T.

(see Addendum #3). Once the **site** is fished during the S.T.Q.T., that site cannot be fished the following year. The Chapter or Chapters whose site is chosen will be responsible for all tournament preparations, i.e., launching, over-night accommodations, scoreboard, public relations, etc.

(See Addendum #1). The host club(s) will conduct the weigh-in with assistance from the Tournament Director and his volunteers. It is suggested that the alternate for each Chapter attend both tournament days and assist the Tournament Committee with the weigh-in.

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Addendum #1 If a chapter in NHBF is selected and they do not have more than 10 active members, the NHBF shall select a second chapter to assist in hosting the S.T.Q.T.

Addendum #2 The Tournament Committee will consist of the 4 Board members, the Tournament Director and two At Large members. Majority on a yearly basis will vote the At Large members. The Tournament Committee will oversee site selection for Open Tournaments and will provide the members three potential STQT Site selections prior to the October Federation meeting.

Addendum #3 All Chapters in good standing will be placed in an order system by alphabetical order also taking in consideration the recent clubs that have hosting the STQT. This order system will allow chapters to prepare for hosting such an event as well as making a fair system for all chapters.

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*May 2012 Meeting Notes*  
*Attachment #2*

## Ideas to grow the NH Bass Federation

- STQT/federation needs more draw and more advertising.
- Change STQT venues, something other than Winni every year.
- Change the qualifying format eliminate the need for an STQT
  - Create two draw format events that are used to qualify for the state team.
  - Hold them early in the year basically turning our opens into draws.
  - Use these as an avenue to get onto the state team. Eliminating the need for individual clubs to hold events to determine boater/non-boaters for an STQT.
- Promote the fact that the TBF supports there state team very well in terms of expenses with room and board provided along with extra cash for spending money along the way.
- Possibly offer a "mega" tournament concept with larger payouts to increase the interest/draw on our tournaments/federation.
- Create it a rule that all federated clubs need to send "x" amount of members to the STQT.
- There are too many clubs and too many clubs with opens. Cut down on club events and have your members have to fish TBF opens using points depending on placement in the opens.
- Ask your clubs and other clubs to try and coordinate around Federation events. Allowing members to fish the opens without missing out on club events/points.
- Advocate the creation of more closed clubs cutting down on open events increasing the odds of people fishing federation opens.
- Reach out to other more successful states in terms of their TBF organizations. Try to gain some ideas of how they manage structure and promote their organizations.
- Promote a law like Vermont and Maine have in place regulating the amount of tournaments lakes can have each year.
- Make it so federated clubs can only contain federated members. If they hold opens anglers that can fish can be from any club, but must be federated.

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## *May 2012 Meeting Notes* *Attachment #3*

### **Information provided by Justin Brigham on the thesis he is working on**

I am currently in graduate school at Plymouth State University getting my masters in biology. My thesis is on smallmouth bass spawning behaviors and how recreational angling may influence them. All of my work will be conducted on Squam Lake starting 05/20/2012 and lasting until the end of the spawning season. This work has been cleared by NH Fish & Game and by FLW where my work may be featured in an article in one of their late summer/early fall magazines this year. I hope to gain more knowledge on the dynamics of spawning, and to educate anglers on proper etiquette when fishing for bedding bass.

I will have a handful of study sites around the lake where beds may be marked with numbered bricks, and all guarding males will have a bright color coded t-bar tag on their dorsal fins. Now, I am asking **EVERYONE** if you happen to come across these fish **PLEASE pass them by**. I know I can't prevent every person from catching these fish, but the less others are catching them, the easier it will be on me and my field work this summer. I thank you all for your support and please pass this information on to anyone you know that will be fishing Squam in the next two months. Just below is a picture of what the tags look like.

