

# Memphis Bass Association

(Formally Fed Ex Bass Association)  
Memphis Bass Catchers  
Rip Their Lips Bass Club

Amended 2-04-2009

## BY-LAWS

### **ARTICLE I:** Name and Purpose

#### *SECTION 1:* Name

This chapter shall be called Memphis Bass Association (M.B.A.) of Memphis, Tennessee.

#### *SECTION 2:* Purpose

To stimulate public awareness of Bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our state conservation department our organized moral and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluters and call public and political attention to his crime. To improve our skills as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass catching techniques and ideas, and to promote and encourage youth fishing, and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the State Bass Federation, embracing the principles and purposes of The Bass Federation/F.L.W.

### **ARTICLE II:** Membership

#### *SECTION 1:* Number of Members

This chapter shall begin with thirty six (36) charter members and maintain at least twelve members.

#### *SECTION 2:* Team Structure

This Chapter shall fish pick your partner tournaments.

- A. One member must be at least 18 years of age and must assume liability in all matter if fishing with a partner under 18. A team shall consist of two members of either sex. Any member under 16 shall be a Junior Members.
- B. A member may fish alone, but it is not recommended for safety reasons.
- C. One (1) alternate partner may be selected at any time during the course of the tournament trail. Only, one alternate per team per year.
- D. If a primary partner resigns from the club; the remaining primary partner may select another primary partner. If an alternate partner should become a primary partner; the team may name another alternate partner.

*SECTION 3:* Requirements for Membership

To become a chapter member, a person shall:

- A. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- B. Be a member of F.L.W. (see Article VI for affiliation requirements.)
- C. See Article II, Section 2 for team requirements.
- D. New Teams will NOT be permitted to join on the ramp.
- E. Be 16 years of age or older to be in an adult club.
- F. To become an individual junior member of and adult Club, a person shall less than 16 years of age. Individual junior members are not required to pay membership dues and are not entitled to the benefits of a regular membership. The inclusion of individual junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Individual junior members are not covered by the accidental death and dismemberment policy. Junior members may not hold office. At age 16, junior members may choose to continue membership as a junior member or by joining the regular club as an adult member. All junior membership ceases on a person 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

*SECTION 4:* Membership Dues

The membership dues shall be \$18.00 for just M.B.A., \$43.00 for M.B.A. and one Federation Chapter, initially payable upon becoming a member of this chapter. M.B.A. will pay Officers' 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> charter membership dues.

Break down of dues:

M.B.A.	\$18.00	Mandatory
TN Bass Federation	\$10.00 (or current)	Optional
F.L.W. Federation	\$15.00 (or current)	Optional

F.L.W. Membership is mandatory for each Federated member. The Individual member is responsible for their F.L.W. Membership.

*SECTION 5:* Meetings of Member

The membership shall hold regular meetings at pre-established times and places.

**ARTICLE III:** Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility.

*SECTION 1:* Officers and Their Duties

A. President: Presides over all meetings and directs all official business. appoints and be ex officio member of all committees. Supervises all club functions.

B. Vice President/Tournament Director: Act as program chairman. Assist the president in his duties, conduct the club tournaments, selects the dates, and times for the monthly tournaments, and preside in the absence of the President.

C. Secretary: Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the Chapter President. Maintain regular liaison between the Chapter and the F.L.W. Federation and the TN Bass Federation. Keep and maintain all tournament records and standings.

D. Treasurer: Collect and disburse all moneys. Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the chapter Board of Directors.

*SECTION 2:* ELECTIONS

The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of December. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in ARTICLE III.

*SECTION 3:* Eligibility of Vote

Each paid member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

*SECTION 4:* Term of Office

The term of office is for one year. Which shall begin on January 1st, and end on the last meeting day of December or until the successor assumes office.

*SECTION 5:* Vacancies

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the remaining term of the individual vacating the office. Tennessee Bass Federation shall be notified immediately of the change of any officers.

**SECTION 6:** Eligibility for Holding Office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- A. Have been a member for six months.
- B. Have attended at least 75% of chapter functions during a 12-month period.
- C. Have shown an active interest in all Chapter functions.

**ARTICLE IV:** Removal of Membership

A member shall be dropped from the membership roll for the following:

- A. Failure to pay club dues.
- B. Any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this chapter or the TN Bass Federation/F.L.W.
- C. Disqualification for any reason from participating in the TN Bass Federation/F.L.W. sponsored events including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.

**ARTICLE V:** F.L.W. Affiliation

1. Approval of Chapter Charter by F.L.W..
2. Update Tennessee Bass Federation with a chapter roster once each year upon receipt of current Federation roster at the year-end.
3. Names and addresses of new members joining the Chapter during the year must be submitted to Tennessee Bass Federation as they occur. (see Article II, Section 3 for dues requirements.)
4. Maintain 100% F.L.W. membership for all adult federated members.
5. Must affiliate with a State Federation and support its conservation and youth programs. And additional requirements that the Tennessee Bass Federation establishes for Chapters, such as membership, number of members, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., will be necessary in order for the Chapter to participate in the Tennessee Bass Federation Qualifying Tournament (s) and any other Federation sponsored Tournaments or events.

**ARTICLE VI:** Club Tournaments

**SECTION 1:** Number of Tournaments

M.B.A. will conduct eight (8) tournaments each year; four tournaments held on Saturdays and four held on Sundays. Each team's best seven (7) tournaments will be used towards calculating the yearly standings.

*SECTION 2:* Selection of Lakes

Each Team will present a list of eight lakes for the trail. All lists will be tabulated. A lake may be chosen to be fished more than one regular tournament within a tournament year. The Tournament Director shall select the dates and the order of lakes to be fished.

*SECTION 3:* Entry Fees

Tournament entry fees will be \$80.00 per boat. 15% of the entry fees collected will go into the Classic Fund. The remaining money will be awarded tournament winners (see PAYOUT SHEET) minus the \$5 donation to a charity per boat. Entry fees should be received by Tuesday prior to the Tournament date. Entry fees and late charges (\$10.00 late fee) will be accepted at the ramp the morning of the tournament. All late charges collected during the year will go into the Classic Fund. The Big Bass pot (optional) is \$20.00 per boat to be paid with the tournament entry fee. The Big Bass pot will be divided between the team weighing the largest and the second largest basses. 75% will go to the largest bass and 25% to the second largest bass.

*SECTION 4:* Blast Off Positions

Blast off numbers will be drawn at the meeting prior to the tournament between all paid contestants. Any team (s) paying at the ramp will take the next number.

*SECTION 5:* Prizes and Awards

- A. 15% of the Tournament entry fee will go into the classic fund.
- B. The remaining entry fees will be paid out for that tournament.
- C. Cash Prizes will be awarded to the top 25% of the field. The minimum prize will be equal or larger than the tournament entry fee
- D. Attendance prizes may be awarded on a draw basis.
- E. All yearly dues and late fees collected will also go into the Classic fund.
- F. Any operating expenses such as Plaques, Trophies, Club expenses, etc, encountered during the Year will be taken out.
- G. Any donations or sponsorship will go into the Classic Fund.

*SECTION 6:* Points Standings

- A. Each team participating in the monthly tournaments will receive points in accordance with their tournament placing (see point system).
- B. Five bonus points will be awarded to each team attending the monthly meetings. Five bonus points will be awarded each team participating in any club-sponsored event. The five point meeting bonuses for the Oct., Nov., and Dec. meetings will

be carried forward to the next year's point standings. Any new teams that may join after Oct., but before the first tournament of the new fiscal year, will receive points for any meeting that they missed before joining. Any member of a team that has paid in the past, regardless if they are a current member or not, shall not receive any points for a missed meeting.

*SECTION 7:*

M.B.A. Yearly Classic

A<sup>1</sup>. The top 33% of the membership (top 1/3 point accrual) at the end of the tournament trail will qualify for the Classic.

B. In addition any team that fishes all eight tournaments, but fails to qualify by points will be eligible to fish the Classic as WILD CARDS.

C. The Classic will be a no entry fee tournament and will pay the top 35% of the field.

D. The winning team will receive a trophy or plaque per person along with the cash award.

E. The selection of the Classic Lake will be conducted the Monday night prior to the Classic. The Classic lake will be within 250 miles of Memphis. Each team will nominate the name of one lake. From these lakes three nominations will be drawn. Then the classic teams will vote (one vote per team) between these three lakes. At least one member from each team must be present at the meeting for them to have a vote. (No absentee or proxy votes permitted)

F. The Classic lake will be open for pre-fishing the two days (Thursday & Friday) prior to the Classic.

G. An optional Big Bass Pot will be \$20.00 per boat.

H. If a teams needs an alternate for the Classic: a new member is not permitted. The team must select it's alternate from one of the non-qualifying club teams; if they have not previously named an alternate (dues must be previously paid).

I. On the first day of the Classic, teams will Blast Off in order of the yearly standings. And in reverse order for the second day of the Classic.

II.

**ARTICLE VII:**

Methods of Amending the By Laws

By Laws and Tournament Rules may be amended at the January meeting by a 2/3-majority vote. Providing notice of the proposed amendment has been made in writing to any club officer or in e-mail to the general membership by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the January meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> 1999 EDITION

